



Sunday 21st April 2024

A Note From **Your Vicar**

Last Sunday was a big event in the Griffin household...

The new extra-long episode of Bluey was released and it was excellent. If you don't have children under 5 then it's highly likely you've never watched an episode but I say this in full confidence, you are missing out. It is a global phenomenon and is estimated to be worth around £2 Billion in franchise; that is a lot of money for a cartoon about a family of dogs from Australia. I was highly cynical about it having heard plenty of parents that quietly admit to finishing an episode after their child has left the room or even gone to bed. But I was wrong and the reason for the sheer popularity is excellent writing that is unafraid to be both relentlessly positive and simultaneously realistic about the travails of family life and manages to tackle topics including infertility, loneliness, sickness and aging in a manner which never feels patronising. At the heart of the latest episode is a story called The Farmer which I'll record here:

"Once there was a farmer who owned a beautiful horse, but one day his horse ran away."

"Upon hearing the news, his neighbours came to visit. 'That's such bad luck,' they said

*"We'll see,' replied the farmer."
"The very next morning, his horse came back and it brought three wild horses with it."*

"Wow,' said the neighbours, 'that's such good luck.'"

"We'll see,' replied the farmer.

"The next day his son tried riding one of the wild horses, but it threw him off and he hurt his leg."

"The neighbours said, 'That's bad luck.'"

"We'll see,' replied the farmer."

"The next day, soldiers came to the village and made all the young men join the army. But they didn't take the farmer's son because his leg was hurt."

"That's such good luck,' said the neighbours."

"We'll see,' said the farmer."

That is the end of the story. Now Christians don't really believe in luck (that's for another day) but we do believe it when Jesus says, 'Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself'.

Faith is not pretending to know each twist and turn of the story, instead we are confident of God's ultimate plan even if we don't know all the details on the way. Being open to the future is a way of faith; 'we'll see'.

God bless,

Nick

St George's
News

ST GEORGES UNITED SERVICE

On **Sunday at 4pm** we will be joining together again with St George's RC Church to celebrate St George's day.

This year it is the turn of St George's RC to host us and kindly put on the refreshments afterwards and we will be taking our Choir, our Maestro Chris and our Rob will be providing the homily.

We would love as many of our St George's family to come along to represent our church so please pop it in your diaries and join us for this Evensong/Sung Vespers service together.

ST GEORGE'S R.C & WILTON CHURCHES TOGETHER

UNITED ST GEORGE'S SERVICE

SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 4PM

ST GEORGE'S RC CHURCH,
BILLET STREET, TAUNTON

CHEESE & WINE EVENING

I'm really excited to confirm the details for the Wine and Cheese Evening that we are holding on 3rd May in the Church Hall. We will have a guest Wine Connoisseur, Chris Smith, joining us for the evening. Chris is a friend who worships at my old church in Bristol, and really is excellent at both knowing his wine, and sharing it with others – it will be fantastic evening!

We will be tasting eight different wines, whites and reds, and there will be a lovely selection of cheese and charcuterie for us to enjoy too.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 21st April

9.30am Worship With Holy Communion

11.00am Contemporary Worship Service with Communion

4.00pm United Joint St Georges Day Service

- over at St Georges RC Church followed by refreshments - do come and support! Rev'd Rob will be preaching

Monday 22nd April

10.00am Mossy Church Earth Day Event

For more info contact: families@stgchurch.co.uk See article in NewsBoard

Tuesday 23rd April

7.30pm Bellingring Practice- for more info

contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

Wednesday 24th April

9.30am Stay and Play - our Baby and Toddler group in Church Hall. £2 per family

Thursday 25th April

9.15am Morning Prayer

FRIDAY 3RD MAY '24

Doors Open 7pm for
7.30pm start

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
TAUNTON
TA1 3JT

CHEESE & WINE

Join us for a fabulous evening of Wine Tasting

£15

Limited
Tickets

For any help with
booking, email:
rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Scan QR Code
to Book



Don't Forget!

THE APCM IS COMING...

It's that time again! St. George's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is fast approaching! Please join us on **Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Church.**

The APCM is a great opportunity for the church family to learn more about the amazing activities in the parish, look at changes in the electoral roll, elect new members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and deanery synod and to provide a financial update.

In preparation for this, we kindly ask **anyone who is not on the electoral roll to complete a form, so that we can update the register in advance of the APCM.**

This will be your last chance as we finish preparing the accounts for you all to read. Do put the date in your diary though as we'd love as many of you who feel you are a part of this church family to come along and join us.

Thank you!

Lucy
PCC Secretary

Date: **Friday 3rd May**
Time: **Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start**
Where: **St George's Church Hall**

Please click here to book your tickets online <https://form.jotform.com/241063082877358> or scan the barcode on the poster on Page 2, or pick up a paper form available at church on Sunday.

Tickets are limited, so please do book in as soon as possible - I look forward to seeing you for what promises to be an brilliant night.

Many thanks,

Rob

TERM TIME PROGRAMMES ARE BACK

So now we're back in the swing of it all, we can tell you about all the great things going on again now here at St George's.

