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## Sunday 17th March 2024

## A Note From Your Vicar

In his final days the founder of Apple, the largest company in the world, Steve Jobs wrote this email to himself:

'I grow little of the food I eat, and of the little I do grow, I do not breed or perfect the seeds."

"I do not make my own clothing. I speak a language I did not invent or refine," he continued. "I did not discover the mathematics I use... I am moved by music I did not create myself."

"When I needed medical attention, I was helpless to help myself survive." "I did not invent the transistor, the microprocessor, object oriented programming, or most of the technology I work with. I love and admire my species, living and dead, and am totally dependent on them for my life and well being,"

Jobs is a man known for being a driven and distinctive thinker, a modern genius amongst the tech giants that bestride our modern world, even the advertising slogan for Apple was 'Think Different'. And as he approached death, he became more aware, not of his own brilliance, but of his dependence on his community, past and present.

I think about this email a lot. I have a really privileged position as Vicar because I get to see more than most. I get to see the men showing up quietly emptying leaves from the scout drain pipe, the ones who refill the oil in the candles, those who prepare the children's spaces all ready for their arrival, tying flowers up and those who spend entire Saturdays running cables in a church so that you can see and hear music and words. I see it. All of those examples are from the last seven days. And the more I see the more I know that goes on that I don't see. The tiny gestures of kindness to make a community of love and kindness work. And all I can ever say is thank you.

When I have my moments of doubt in my faith, I move this sense of dependence up a level. We depend on each other, yes, but bigger than that, the air in our lungs and the beats of our hearts are gifts from God. Even this little blue spot holds more mysteries than we will ever unravel and so when I look at the heavens and see the unfathomably huge cosmos with it's boiling oceans and scattered stardust raking the skies, I am reminded of this life as an enormous gift.

From dust you are made and to dust you will return are the words which begin Lent. But this dust breathes life because we have been given life and through all of the challenges and perplexities of this life, it is the most basic point for the Christian to say, 'Thank you', for God looked upon it and said, 'It is good'.

emory and God, it's really beautiful.

God bless,

**Mick** 

#### St George's



#### MAUNDY THURSDAY TICKETS

As mentioned in last week's NewsBoard and on Sunday, tickets are going quite fast now for our Maundy Thursday time together but what does my £10 get me? Well...

• Lamb Tagine with giant Cous Cous (veggie alternative available)

- A glass of wine/soft drink
- Cake, Tea and Coffee
- Holy Communion

Tickets are limited so do let us know if you wish to come.

You can buy your tickets online from our website https://www.stgchurch.co.uk/maundythursday-meal

Or by scanning this QR code on the image below.

If you would prefer to pay by cash, make sure you collect one of the Maundy Thursday forms from church, complete it and return it with the correct money in an envelope and pop it through the Parish Office door.

So don't delay book your ticket today!

## THE WEEK AHEAD

#### Sunday 17th March

**9.30am Worship with Holy Communion** and Choir with sung liturgy

**11.00am Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion** and with our children/ young people's Sunday Clubs

#### **Monday 18th March**

9.15am Morning Prayer 10.00am Buggy Buddies For more info contact: families@stgchurch.co.uk 7.30pm Mens Shed 7.30pm Worship Gathering

**Tuesday 19th March 7.30pm Bellringing Practice**- for more info contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

#### Wednesday 20th March 9.30am Stay and Play - our Baby and Toddler

group in Church Hall. £2 per family

#### Thursday 21st March <u>9.15am Morning Prayer</u>

**10.30am Stroll For the Soul-** another Stroll with the group - see NewsBoard article for more info! **12.00pm SOUP-** Our last SOUP of the season

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

## Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion

Join us as we share a meal, take Communion and prepare for what is to come.

TICKETS £10 AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE, OUR PARISH OFFICE OR BY SCANNING THE QR CODE

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 6.30PM

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL

#### **STROLL FOR THE SOUL**

Our next Stroll will be on **THURSDAY 21st MARCH.** 

Several of our popular 'strolls' may still be rather muddy, so we are returning to the village of Ash Priors - where the quiet country lanes will be easier underfoot.

All are welcome to join us - and let us know if you will need a lift (or can offer one).

