



May 2021

# LINK-UP

*Keeping Churches in Touch*

[www.godalmingchurches.org](http://www.godalmingchurches.org)

[facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict](https://facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict)

## Message from the Acting Chair

### **Open Air Songs of Praise on Pentecost Sunday 23 May, 15:00 to 15:45**

Arrangements are well in hand for a celebration in May when we actually get to meet together to sing and praise the Lord, what a treat that will be! The Rev Adam Payne, the Minister at Godalming United Church, has kindly allowed CTiG&D to use the grassed area behind the church to gather in a socially distanced circle to sing, praise and reflect on this wonderful feast day. There will be seating available for anyone who cannot stand for 45 minutes. GUC are providing a musical accompaniment and amplification system, and there will be service booklets available.

### **Staycation – Sunday 1 or 8 August, 10:30**

Godalming Town Council has indicated that this event will go ahead this year. The Executive are consulting with the Clergy members to check availability and format, but please put these dates in your diary.

### **Replacement Chair for CTiG&D**

The Executive are actively seeking a replacement Chair, and I am meeting with the Clergy Members very soon so please pray for a successful outcome. All our Church Leaders are advocating the role of Christian Unity and although we have the support and mentoring from individual members, we really need a Clergy leader and figurehead.

### **St Peter and Paul's CTiG&D Rep**

John Stevens, who has served as the St Peter and Paul's Rep for CTiG&D for many years, has stood down and he will be replaced by James Toon, who is well known to many of you. We will miss John's enthusiasm and support and wish to thank him sincerely for all his work for CTiG&D.

*"You did not choose me; no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name."* John 15.16

*Angela Gilmour, Acting Chair of Godalming & District Churches Together*

## Churches Together prayer breakfasts

This month's prayer breakfast is on Saturday 22 May at 8:30 via Zoom at: <https://zoom.us/j/9463914833> [using the password 2021](#). The room will be available from 8:15.

## Christian Aid Quiz

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Christian Aid Quiz. It raised over £300

## News of the Churches and organisations

### **Parish of Godalming**

Services in St Peter and St Paul, and St Mark's, now take place in the buildings. All services require the wearing of face masks and strict adherence to social distancing, and are safeguarding-compliant.

### **St Peter and St Paul**

*First Sunday of the month* – 8:00 Holy Communion Service (BCP) , and 10:00 All Age Service.

*Other Sundays* – 10:00am Holy Communion Service.

## St Mark's

*First Sunday of the month* – 10:00 All Age Service.

*Second and Fourth Sunday* – 10:00 Holy Communion Service.

*Third Sunday* – normally 10:00 Morning Worship, but on 16 May there is a joint Parish Holy Communion Service at St Peter and St Paul.

## Other news

We are praying for and planning a resumption of our children's ministries. Details to follow.

[www.parishofgodalming.org.uk](http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk)

## Godalming Baptist Church

### Sunday services

GBC continues to be open for Sunday services only. These start at 10:00 and must be booked beforehand due to COVID guidelines. The services are also livestreamed on our [YouTube channel](#) for those not able to attend.

We plan to restart our groups at the beginning of June.

### Little Lights

Little lights is a parents' and children's group (0 to 4 years), which aims to 'Share God's love' with craft, interactive storytelling and singing (when allowed). It will start on 9 June, but due to COVID restrictions, you will need to book to let us know you are coming. Email [catherine@lawtonfamily.net](mailto:catherine@lawtonfamily.net) or phone 07973 927233.

### The Ark

The Ark mother and toddler group will commence on 10 June, but spaces are limited and will be given to existing parents and toddlers initially. The group will be looking at the Beatitudes with Attitude the Bee who has attitude! Just a 10-minute story time and then singing time outside. Please do contact Catherine Lawton [catherine@lawtonfamily.net](mailto:catherine@lawtonfamily.net) or phone 07973 927233 if you wish to join us / go onto a waiting list, but do not just turn up due to COVID restrictions.

[www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk)

## Godalming United Church

### Sunday morning worship

With face-to-face Sunday morning worship restricted to just less than 50, booking is essential – please ring 01483 860683 or 01483 420459. Masks are worn, and spaced entry is via the foyer. Services are also streamed and can be accessed at <https://guc.online.church>. Recordings (audio and video) are available through our website ([www.guc.org.uk](http://www.guc.org.uk)) or our YouTube channel (<https://bit.ly/GUCYouTube>) after the services. Weekday use of our premises is now opening up as various hirers return.

