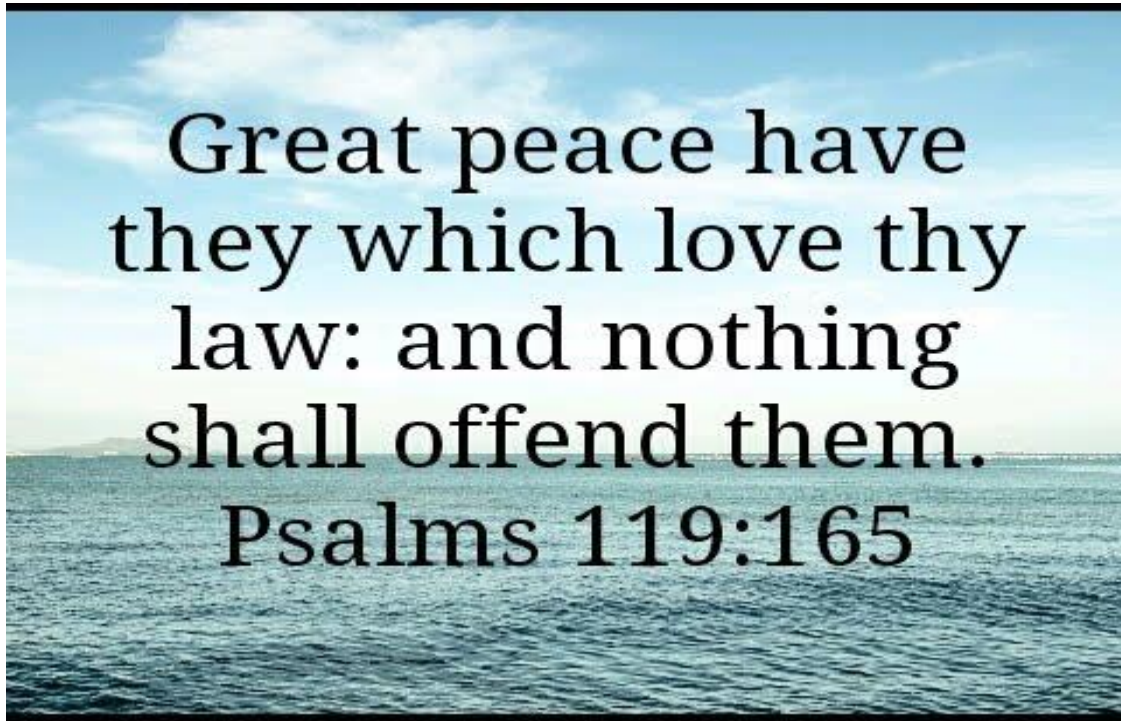




To know Jesus better, and to make Him better known

Park Avenue, Porthcawl
Registered Charity 1134864



Sunday 19th April 2020

**Please join us for our Online Sunday Service
(Facebook, YouTube and <http://gilgal.co.uk/news/pastors-blog>)**

Our pastor Martin Gillard is on holiday (staycation) and this Sunday we have a guest message from Martin Lewis of Highfields Church, Cardiff and the regional organiser for Sports Chaplaincy UK. Martin is a former Bridgend RFC rugby player. Our associate pastor Steve Lock will lead the worship and bring a family time story.

Our pastor will be putting out a regular mid-week 'Gilgal Update' containing a biblical reflection, the latest church news and some pointers for prayer on our social media sites. While we are not able to gather together or engage in pastoral visitation if you have news to share please let him know by emailing him at gillardmc@aol.com or phone 01656 771168.

Prayer Needs

Those Bereaved: Please continue to pray for Gwyneth Bridger and family on the death of her husband Billy, and also Mary Gough following the recent death of both her brother in law and her sister in law. Pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

Those in Hospital: Margaret Carey-Jones has moved to Brynmenyn Hospital.

Those in Residential Care: Ann Thomas (Picton Court); Doug Davies, Pat Eales (Monkstone House); Beryl Surringer (Newton Care Home); Carole Vanden Branden (Breaksea); Charlotte 'Lyn' Davies (Penylan House, Cardiff). Pray for the health and safety of both residents and staff during this difficult lockdown period.

Our BMS “link missionaries”: Laura-Lee Lovering in Peru and Matt & Julia in Kosovo. Ray Jefferies (b_jefferies@sky.com) has recent updates from them both, which she can send to you on request to fuel your prayers.

Our US Mission Week friends at 1st West Monroe Baptist Church in Louisiana are dealing with the aftermath of a devastating Tornado in addition to coronavirus. Please remember them in your prayers.

Perhaps we could especially pray for the Christians in countries where other faiths are the majority, who are often last in the queue for help in this coronavirus epidemic.

Prayer Chain: Please send any emailed prayer requests to Alan Harris at a.harris476@btinternet.com or alternatively you can call Alan on 784118.

Telephone Prayer: If anyone wants to be prayed for over the telephone, please contact Karen Challenger as Prayer Ministry Team Leader. This could be thought of as an alternative to visiting the Prayer Corner for prayer ministry. Karen can be contacted on her mobile 07795 516369. If she is not available, please leave a message and she will get back to you.

Prayer Ministry / Prayer 2020: Will you please pray the following prayer on Monday 20th April at 20:20 pm for 20 minutes:

Risen Jesus, we rejoice in your resurrection. Help us to live today embracing the gift of life and hope that you have made available to everyone. We pray for those who don't yet know you, that we would be powerful witnesses to the great hope of resurrection for all (John 11:25).

Church Announcements

We have put in place a number of strands for keeping in touch with each other as a church. We have prioritised those who are unwell or in especially vulnerable groups. Our mental health can be as important as our physical health, so if you would like someone to be in contact with you every now and again, please let us know.

Spring Harvest Christian Conference 2020. The speakers, and worship leaders like Cathy Burton, are available on YouTube and well worth checking out.

Do You Need Help? If you need help to collect essential food or medicine please contact Pastor Martin (at his home 771168) or Daphne Harris (786249) and we will do all within our power to help.

Do You Need Financial Help? We know that millions of people have been affected financially by the lockdown. The church has a Benevolent Fund which can be called upon in times of crisis. Please contact Pastor Martin if you think we might be able to help meet a particular need.

Your giving to Gilgal: If you normally give to Gilgal through the Sunday offertory, then at this time of prolonged lockdown you might like to consider setting up a standing order, making an online payment or putting a cheque in the post. Please give John a ring on 772115 to discuss your options further. Thanks to those who have already done this.

Foodbank continues to operate at the YMCA on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am until 12 noon. Please pray for Margaret, John, Alison and team as they provide practical help to some of the most vulnerable in our community at this difficult time. As expected, demand has doubled over the last month, but this is mainly people who have accessed the Foodbank previously, so know the system. If you become aware of anybody who is struggling, do please encourage them to come to the YMCA, or to ring Margaret and John on 772115. Deliveries can be arranged if necessary.

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