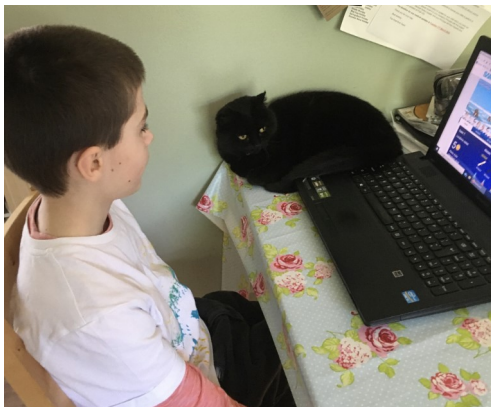
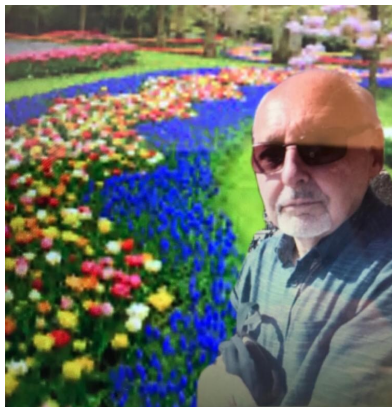


So What Are We All Getting Up To?



You can't have too many cats in the bulletin! Did you know, Isaac, that cats are never mentioned in the Bible?



Good to see Tony's front garden coming on moderately well this year. Janet Gash must have helped him.



Linda Simpson's huge collection of snails taken from the walls of her home in Spain in a single day, all about to go back to the wild.



Holding a dance move. Ouch! We really hope Meghan is enjoying this!



It's Wonder Woman! She not only sings! She provides her own melody Instrument and percussion!

PCC on Zoom

James presented us with an outline of our financial position. He has no crystal ball but give us three possible scenarios for the future. The lockdown could have a low impact on our finances, a medium impact or a high impact. Right now it is impossible to say which it will be.

Because of wise stewardship in the past we have no immediate concerns. We are not to go bankrupt anytime soon.

Thank you for your continuing standing orders. We also know that many of you are faithfully saving envelopes at home until the day you can hand them over. If anyone wishes to talk to James about anything do with giving or the church finances, our treasurer would be pleased to hear from you.

We would love to tell you that we have repaired the subsiding floor. However, the lockdown has many casualties and the floor is one of them.

Bishop Viv asked us to tell her what has been going well in the lockdown

PCC members cited the online innovation, the weekly services with input from so many sources and the coffee on Zoom after our Sunday worship.

What do you feel has been lost?

- Fellowship
- Social connection
- Prayer Ministry
- Holy Communion
- Momentum and Hope



Initiatives, like the discipleship course and the confirmation course, were put on hold. New families had just begun to worship with us. It is hard.

What have we learned? It may be that streaming still has a big part to play in our services once the lockdown is finally over.

From next Wednesday, Andy is going to start projecting the liturgy on to the screen in the same way as he does the readings and the songs. We hope this will help to keep the service flowing and make it easier to read.

Shining PowerPoint words onto a TV screen or a PC screen is more tricky than it looks. This new approach will help presentation a lot. Many thanks Andy for all your work on the PC.



Prayers: Thursday was the funeral service for **Sue Branch**. We continue to remember **Ted, Simon, Matthew and Sue's wider family**. **Lesley Hawkes** is also preparing to say farewell to her father at a funeral service taking place under the difficult current restrictions. For those who live and work in our local care homes especially **June (and Ivan)** and the staff and residents of **Orchid Care Home**. **Christine Burston** is far from well at the present time. **Rev. Toby Boulton** the new vicar of New Town who was just about to begin his new ministry as the lockdown started. He has a difficult task ahead.

What about Holy Communion?

Anglican practice is to receive bread and wine from the hands of the vicar. However, the C.of E. is, a very broad church and there are a wide variety of theological positions within it. Raymond has spoken to the Archdeacon about possible ways forward for St John's in terms of communion. There is a group discussing this question at diocesan level. We will go forward thoughtfully and carefully under the guidance of +Viv. This is an important issue for many of us and you will hear more soon .



Please pray for our church family	
Mon	Patti Tomlinson
Tue	David and Lizzie Tunley
Wed	Tom and Heather Vandamme
Thurs	Edna Webb
Fri	Jan Welham
Sat	Helen and Steve Wheeler
Sun	David and Viv Williams

Raymond will be officially made Acting Area Dean of Swindon on Tuesday. This makes him the first Area Dean in the history of the world to be licensed by Zoom.



One small step for a vicar ...

Services Next Week			
Wed	08.30	God on Hands and Knees.	Raymond Adams
Sunday	1100	All Age Worship	Raymond Adams



Sunday
3rd May 2020
4th after Easter



The Mystery of Suffering

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
11.00 am	Morning Worship	Raymond Adams	Job 3: 1-10 Matthew 4: 13-17

Ted Branch and family would like to thank everyone at St John's for their prayers, cards and lovely tributes to Sue. It was also wonderful, and very moving, to see so many of you all along Whitworth Road on Thursday