

# Sunday 1st May 2022

A Note From

## Your Vicar

### FANCY A CHAT?

Our little community at St Georges has grown! This has been the prayer of the church for a long time and God has answered our prayers. But this has meant that some things have changed, obviously on a Sunday with our new services and the wider projects going on at St Georges. These different areas of growth also mean that the way we communicate needs to keep adapting to make it all work.

This is normal.

If you go out for dinner with someone, then this is obviously quite different from the way we talk at a party or when walking the dog. If you use any social media then we communicate differently depending on the medium – a single text/whatsapp conversation is different from a public facebook post. There are times for business, chit-chat and for the sheer joy of communication. Trying to expect a close intimate conversation on a public forum like a big party or a twitter feed won't work and will lead to disappointment. Similarly as a growing church we need to talk but we also need to pick the right forum and moments to communicate effectively. In the last few months, some have felt that as your vicar, I'm not so available for conversation. This is true and not true. It's true on 1/14th of the week – Sunday morning – but it's not true during the rest of the week.

Vicars are generalists – we do a bit of everything but because of that the vicar isn't always the best person to chat with about everything.

So here's a few processes for getting in touch with the right person.

- 1) **I'd like a visit/pastoral care –**  
Hilary McKegney  
[pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk)
- 2) **I want to talk about faith, worship, God and everything else –**  
Nick Griffin [nick@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:nick@stgchurch.co.uk)
- 3) **I want to get involved –**  
Nick (who will send you on to someone else!)
- 4) **Bookings/rotas/administration/ booking Nick in –**  
Bethan Baigent [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)
- 5) **Buildings and practical matters –**  
Peter Joyce [joyce07@btinternet.com](mailto:joyce07@btinternet.com)
- 6) **I want to join a small group –**  
Geoff Treasure
- 7) **I want to talk about ministry to young people –**  
Bryony Griffin [families@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:families@stgchurch.co.uk)
- 8) **I'm concerned about the vicar but I don't want to talk to him directly –**  
Peter Joyce/Hilary McKegney.

To ensure there is more availability to have a chat with the Vicar, we will also be booking a regular daytime and evening slot. So the first Monday of the month from 1.30-3.00pm (in half hour slots) and every third Thursday 7.30-9.00pm. To book in for any of those, please do email the office and we'll book you in.

The ministry at St Georges is bigger than any single person. It's certainly bigger than the vicar. This is a good thing – Lo, God has answered your prayers St Georges! Indeed, in time, we're going to grow larger still, bringing glory to God and sharing the good news out with the wider community.

God Bless

# St George's NEWS

## NEW BISHOP OF BATH & WELLS

Downing Street has announced (10am, 28 April 2022) that the Rt Revd Michael Beasley will be the next Bishop of Bath and Wells. He is currently the Bishop of Hertford, a role which he has held since 2015.

Prior to taking a fulltime role with the church, Bishop Michael was an epidemiologist, a background he was called on to use during the pandemic as a member of the Church of England's Covid task force.



Bishop Michael is already familiar with Somerset. His wife Lizzie is from a farming family from Somerset and prior to Bishop Michael being interviewed for the role of Bishop of Bath and Wells, they both undertook a 60 mile walk around the county.

He says, "I am delighted to be coming to be the Bishop of Bath and Wells and to joining with everyone in the diocese as together we live and tell the story of Jesus. "We have strong family connections with Somerset and I'm very much looking forward to working alongside its people, communities and churches.

"We have all been through a challenging few years. The Covid pandemic pushed us all apart. Now is the time to come back

together. Our churches have an essential role in helping us rebuild communities and in facing the challenges present to us both internationally and at home.

"Jesus's message is one of peace – a peace I'm looking forward to sharing and pursuing as I join you as your bishop." Before his ordination as Bishop of Hertford in the Diocese of St Albans, Bishop Michael served as Director of Mission in the Diocese of Oxford. A scientist by background, he was an epidemiologist specialising in infectious diseases of children in low-income countries.

As well as being a member of the Church of England's Covid task force he also worked with UNICEF, the NHS, the Government and leaders of different faiths to launch [vaccinaid.org](https://vaccinaid.org) which has raised more than £10 million in support of vaccination for low-income countries.

Commenting on his work on the taskforce he says, "I thought I'd left science behind but God never wastes anything! So in the last few years the skills I gained before have been of use to the Church now."

Bishop Michael and Lizzie have two young children. In his spare time, he enjoys tending his garden and his bees.

