



BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTRE.

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*Encouraging, supporting, and developing followers of Jesus Christ and
Sharing God's love in the wider community*

PRAYER: Give us a new heart, O God, free enough to live by faith, brave enough to endure in hope and generous enough to love without limit. **Amen.** *El Salvador, source untraced.*

BROMSGROVE NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 27th April 2025.

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP.

**The Welcome Coffee Shop Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday inclusive from 10.30am until 12.30pm.
plus 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 10am until 12 noon.**

The next Newsletter will be for Sunday 27th April 2025.

Service on Sunday 27th April 2025.

10.30 am: Holy Communion led by Rev Ruth Wilson, followed by the Annual Church Meeting.

Please join us for Coffee after the service.

Service on Sunday 4th May 2025.

10.30 am: Morning Worship led by Deacon Janet Thomas.

SAFEGUARDING: Advanced Safeguarding training. Training can now be booked – either face to face or online by using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/stephanie-bradley-8114777823> Anyone using this service must let me know when they have completed training. Thank you. *Pam Harrison (Church Safeguarding Officer)*

FUNERAL: The funeral of Iris Carrier, who died at home on April 5th, will be at Redditch Crematorium on Thursday 8th May at 12.30pm, followed by reception at the Abbey Hotel Redditch. *Gwynn Bamford.*

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING (with BRING AND SHARE LUNCH): This will be held at midday following the Communion service on Sunday 27th April. All welcome. *Pam Gale.*

USUAL SUSPECTS: A lively ukulele band playing at the ecumenical centre. With classic songs from the 30's to modern day. Come along and singalong. Refreshments will be provided. Entry is by ticket, with donations invited on the day. Saturday 2nd May starting at 2.00pm. Tickets are available by emailing sharon@emanmanuelredditch.church or text/call 07596 879792 (**before 1st May**).

SPRING CRAFT FAIR 17TH MAY: The next Spring fair will take place on Saturday 17th May from 10.30am till 1.30pm. As usual I am looking for help in setting up, taking down and also manning stalls so if you are able to help. Please let me know. Also, if you normally have a stall, please can you confirm with me if you are willing to organise that stall again. Thank you. *Janet Millward.*

GIVING BY INTERNET BANKING: If you prefer to donate to the Church via Internet Banking the bank details are as follows: - **Sort Code: 40-15-07. Account number: 81213652. Account name: Bromsgrove Methodist Church. Reference: Collection.** For donations to our charities' Fund use the bank details above. **Reference: Charities.** UK Tax payers please consider Gift Aid and complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration available at the back of the Church. Completed declarations please to Eleanor Wright – Gift Aid Secretary, one of the Stewards or myself. Thank you. *Sheila Sharman.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – RESURRECTION BLESSINGS – 1 PETER chap. 1 verses 3 & 8

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."

Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy."

COMMENT:

We have reason to “rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy” because as the composer says “I know that my redeemer lives!” We worship a living Saviour who has experienced more than we can ever do in the gamut of human life. He knows us and understands us. In fact, according to psalm 139, he knew us before we were born – imagine that !

Christ has taken away the barrier of our sin through our repenting and putting our faith in him. He has quite simply, made us right with God. Further he has given us that spiritual peace, removed our guilt and as we read above “given us a new birth into a living hope”.

All of this grace and mercy from God is not to be earned – it is a free gift. For “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him should not die, but have everlasting life”. We have just to believe it and accept it. The new birth comes about when we surrender our will to God’s, and live henceforth not for ourselves alone but to please God.

The fact of the resurrection gives us new life, and if it had not happened on that Easter morning when the disciples found the tomb to be empty, our hope would be in vain, Jesus would have been just another prophet, instead of the Saviour of the world ! Every blessing, *John*.

Suggested Readings for Week Beginning 27th April. (The Wisdom of the Cross)

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|-----|------|------------------------|---------|------------|------------|
| Sun | 27. | John 20:19-31. | StF 314 | Psalm 150. | Learn. |
| Mon | 28*. | Mark 13:5-13. | StF 154 | Psalm 148. | Challenge. |
| Tue | 29. | 1 Corinthians 1:1-9. | StF 608 | Psalm 113. | Pray. |
| Wed | 30. | 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. | StF 450 | Psalm 114. | Tell. |
| Thu | 1+. | John 14:1-14. | StF 248 | Psalm 139. | Pray. |
| Fri | 2. | 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. | StF 276 | Psalm 115. | Learn. |
| Sat | 3. | 1 Corinthians 2:6-16. | StF 153 | Psalm 117. | Notice. |

**Mark, Evangelist trans. +Philip and James, Apostles.*

All items for inclusion in the next edition should be submitted by 9am on Friday morning to kenb740@gmail.com Thank you.