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**The Benefice office is currently closed to visitors unless an appointment is made.**

*Question : Are you a road to Damascus or a road to Emmaus sort of person?*

*The reason I ask this is because when I went forward to the Bishops Advisory Panel to assess my suitability for the priesthood I had to give a presentation to the rest of the candidates then chair a discussion and finally sum up what had been discussed. In recent weeks for various reasons that presentation has come back to me.*

*I began the presentation by saying that having been brought up in a Christian family and having attended a Church Primary school I had a strong connection with God from the beginning. There have been numerous times in my life when I been very aware of Jesus walking quietly alongside me and many more when I haven't been conscious of his presence, just as those disciples were unaware when he joined them on the road to Emmaus, but then looking back I have often realised that he had been there for me all the time. Just as the disciples realised that Jesus was with them when he joined them for supper and broke bread. And yet at times I have felt a little jealous of those who have come to faith in later life through a dramatic awakening such as that which St Paul experienced on the road to Damascus. How wonderful it would be to have the drama of discovering Jesus in the way that Paul discovered him.*



*Why have I been thinking about this again? Well firstly, I have been reflecting on the success of the drive in carol service and how it affected so many people some of which were not even on site! A number of people have commented that it must have taken a lot of organising and I have felt quite guilty because I don't feel that I did that much apart from praying a lot that God would send me in the right direction to get the help I needed. I really felt that my prayers were answered and I am so grateful that everyone I asked for help stepped up*

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## Bybrook Online

### Upcoming Zoom services:

Our Sunday services will now be live via Zoom at 9.30am and available to watch again later on our [Website](#) and [Facebook Page](#)

The Zoom link and password will change each week and will be available on [www.bybrook.org.uk/worship-at-home](http://www.bybrook.org.uk/worship-at-home) and also on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BybrookTeamMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/BybrookTeamMinistry)

### Worshipping from Home

If you don't already follow our [Facebook page](#), now is the time to as it is where you can be kept up to date with any new information. It is also where you will be able to see services when available.

Services will also be streamed on our [Worship At Home](#) page on our website for those unable to access Facebook.

### Opportunity to get involved

If you would like to be involved with a reading, the prayers or perhaps the worship, we would love to hear from you. If you are keen to try but are not sure about how, then don't worry, we can give you some tips to help get you started. Just send an email to [revmarcterry@gmail.com](mailto:revmarcterry@gmail.com) to express your interest and Marc will let you know what to do next.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

## Useful Resources

### Church Online

<https://bybrook.org.uk/worship-at-home/>  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

**Common Worship Calendar/ Lectionary** <http://almanac.oremus.org/>

**Daily Prayer Resources**  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

**Prayer Apps**  
<https://innerroom.app/>  
<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>

**Online Bibles / Bible Study**  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/>  
<https://www.bibleinoneyear.org/> <https://www.youversion.com/>  
<https://bibleproject.com/>  
<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/>

**Children's resources**  
<https://www.bible.com/en-GB/kids>  
<https://guardiansofancora.com/>  
<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/familyfaith/>  
<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/make-and-pray>

**Mental Health and Wellbeing**  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources>

For women suffering from abuse  
<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/>

For men suffering from abuse  
<https://mensadvice.org.uk/>

For those wanting to stop abusing the ones they love:  
<https://respectphoneline.org.uk/>

*Continued from front page to the task willingly, perhaps they too felt that Jesus was walking alongside them encouraging them. Christine Molano wrote afterwards that as she read the words from Luke's Gospel which foretells the birth of Christ (Luke 1:26-35, 38) she heard them as she had never heard them before and they took on a new meaning. I really know what she meant because as I looked out across the car park, almost full and with cars still streaming I saw God in action in a very dramatic way. Had I achieved my road to Damascus moment at last?*

*As most of you will know since Christmas my life has presented me with a new challenge with the final illness and subsequent death of my husband Keith. As sad as I might feel, what has sustained me is the knowledge that Jesus is beside me in every turn of events. I have returned to my comfort zone on my road to Emmaus. A card I received a few days ago summed this up beautifully. The Lord replied 'my precious child I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and tribulation when you saw only one set of footprints in the sand it was then I carried you'.*

Gillian Parkin

## Prayer Matters

### Please pray for:

- \* For a lowering of covid-19 transmission rate
- \* For the vaccine and all those involved in administering it
- \* The economy and a safe return to work.
- \* For those who have died
- \* Those suffering from loneliness, mental illness, domestic abuse or financially as a result of Coronavirus.
- \* The wedding couples who are due to get married in our churches this year and the uncertainty of whether their wedding will be able to take place as planned.
- \* The NHS frontline care workers.
- \* Our government and those in authority who are leading the national and international response.
- \* A building and strengthening of the blessings seen from communities working together.
- \* For the schools as they continue to adjust, for families and teachers. In particular our two schools Bybrook and Kington St Michael
- \* For the Team Council as they discern the way forward for the Bybrook Team Ministry
- \* For the future worship pattern and shape of our ministry team.
- \* For online worship, that it may be a real help to those in need.

### A Prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate  
us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

## WORSHIPING AT HOME - SUNDAY WORSHIP

### Our online services have recently moved to Zoom.

Sharing with everyone via facebook, though convenient, limits reactions and feedback to a few emojis and a few shy 'hellos'. For three weeks now we have been meeting via Zoom. It's an easy app to use, following the link on our webpage <https://bybrook.org.uk/worship-at-home/> each week will take you right to the service, live.

You don't need the app installed and you only need to really know 3 buttons - join, (un)mute mic, start/stop video. The first joins the service, the second mutes and unmutes your mic so you can't be heard and no-one else can hear the doorbell ringing or dog barking. The final one lets you discretely stop the video to allow someone in pyjamas past the camera without embarrassing everyone

The joy of meeting via zoom is simple. We get to see one another and share together. Services have been informal and yet full of praise. Different people have volunteered to read and participate, we've enjoyed live music together and been able to welcome families and individuals from all across the land as many wedding couples have been able to share with us even though they can't visit in person. But the best part (for me) happens when we stop recording the service! That's when we move to coffee (or tea - its all 'bring your own' with Zoom so everybody can get their favourite every week) and chat. For me it's a pleasure to be able to stay and chat - and know that others are warm and comfortable enough to stay with us. No one is leaving due to the cold or rushing for the loo or the journey home. Conversation is comfortable, fun, heartfelt and - a laugh. I have been able to spend more time after each zoom service staying for a chat then I ever could flitting between services.



If you've thought about joining us for Zoom and not quite got round to it, then take the leap and join us this Sunday at 9:30am. If you can't make it we'll pop the recorded part of the service online as soon as we can after the service. If you're waiting for us to all meet in person again then keep an eye on the same page <https://bybrook.org.uk/worship-at-home/> for more information.

See you all soon,

Marc

**We hope to be able to offer a live Facebook link to the zoom service at 9.30am for those who do not want to use zoom. There may be a slight delay whilst we link things up and we ask that you bear with us as we are learning as we go. In time we may also be able to show the live service through our website, but if not, a recording will be made available as soon as possible once the service has finished.**