### A prayer for our new bishop

*Gracious God,  
we give you thanks for the wonderful  
ways  
in which you gently guide our lives  
in order to fulfil your purposes in us.*

*We give thanks for bringing us all to this  
day,  
and for your continuing presence with us  
through times of change.  
We give thanks especially for Bishop  
Michael's coming to us.  
May the coming days be filled with your  
blessing  
as he begins to see something of the life  
of our Diocese,*

*and meets strangers who will become  
colleagues and friends.*

*Guide us all, we pray, through this  
coming time of preparation,  
and pour the gifts of your Spirit upon  
him, his family, and on this Diocese.  
Give to us all the grace of  
encouragement  
as we wait in hope and trust for the  
unfolding of your plans for us,  
that we may build up in one another the  
confidence  
to respond to your call into the future.*

**AMEN**

## NO SOUP SATURDAYS

Usually the second Saturday of the month would be when we would have our Soup Saturday, offering a delicious bowl of home made soup, some stalls and a friendly chat. Over the years it has enabled us to top up the Hall Refurbishment Fund and been spent on much needed improvements to our Church Hall.

Setting up and making these kind of events happen can be really rather hard work - large heavy tables to put up, seats and stalls to set up, not to mention the time and love taken in making the wonderful soup that is on offer. Until you are "behind the scenes" it can be hard to truly know all that goes in to it to make it work.

As the weather is hopefully on the way up and looking to improve as we head towards and through Summer, it has been decided to hit the pause button on them and a decision will be made again nearer the time when the Autumn/Winter months return as to whether we can bring them back.

All these kind of events for outreach and fellowship require many hands, sometimes many muscles and definitely the support. It would be wonderful if people wish to come forward to offer

to help with these types of events but for now, we are hitting pause. So if you know of anyone who would usually come along to one of our Soup Saturdays, please can you let them know!

May we take this opportunity to thank all of you who have over the months and years taken time to help us with our Saturday lunches, from the soup makers, to the servers, to the setting up squad to the stall holders. So many of you have been such superstars and given so much of your time, your energy and also your own funds. Words won't quite thank you enough, but special thanks must go to Rosa for her dedication, love and passion for doing these events for us. Her love for Christ has shone through and we are so very grateful for all the hard work and loving care she has poured into them. Bless you Rosa - please put your feet up and try to have some "me" time and also thank Roy for us who has always been such a great support and help at these events too!

If you have a heart for serving the Lord through events, fundraising and outreach, do let us know. It doesn't matter if you have been with us a month or for years - we'd love to hear your ideas and know what helping hands we have available! Do get in touch on [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)

## STUART GUNN MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Saturday 7th May, we will be holding a Memorial Service for dear Stuart Gunn who was a very much loved member of St George's Wilton.

Rev'd Jenny Jeffery will be leading the service, which begins at 12.30pm.

There will be a gathering for refreshments over at Somerset County Cricket Ground after the service.

## Easter Thanks

From the amazing sunflowers in the Churchyard, to the Mossy Church Event, the Easter Sunrise Service, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services, we hope that you enjoyed this Easter as much as we did.

There was so much HOPE to be found everywhere and we are so very thankful to all of you who helped to make these events and services possible - too many of you to name.

From the flowers in and out of the church to the music that rang out through our Church and Hall, all of you who helped and came to worship, THANK YOU for your help and sharing this special time with us at St George's.



## Our Easter Sunflower Churchyard



## ST GEORGE'S Charity Information

Church Mission Society are a community on a journey of rediscovering God's mission together. They look to Jesus, and see that he intentionally welcomed people 'on the edge'. His first followers, the disciples, didn't always get it, at least not right away. Yet by spending time with people on 'the fringes', Jesus was showing that His healing, liberating, peacebuilding way is for everyone.

CMS works in different ways in different contexts, sending and supporting Mission Partners to areas in this country and all over the world where their particular gifts can best help develop the mission of that community. Some are medical mission partners, some are engaged in teaching future leaders of Churches and all are working, with others, to bring God's word to that community.

**If you cannot get into church to give to the collection at our 9.30am or the 11.00am then you can always donate online by visiting <https://churchmissionsociety.org/donate/>**

**If you would like to make a donation via cheque, please make it payable to Church Mission Society and send it to:**

**Church Mission Society  
Watlington Road  
Oxford  
OX4 6BZ**

St George's Wilton

# A Stroll for the Soul

Walking Group

Conversation • Fellowship • Contemplation

For more information email: [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

# PRAYER & Worship

WEDNESDAYS @1PM

Join us at St George's Wilton on a Wednesday for a short time of prayer, reflection and worship.

*'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.' Matthew 18:20*

ST GEORGE'S WILTON • FONS GEORGE • TAUNTON

# TRAINING

ON OUR CHURCH AV SYSTEM



Monday 9th May 7.00pm

Join our Tech Team and come along for training and to find out more!

## TRAINING for Tech

Are you able to help us with the screens and sound for our Church Services? We really do need more people to join this lovely team and we are holding a Training/Refresher session on **Monday 9th May at 7.00pm.**

Please do email the office if you are able to come along. It really would be great to see as many of you who can help - remember you're never too old to learn and you may even find yourself enjoying it!