Buggy Buddies has started back last Monday and it was great to see some new faces. If you would like to come along with bump, baby or toddler, we'd love to see you!



ST GEORGE'S WILTON

buggy buddies

A relaxed walking group

walk natter songs stories coffee

fresh air fitness friendship ...and free!

Term Time Mondays at 10am
Meet in St George's Wilton Churchyard Taunton TA1 3JT

RUN BY A FRIENDLY TEAM FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF BUMPS, BABIES AND TODDLERS

For more info email: families@stgchurch.co.uk

SUPPORT MEALS AT ST GEORGES

A BIG Thankyou to all of the people who signed up to make a meal for the Secker Johnsons with their lovely new arrival. We now have enough meals this time however we would love to hear from you if you'd like to support a family or individual with meals when there's a future need.

Please email supportmeals@stgchurch.co.uk if you'd like to join the list of willing cooks to be contacted when a need (like a new baby, illness or bereavement) arises. Thank you so much

Support Meals team x



Cathedral admission changes

Wells Cathedral has announced changes to its admission guidelines from 22 April.

Free passes are available to local people and to parishioners in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, with a new entry charge for tourists. It will remain free to enter for worship, prayer, and to light a candle.

The monies raised by the £14 tourist admission charge will go towards the care of the cathedral building and its mission. Information about the Parish Pass and how to apply for it is available from the Wells Cathedral website.

Calling all St. George's Arty and Crafty and Patchworky people!

On **Saturday June 8th in St. George's Hall** we are holding a Coffee morning to raise funds for Besom. To make it more interesting we are having an art, craft and patchwork exhibition of things made by you! Please let us know if you have anything to exhibit.

Also there will be a few tables of craft items for sale and if you have anything to contribute we would be very grateful.

Everyone is welcome so please pick up a some information fliers which are coming soon and invite your friends.

More information from Jane Hamilton, Hilary Hayes or Helen Clegg

VOLUNTEERS AREA

Come and give in a different way!

PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

Prayer is such an important part of our church life here at St George's and we want more of it!! We'd love to be able to offer more during both the 9.30am and the 11am services so if you think that being part of our Prayer Ministry Team is something that you would like to be a part of and help us to grow our prayer life here, do get in touch with Nick, Rob or the Parish Office.

KIDS@11 TEAM

We believe children and young people are a fundamental part of Church and a blessing from God. The Kids@11 team want to encourage, nurture and support the children to shine their lights and make a difference in the world in their own wonderful way! By getting involved in the team, you can play a vital role in helping to make families feel welcome as we grow and learn about God together.

From September we will be needing more in the team and we'd love it if you would think and pray about it and see if you think this is a ministry where you could help us.

If you would like to find out more about Kids@11 then do get in touch. We hope the more in the team, the fewer times we'd all be needed but even if you could only help once a month or bi-monthly it would really help and we'd love to welcome you to the fun of Kids@11 Email families@stgchurch.co.uk

MOSSY CHURCH TEAM

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. Email families@stgchurch.co.uk if you would like to find out more!



**COFFEE MORNING
AND
CRAFT EXHIBITION** Saturday 8th June
10am-12pm
St George's Wilton
Church hall

*Paintings, patchwork and crafts
by St George's Church members on display*

✱ Some beautiful items for sale ✱

Besom Raising funds for
The Besom in Taunton

The Besom in Taunton is a registered charity no 1152511

FROM THE DIOCESE...

For me, the most important words spoken to me at the service of my consecration were 'a bishop knows his people, and his people know him'.

I may not have met all of you yet, but it has been an utter privilege to have spent a great deal of time in my first eighteen months as your bishop visiting so many of our churches, chaplaincies and places of learning.

It was particularly inspiring to attend the deanery gatherings that took place last year which saw Bishop Ruth and me travel from Frome to Exmoor, Portishead to Yeovil and almost all stops in between.

I have been overawed by the commitment shown by so many people to witnessing and to living out the Gospel of Jesus. This is at the very heart of what we are called to be and do. I have been struck by the entrepreneurial and intentional ways in which we are seeking to build and be at the heart of our local communities, bringing love and care for our neighbours, and service to those in need.

At a time when we are facing some very real challenges, I wanted to share with you my thoughts on how we need to work together to continue to bring our vision to life, but also to give you a snapshot of some of the stories that have inspired me.

I share them with you in the hope that you are similarly inspired by the ways that every day across

At Bath and Wells we are using our God-given gifts to support our communities with love, with creativity and with passion.

I was asked at the deanery gatherings, 'What's next? What's going to come out of this?' What's next is simple. We continue to be God's people, living and telling the story of Jesus so that we can grow our churches and transform our communities. Our vision for Bath and Wells is clear and unchanged – and is being lived out in our churches, our homes, our schools and workplaces every day. With God's gracious love and support, this is something we can all play a part in achieving.

+ Michael Bath & Wells.

Bishop Michael

Listening to many different people across our diocese has helped us identify the ingredients of the growth we want to see:

- **Valuing and cherishing the people and resources we already have**
- **Developing new Christian worshipping communities**
- **Sharing in ministry and leadership**
- **Deepening and growing faith**

Local church members are the experts in their localities. I am asking every benefice to use your local knowledge and assets to identify your focus for missional action.