## EASTER DATES

**Thursday 28th March - MAUNDY THURSDAY 6.30pm Meal with Holy Communion** Tickets cost £10. Booking essential

#### Friday 29th March - GOOD FRIDAY

**10.30am Service** A quiet reflective service as we think about the cross

#### Saturday 30th March

**10.30am Easter Family Adventure** An easter event for for families with crafts and hot cross buns!

#### Sunday 31st March - EASTER SUNDAY

**TBC Easter Sunrise Service** - welcoming in the Easter Sunrise

**9.30am Easter Worship Service** with Communion and liturgy

11.00am Easter Contemporary Worship Service with Communion Directions to Ash Priors Common are as follows: Take the left turn at the Bishops Lydeard roundabout, towards the Railway station crossing the bridge over the railway, continue along the road and ignoring the right fork

into the village, keep straight on to Ash Priors Common, where there is plenty of parking - at the far end of the Common.

> JESUS YOU WALK WITH ME - HELP ME TO WALK WITH YOU



#### **Mossy Church**

Last Tuesday morning the Mossy Church team welcomed lots of families, to another 'Mini' session aimed at 0-5's. This time, the theme was 'Woodland Creatures'. We began our woodland adventure outside,



under the beautiful blossoming magnolia tree and beyond, looking for various creatures and creepy crawlies, following different animal footprint tracks, singing songs and reading rhymes and stories all along the same theme. Once inside the church there were lots of crafts, activities and opportunities for sensory play for the families to explore together. As ever, this session was a brilliant opportunity to engage with families, many of whom otherwise have no other contact with the church, and build up community contacts, gently sharing the love of God through our conversations.

Mossy Church has now been running for almost three years having been set up during one of the Covid lockdowns by us to be able to connect with families at a challenging time. It has been a privilege to develop the ministry inspired by Psalm 19 "the heavens declare the glory of God", to reach out and connect with families beyond the normal limits of church.

## **VOLUNTEERS** AREA

## DON'T MISS OUT - JOIN A TEAM TODAY!

Serving on team, you don't just perform a task, you build life together and fulfilling the call of Jesus to love one another. Here are some teams you can join or may be looking for some additional hands on deck!

#### **STAY AND PLAY TEAM**

Come and join our wonderful team at Stay & Play. We'd love some helpers to join us, even just once a month, to help set up, to help put away and for refreshments - do get in touch if you would like to join us and help with this outreach!

office@stgchurch.co.uk

#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANT TEAM**

Have you been a Communion Assistant in a previous Church? Would you like to serve in this team, especially at our 9.30am service? We would love for more to be a part of this really special ministry - one that feels a real privilege to be a part of. if you have done this before or would like to help serve in this way, please email us to let us know!

office@stgchurch.co.uk

#### **BUGGY BUDDIES TEAM**

Another wonderful group for bumps to babies to toddlers and we'd love you to join our team where we walk and talk with the Mums/Carers and just be there to chat and a provide coffee and a listening ear. If you can help once a month on a Monday morning that would be wonderful. Email **families@ stgchurch.co.uk** if you would like to find out more!

#### **WELCOME TEAM**

We want everyone who comes along to St G's to feel welcome, to see what a great church family we are and to want to come back again! If you think you could be that welcoming face for either of our services, get in touch with either Peter Joyce (for the 9.30am) or Michael Hayes (for the 11am) **joyce07@btinternet.com mhhayes@outlook.com**  The team has changed during this time with different people's commitments but the goal of the group remains the same; to inspire families to explore creation together and to invite a sense of wonder and awe for the Creator who made it all.

It is a gentle and welcoming outreach ministry and a wonderful chance to get creative too. We have a wonderful but small team and would love to welcome some new members to join us. We have 'mini' sessions which take place during weekdays, two to three times per term as well as occasional Saturday or school holiday sessions for older children normally once a term.

Joining the team wouldn't involve helping at all of the sessions, even once per term would be brilliant. This might be helping to prepare a craft or activity, or if you're not crafty, welcoming or making refreshments, or reading a story on the day. Do take a 'mossy moment' outside sometime, consider the wonderful works of God's creation and pray to see if this ministry is something you would like to be a part of. Email families@stgchurch. co.uk to find out more!

#### Mossy Church Team x



#### **MORNING PRAYER**

Did you know that on a Monday and a Thursday we have Morning Prayer in the church from 9.15-9.45am.

We gather in the soft seats and follow the Common Worship Anglican Morning Prayer liturgy together.

You would be most welcome to join us should you wish to do so.

If you would like to find out more about what Morning Prayer is, please do speak to either Nick or Rob.