**ST GEORGE'S WILTON**

# Worship Jam

Play an Instrument?  
Like to sing?  
Want to be part of the Worship Team?

**TUESDAY 24TH MAY 7.30pm**

Bring your instrument and come and join us to worship together and help us grow this worship team at St G's

## APCM date

Don't forget to pop this date in your diaries for our APCM which rather than holding after a service, will be held in the **Church on Wednesday 18th May at 7.00pm.**

We hope as many of you will be there as we elect some new PCC members and as well as looking back over 2021, look forward to what may be ahead for St Georges.



## Worship Jam

Come and join the Worship Jam on **Tuesday 24th May 7.30pm** as we get together with our musical instruments, our voices and worship together for a jam session.

So maybe you play an instrument (any instrument) and would love to be able to play in one of our services or maybe you have a heart for leading worship or singing at the front to lead the congregations, then please do come along! Even if you feel a bit shy but would just love to come and play your guitar along with us, COME AND JOIN!!

## Prayer Room

**St George's are unlocking a new prayer space to release prayer and worship across this town.**

We want to transform our old Choir Vestry in our Churchyard into a 24/7 Prayer Room  
BUT it needs some work. Can you help us:

**Practically:** sanding, cleaning, hoovering - a proper spruce up!

**Creatively:** painting, decorating, (some scripture on walls would be great!)

**Financially:** funds to go towards purchasing items needed such as lighting, materials

**Prayer Aids:** map of the town, map of world, holding crosses, prayer box, whiteboard

**Worship:** Instruments, big and small for people to use in the space for worship

**Your Ideas:** what would YOU like to have available in a prayer space?

We're hungry to get moving and start seeing God's spirit move amongst the people

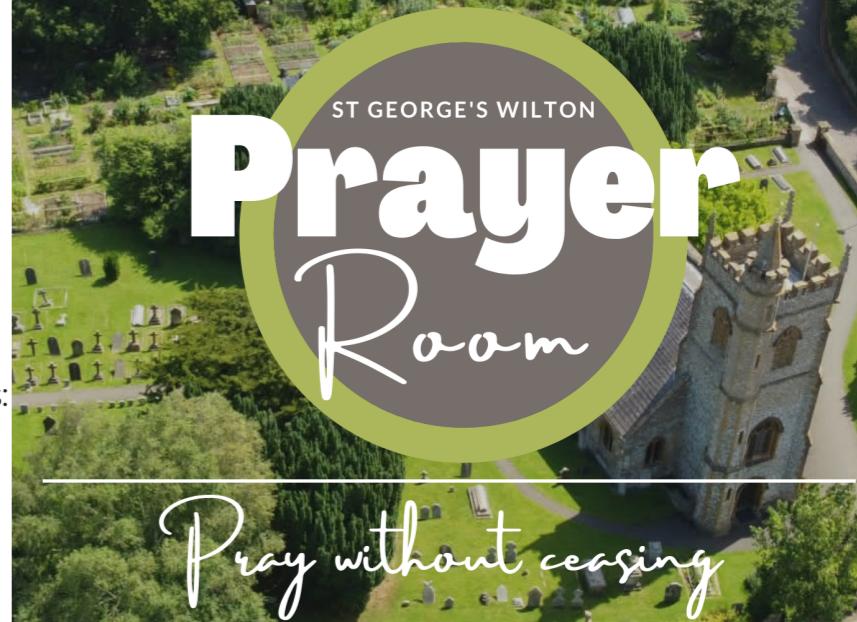
so if you're willing & able to get involved please contact:

Tim Whitfield Tel: 07540741234 or Email @: timwhitfield96@gmail.com Or go direct and email St George's Church Office on office@stgchurch.co.uk

The Prayer and Art session last Wednesday have begun making a lovely start of bringing some wonderful creativity into our new Prayer Room.

Thank you to all who came to pray and create!