One that, in prayer and under God, you think will grow your church and enhance your community.

One that reaches out to people, not principally via improvement to your building or its facilities.

My very specific challenge is:

'Can you grow your church by at least one adult (net) and at least one child (net) during the next year?'

This challenge is not one for you to undertake alone. There will be small grants available for those who need them to undertake missional projects and funding is being sought from the central church to provide additional assistance to targeted areas. Our support services continue to offer practical assistance to achieve our aim of 'growing churches, transforming communities'. This includes our Greenhouse gatherings which bring together those who are already growing new church communities, our new lay ministry pathway which offers a more flexible approach to training for lay ministries, and the creation of administrator networks to support those carrying out this vital parish role.

And, of course, ours is a vision grounded in prayer so please join me as we pray for God's continued love and guidance as we journey alongside one another. Together we will help more people in our communities to come to know that God loves them.

Bishop Michael

ST G'S MINI MOSSY CHURCH
EARTH DAY
 FOR LITTLE ONES 0-5'S
MONDAY 22ND APRIL
 10-11.30AM @ ST GEORGE'S WILTON
 & IN THE CHURCHYARD

LEARN WAYS TO CARE FOR THE EARTH
 NATURE CRAFTS • THEMED ACTIVITIES
 SENSORY PLAY • STORIES • SONGS
 FREE, BUT LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

BOOK NOW AT [HTTPS://MINIMOSSYEARTHDAY.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](https://minimossyearthday.eventbrite.co.uk)

EXPLORE ~ ENGAGE ~ CONNECT

Join the Mossy Church team and other local families for this FREE session as we explore our wonderful world this 'Earth Day'! In this session, designed especially for 0-5's, we'll engage with nature through activities, nature themed crafts, a scavenger hunt, stories, songs and sensory play. So pop on your welly boots and join us outdoors as we explore and connect with creation together.

Join us at...
SPREE 2024

Friday 21 June - Sunday 23 June 2024
Westpoint Arena, Exeter

An exciting weekend of activities, Bible teaching, camping, music and fun!

£100 inc food

YOUTH @11

We're joining up with two other churches from Taunton for this fun youth camp weekend. If your child/ren would like to come then please email families@stgchurch.co.uk to express an interest or for more information.

SPREE with SWYM WEEKEND CAMP

We're really excited to be teaming up with another couple of churches to go along to this Youth camp in June. If your young person would like to come along and have a weeknd filled with fun, friends and faith, get in touch with families@stgchurch.co.uk and let us know you're interested. Remember we have our St Georges Bursary Fund to help families be financially supported to go onto these camps so please do not let the price put you off - we can help!

ONLY £15 FOR 3 DAYS

IN THE JUNGLE
 Holiday Club For 4-11's

Wed 24th - Fri 26th July 2024
9.30am - 3.30pm

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **pulse ministries**

St George's Church Hall
 Fons George Taunton TA1 3JT

Email: events@stgchurch.co.uk

THERE'S A RUMBLE IN THE JUNGLE

Well actually, it's our Church Hall... We are really looking forward to this Holiday Club which we will be running in the Summer Holidays with Pulse Ministries. Only £15 for all 3 DAYS and you can be sure that they'll have great fun! We'll let you know more details very soon but do pick up a leaflet from Church!
BOOK IN HERE <https://form.jotform.com/241073081263044>

Email: families@stgchurch.co.uk
 For information on any of our children and young people's groups and activities

OUR FAMILY TEAMS NEED HELP

- Buggy Buddies
- Mossy Church
- Kids@11/Youth@11
- Stay and Play

Being on our teams is fun and fulfilling and is not forever just for now

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 Stewardship**

Account No: **59935227**
Sort Code **60-80-06**

Thank you so much!

CHARITY COLLECTION EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST



TACKLING POVERTY & INJUSTICE WORKING TO TRANSFORM LIVES

We work with Christians in the Middle East to tackle poverty and injustice in the region. Where there is a need – for refuge, a home, for health care, for education, for justice and human rights – we, with our partners, respond. We currently work with Christians in Egypt, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, supporting health, education and community projects, which bring vital services to those at risk of marginalisation and exclusion.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Partnership is at the centre of Embrace's vision of transformation. We support, enable and partner with the Middle East's Christians as they work to transform lives and restore the dignity of the most excluded and marginalised communities. As the Arab saying goes, 'there is bread and salt between us'. It means we sit at the table as equals, in an alliance of fellowship.

We currently have 50 courageous, inspired, creative and skilled partners in the region. All are working to transform lives; all are inspired by the Gospel.

If you are a Church At Home worshipper, you can donate via their website - <https://embraceme.org/give-general>

In Loving Memory

We remember

**Betty Garbutt, Muriel Wilce,
Adrian Gordon, Valdi Valuks
Margaret Tope and Don Rimmer**

and pray that you would bless those who mourn with the comfort of your love that they may face each 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.

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

Treasurer

Ian Pinder

Email: iandrpinder@googlemail.com

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