Please do always check "The Week Ahead" section to check whether or not it is on for the following week as we do have to occassionally cancel it.

#### TAUNTON BESOM

The Christian charity Besom always needs good quality, clean second hand items for the home start packs and furniture they give to people being rehomed often in empty accommodation when they have no possessions themselves.

Urgent needs at present are beds and clean mattresses, small chests of drawers, small tables and chairs.

Please go to the Besom Taunton website or speak to Jane Hamilton, Helen Clegg or Hilary Hayes.



## Easter at St George's

#### **EASTER HAPPENINGS AT ST GEORGE'S**

As already mentioned here in NewsBoard we have our Maundy Thursday evening time together but what else is happening here for Easter?

On **Wednesday 27th March** at 10am we will have our **Easter Buggy Service** for all our childrens groups - Stay&Play, Buggy Buddies, Kids@11, Tots@11 and Mossy Church with easter crafts, songs and play in the church.

On **Good Friday** we will be having a reflective service in Church at **10.30am**. This will be similar to last year - a quiet reflecctive service with readings and some hymns as we remember the cross.

On **Easter Saturday** we will be having something for families to come and engage in - "A Family Easter Adventure" where we will have crafts, toasting hot cross buns on a campfire, an Escape Room and Easter Trail from 10am-12pm so do come along and join us for that.

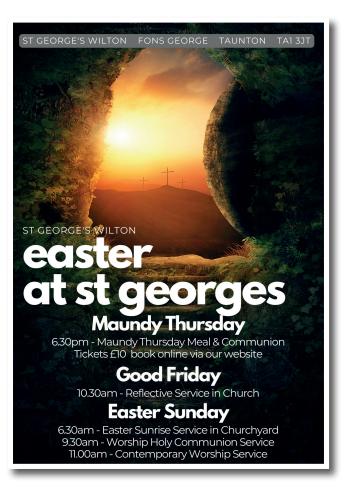
On **Easter Sunday** we will have not one, not two but THREE Easter celebrations beginning with welcoming in the **Easter Sunrise Service** - which would have been great as it looked like a later time but then we've spotted that the CLOCKS GO FORWARD! Still, it is has proved a really special service where we gather outside in front of the church.

We will then have our Traditional **Easter Service at 9.30am** - Alleluia! and then the band will set up to celebrate with our **11am contemporary Easter Service.** 

Across the town there will be an 11 hour of Prayer with Pursuit down at North Street Church led by our wonderful Maestro Chris from 1pm - Midnight and there is a certain buzz about some worship being sung around the town...but agan more info will follow.

And following the roaring success of the Christmas Gospel, there will be another celebration on Easter Sunday evening at North Street, limited spaces available so come down from 7pm and dont miss out.





#### St George's Children & Young People

#### TOTS@11 IS BACK!!!

Join us each week in the upstairs room of the Hall for songs, Bible stories, activities and crafts suitable for little ones aged 0-3, accompanied by their grown ups.

Circle time will last around 10-15 minutes, and then children are welcome to enjoy free play while the grown ups fellowship together or tune in to the sermon on the livestream.

So if you have a tot and you'd like to join us, do come along after we have all had a time of worship together in the church - or join us at anytime throughout the service.

It would be great to see you and your tot there!

For more information on Tots@ll so get in touch with us via **families@stgchurch.co.uk** 







#### YOUTH@11 SCHOOL YEARS 6-10

We start off in the Church for the worship at the 11 service and then head over to our own space to hang out for drinks, games, snacks, chat, videos. We look at a different topic each week and when we've finished we head back over to the Church for worship together.

## ST GEORGE'S **GIVING**

 If you have started coming to St George's regularly, or have been coming for some time but haven't yet done so, may I encourage you

to join our committed Christian Giving scheme by completing a pledge form and possibly a standing order form. Just email Robin on giving@stchurch.co.uk to find out how you can begin to give to the work of St George's

- If you pay income tax, and have not already done so, please consider Gift Aiding your giving
- If you are putting your affairs in order and are considering making a will or revising an existing one, would you like to remember
  St George's in your will? It can make a huge difference to us.
- Another way to donate to the work of St George's, is via our **Give A Little page** which you can access on our website, Alternatively you can donate directly into our bank account using the following information and putting 'Donation' reference:

Account Name: St George's Wilton

Account No:

Sort Code

St George's Wilton Stewardship 59935227 60-80-06

Thank you so much!

