

Distant but United

St Martin's Parish Church



3rd Sunday of Easter, 5th April



'When things go back to normal' is a phrase we must all be using a lot at the moment.

I'm losing track of time, but it's certainly been a good few weeks since our lives were altered so dramatically. We have passed the point of novelty and are starting to get itchy for the end.

But I also think we all know, that we will not return to 'normal' soon, or suddenly, or in completeness. It will take time, it will happen gradually, and some things may remain unfamiliar for a long time to come.

The disciples on the Emmaus Road couldn't get their heads around the new reality of Jesus' death, even though they'd heard the rumours of his resurrection. Their despair was so great they couldn't lift their eyes off the road; they couldn't see (or didn't want to see) that Jesus was right there with them, even in their confusion.

Eventually Jesus got through to them. He said, there is meaning in all of this, even in the trauma. Look deeply, with mature eyes and you will see: hope is not lost, all things remain possible, God's love is stronger, even stronger than death.

So let's wait together in the confusion, and know that Jesus is with us, every step of the way.'

Rev Jonny

Liberation 75

Despite the cancellation of so many of the planned celebrations for Liberation 75, there is still plenty that we can do to remember this most significant of anniversaries.

News is coming out of plans to decorate the whole Parish with flags, bunting, posters and flowers. In St Martin, we are encouraged to join a Liberation Street Party (though each of us in our own front gardens) which will run from 3pm on the 9th May.

Karen, the Connetable, has set up prizes for the best decorated house or garden, and there's a fancy-dress competition too!

As a symbol of our remembrance, I will be lighting a large candle by the War Memorial from dawn until dusk that day and will lead prayers for all those who suffered under the Occupation and thank God for the safe Liberation of our Islands.

Details are attached separately, but you can find more information from the Parish Hall or follow @ParishofStMartin on Facebook.

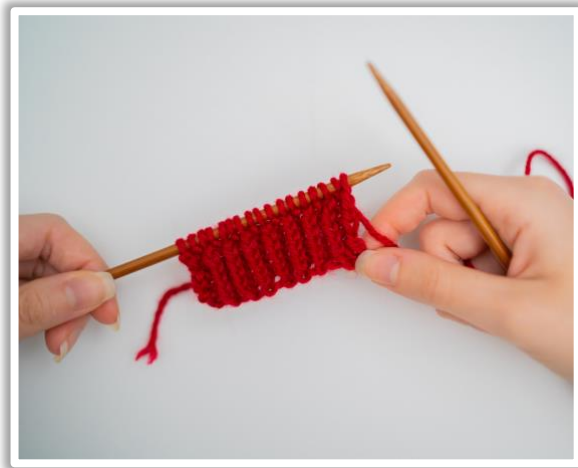
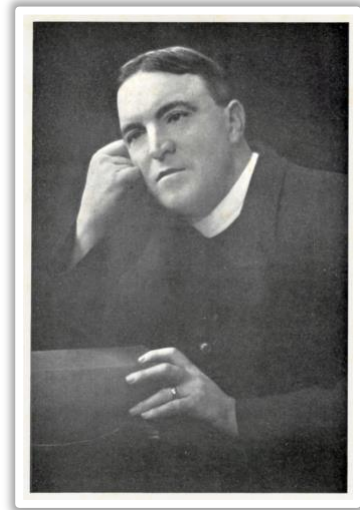


Canon John Russell-Wilford

A reminder that Episode 4 of the Occupation Diary of a Country Rector (the memoirs of Canon John Russell-Wilford) is being broadcast **Sunday morning at 9.40am.**

I hope you've been enjoying these, and thank you to those of you who have written to me with your own memories of Canon Wilford.

A remarkable priest.



Knitted Blanket Squares.

Jackie and Joan have come up with an idea that we could knit a red and white blanket representing St Martin for Mustard Seed.

Mustard Seed do incredible work bringing hope and essential items to people struggling in Romania.

We would be grateful if anyone is willing to knit red or white 6" squares in garter stitch on 4mm needles. Further details can be obtained from Joan on: 854913/07797729745

Your Generous Giving

On behalf of the church, can I please say a huge 'thank you' to those who have continued their giving, even in the absence of a collection plate. The ministry of the church will continue, come what may, but with your help we can ensure we will meet the costs ahead. Everyone's financial situations are changing as a result of this crisis, so please think carefully of your own needs before you decide whether and how to give.

For details on how to give, ring Thelma on 852709



To speak to Rev Jonny, please ring: 07797 939692 or email: smartinsrector@gmail.com