

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN, KENTON

A PARISH UNDER THE SACRAMENTAL AND PASTORAL CARE OF THE BISHOP OF FULHAM

*VICAR:*

**REVD. EDWARD LEWIS**

CHAPLAIN TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

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Beloved friends,

## Christmastide 2020

Throughout this strange year of 2020, I have pointed to the Hope that we all have in Jesus. When the world seems to be crumbling around us or is being swept with Covid-19, when loved ones are suddenly ill or tragically die, Jesus is their and our hope too.

In my poor homilies over Christmas and Holy Family, I have reminded myself and hearers that we have over sanitised the crib and the family. Jesus was born in a filthy stinking stable. The Holy Family suffered so much and whilst the perfect family, they had to cope with sorrows just as we have to.

So as we approach 2021 I wanted to be in touch with you all to assure you that you are totally loved and are the most important person in God's eyes. In Emmanuel - God with us - we have our champion, we have our God. Put your hand into His. Trust Him. Hope in Him. Love Him. Just as He loves you.

The early months of 2021 will see the vaccine being rolled out and wretched Covid being driven back. We might well have another full lockdown (with no public worship) before we are on top of Covid. You know I will always come if you are in need. I will always bring Jesus in His Blessed Sacrament.

But we all have to be very careful too.

We will win this war. We are in the hands of the very best, Our Lord and God. Whatever happens He is our Hope, our Strength and our Stay.

Fr John is isolating but so close to us in prayer and worship. Fr Mike had the joy of saying his first Christmas mass. Katherine joins me in sending our love to YOU.

God love you always,