#### CHARITY COLLECTION MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation that has been supporting families worldwide for over 140 years. As a Christian membership charity, Mothers' Union works tirelessly to serve communities while offering care for families regardless of faith or background. They bring hope and practical support to millions of people every year through parenting, literacy and community development programmes.

There will be baskets available by the South door for any cash donations and we now have our card facility up and running for you to donate that way. If you are a Church At Home worshipper, you can donate via their website https://www.mothersunion.org/donate



In Loving Memory

We remember Bishop Will Stewart, David Bowerman and Richard Booth

and pray that you would bless those who mourn with the comfort of your love that they may face cach new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given.

May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love. Through Jesus Christ, our lord. Amen.

If you would like Flowers In Loving Memory of a loved one, our Flower Team would love to help you with this so do get in touch with our Parish Office to arrange it. Email **office@stgchurch.co.uk** 

# Who's **WHO**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH ANY OF OUR TEAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR GET IN TOUCH VIA EMAIL

#### **Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin**

Tel: 01823 774128 Email: **nick@stgchurch.co.uk** Day Off: Fridays

Churchwardens Peter Joyce 07761 407433 Di Vickery 07598 319163

**Curate** Rev'd Rob Cromwell Tel: 07889 452524 Email: **rob@stgchurch.co.uk** Day Off: Fridays

Associate Minister Rev'd Richard Kelley Email: richard@stgchurch.co.uk

Worship Director Chris Sampson Email: chris@stgchurch.co.uk

**Reader** Kate Taylor Email: **kate21taylor@icloud.com** 

Parish Administrator Bethan Baigent Tel: 01823 284253 Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

**Safeguarding** Nick Griffin Email: **safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk** 

PCC Secretary Lucy Norris Email: pccsecretary@stgchurch.co.uk

PCC Reps Matt Norman Paul Cole Mary Carson Pete Underwood Laura Willetts Katie Lanchbury

#### **Families Coordinator**

If you would like to find out more about what we have on for families here at St G's Email **families@stgchurch.co.uk** 

#### **Pastoral Care Coordinator**

Hilary McKegney Email **pastoral-care@stgchurch.co.uk** 

**Digital and Technology Coordinator** 

Matt Norman Email: **matt@stgchurch.co.uk** 

Small Groups Coordinator Carmen Cromwell

Email: carmen@stgchurch.co.uk

**Community Fridge Coordinator** Mervyn Roberts Email: **fridge@stgchurch.co.uk** 

#### **Hospitality Coordinator**

Rob Cromwell Email: **rob@stgchurch.co.uk** 

Prayer Circle To be in contact for confidential prayer amongst our Prayer Circle email Lesley on: prayer@stgchurch.co.uk

**Christian Giving** Robin Stamp Email: **giving@stgchurch.co.uk** 

Electoral Roll Officer Laurie Jeffery Email: laurie.jeffery@sky.com

**Deanery Synod Reps** Hilary Hayes Hilary McKegney



## **Road to Calvary**

Music for Holy Week Olivet to Calvary - J.H. Maunder God So Loved The World - Stainer Il fervido desiderio - Bellini Agnus Dei - Bizet

Saturday 23 March 2024 - 7.00pm St George's RC Church, Taunton TA1 3NN Tickets £10 from Chris Knapman on (01823) 335303 or on the door westsomersetsingers.org

## ames Church St James Players present Bodvsnatchel Fri 5th & Sat 6th April 2024

#### at St James Church, Taunton Doors Open 7pm Performance 7.30pm

Tickets are £10 (Students £8) available from: Ticket Source: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-james-church-taunt Phone 07796 248369

All proceeds go

Ticket Price Includes: Nibbles, 'Banger in a Bun'at the interval Followed by Cake & Colfee after the show Bring your own drink to enjoy the evening!



#### **COME AND CELEBRATE EASTER WITH**

THE PURSUIT OF GOSPEL CHOIR & BAND

# Gospel Worship Night

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH + 7.30PM

> NORTH STREET CHURCH 33 NORTH ST, TAUNTON TA1 1LW FREE ENTRY WITH LIMITED CAPACITY DOORS OPEN AT 7PM



GOOD FRIDAY 2024: 1pm to MIDNIGHT @ NORTH STREET CHURCH, TAUNTON

Pursuit in partnership with the Taunton churches are hosting 11 hours of worship & prayer from 1pm Fri 29<sup>t</sup> March. Anyone welcome to come and join us at anytime