### Christian Aid Week

We marked Christian Aid Week with a special service on 9 May, followed by daily devotionals, a Zoom quiz on the 13th, a sponsored "Steps/Miles" challenge, and simply by just giving. You can still join in and make the special CA Week become a Month if you're doing the Steps/Miles challenge across May – it's not too late to calculate your paces/miles so far – and just keep going!

Further information at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk> or from [murielca21@btinternet.com](mailto:murielca21@btinternet.com)

### Annual collection for Whitechapel Mission

The annual collection trailer for the Whitechapel Mission for the Homeless in East London will be in our Car Park from 25 June to 5 July. The types of donation particularly needed are:

*Breakfast foods:* Peanut butter, Nutella, baked beans, plum/chopped tomatoes, runny honey, instant hot chocolate, porridge, pot noodles, biscuits, squash (also tea, coffee, cereals)

*Men's clothing:* Underpants, boxers, trainers, shoes, jeans 28-36" (also trousers 28-34", woollen scarves, black woollen hats, jumpers, winter coats, T shirts, baseball hats, padded shirts, socks)

*Other items:* Blankets, small rucksacks, hand cream, body wash, body lotion (also sleeping bags)

Start collecting now, and see [www.guc.org.uk](http://www.guc.org.uk) for times and dates when volunteers will be at church to receive your donations.

[www.guc.org.uk](http://www.guc.org.uk)

## St Edmund King & Martyr Godalming with St Joseph's Milford Roman Catholic Churches

### **We are now a *liveSimply* Parish**

We received the CAFOD Award and will continue to redouble our efforts to support local initiatives to preserve our Common Home. The Catholic Church is now the biggest purchaser of green energy in England and Wales, with more than three quarters of their gas derived as a by-product of the Hendrick's Gin Distillery in Scotland. It is an inter-diocesan project supplying churches, church halls and presbyteries. It is hoped to include schools in the future. There will be a paper published by the Scottish Bishops on 23 May, and this will be submitted to the G7 and the COP26 in Glasgow in November

### **Pete's Plant Sale on 30 April to 2 May**

The *liveSimply* Group raised £650 towards a solar borehole water pump for the Kasanka School Community in Zambia. The School is run by the FDM Sisters at Ladywell Convent. We hope to raise the total cost of £2,400 by the end of May.

### **Parish Forum – on 4 May on Zoom**

This was the first of what we hope will become a regular opportunity to talk as a parish about our life together in Christ and being faithful to our mission.

### **“Thy Kingdom Come”**

This global prayer initiative, which runs between the great Easter celebrations of the Ascension and Pentecost, from 13 to 23 May, encourages us to pray for and help people come to know Jesus Christ. The ‘Our Father’ prayer is engraved on all our hearts, and we are invited to pray it for those we know and love to come closer to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/33ay2hur>.

### **Pandemic crisis in India**

Please keep praying for the people of India. If you would like to support CAFOD/Caritas India, you can donate online at: [cafod.org.uk/give](https://cafod.org.uk/give)

### **Praying with the Scriptures**

Each Wednesday evening continues at 19:30 to 20:45. Everyone is welcome to join us on Zoom 845 7892 5944 password 2021

<https://stedsgod.com>

## **Hascombe St Peter**

We continue to have services alternate weeks and Dunsfold also live stream theirs. We are hoping to be able to do the same when we have a landline and WiFi. We plan to celebrate hopefully a return to normality at Harvest Time and the village hope to have a Fete in July where we plan to have a prayer tent. It will be nice to socialise as restrictions are eased further.

[www.hascombe.com](http://www.hascombe.com)

## **Feba**

Feba prayer group will meet in person at 42 Minster Road, Godalming, on Monday 14 June from 10:30 to 11:30. If you would like to join in prayer for this media organisation with partners in many of the world's newsworthy places, please contact Shelagh Godwin on [jimdogshome@aol.com](mailto:jimdogshome@aol.com) (01483 417725): if you cannot come but would like to pray, Shelagh can also provide prayer fodder.

## ***Items for next month's Link-up***

Please send items for the June 2021 edition of *Link-up* to Matt Farrow: [farrow.matt@gmail.com](mailto:farrow.matt@gmail.com) by Friday 4 June, for publication on Friday 11 June.