

The Benefice & Team Ministry of Tettenhall Wood and Perton
The Parish of Tettenhall Wood

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Dear Friends,

I hope you are continuing to be well and in good spirits.

For the 3rd Sunday of Easter our Gospel reading is my favourite of the stories of encounters between disciples and the risen Jesus – the one on the Road to Emmaus in Luke 24. I am grateful to Rev Carol who has written a sermon for us this week.

Those of us who go out for a daily walk or an occasional shop are probably more alert to and appreciative of the occasional encounters we have on the way (while of course staying a strict two metres apart). The Gospel also seems to ask us, are we alert enough to be ready to meet the living Lord Jesus at the same time? Jesus revealed who he was as he broke the bread: can we be conscious of his presence at our meal times?

I have two prayers to offer this week specific to the theme. The first (below) is set as the Post Communion Prayer, but is relevant at all times. The second (to the right) is written by Rev Chris Thorpe, Vicar of Shifnal, and I find particularly helpful.

*Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.*

*God of encounter,
you meet us in our confusion and loss,
even when we run away from you.
Walk with us on the road.
Hear our hurts and regrets.
Help us to let go of the past
and to recognise you in unexpected ways.
We ask this in the name of Jesus
who comes to us in the face of a stranger.
Amen*

For those of you with children, Roots magazine (that normally resources our Junior Church) has produced on-line materials linked to today's Bible story.

The link is www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome26apr

This Sunday, 26 April, should have been the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Like everything else, it has been postponed. The last date it can now be held is 31st October, so we have some breathing space. However, I thought it would be good to give a brief report (attached), so that the year past isn't forgotten in the press of the present moment, and so we are better equipped to work towards the future.

May God bless you richly,

Phil