HELP US TO BUILD A ROOM OF PRAYER



**St George's are unlocking a new prayer space to release prayer and worship across this town.**

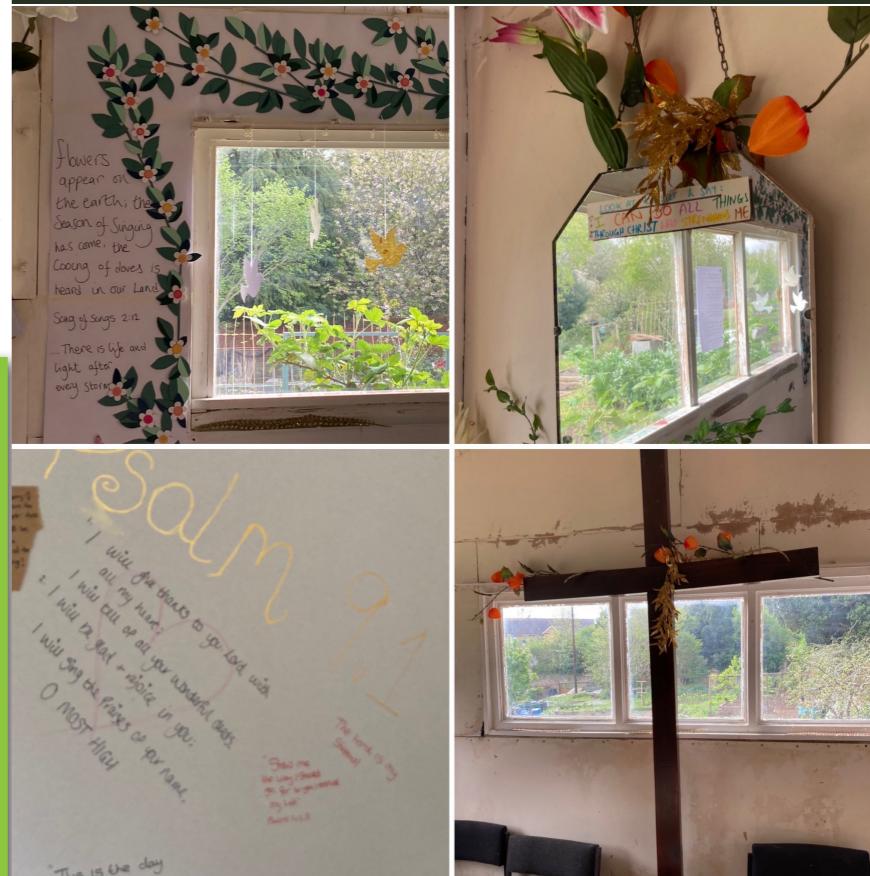
We're hungry to get moving and start seeing God's spirit move amongst the people but we need YOUR help!

**Practically • Creatively • Financially**

If you're willing & able to get involved please contact:

Tim Whitfield Tel: 07540741234 or Email: timwhitfield96@gmail.com

Or go direct and email St George's Church Office on office@stgchurch.co.uk



# GIVE-A-LITTLE HELP-A-LOT

If you would like to donate to the work of St George's, we now have more ways to donate. We now have a Give A Little page which you can access either on our website or simply by hovering your phone camera on the QR code below which will take you directly to our giving page.



## We remember

Brian Underwood, Gladys Williams,  
Fred Mills, Betty Rourke, Audrey  
Dootson, Judy Bellamy, Brian  
Heard and James Stutt

*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.*

## St George's Sunday Services

**SUN  
1ST  
MAY** 9.30am Holy Communion Service  
11.00am Worship Service

**SUN  
8TH  
MAY** 9.30am Holy Communion Service  
*with Choir and sung liturgy*  
11.00am Worship Service -

**SUN  
15TH  
MAY** 9.30am Holy Communion Service  
11.00am Worship Service with  
Communion

**SUN  
22ND  
MAY** 9.30am Holy Communion Service  
*with Choir and sung liturgy*  
11.00am Worship Service -

**SUN  
22ND  
MAY** 9.30am Holy Communion Service  
11.00am Worship Service -

## The Collect

### Sunday 1st May 2022

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the  
disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with  
us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by  
his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and  
truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

Risen Christ,  
you filled your disciples with boldness and  
fresh hope:  
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life  
and fill us with your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen**

## OUR CONTACTS

### Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

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

### Bethan Baigent

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

### Churchwardens

Peter Joyce - 07761 407433  
Hilary McKegney - 07460 471514

### Prayer Circle

To be in contact for confidential prayer  
amongst our Prayer  
Circle, please email:  
[prayer@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:prayer@stgchurch.co.uk)

### Pastoral Care

If you or you know of someone who you  
are concerned about or think would  
benefit from some TLC, get in touch  
with our Pastoral Team on  
[pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk)

## OUR WEEK

### Ahead

#### Sunday 1st May

9.30am Holy Communion  
10.00am Coffee Zoom  
11.00am the eleven Service LIVE



#### Bank Holiday Monday 2nd

**OFFICE CLOSED VICAR OFF**  
9.00pm Compline on Zoom

#### Wednesday 3rd

9.30am Stay and Play  
1.00pm Prayer and Worship in  
Church  
7.00pm PCC Meeting  
7.30pm Knit and Natter on Zoom

#### Saturday 7th May

12.30pm Stuart Gunn Memorial  
Service

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

## Knit & Natter

MEETING ON ZOOM

7.30-9PM

ON THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH

A RELAXED & INFORMAL SOCIAL GROUP  
FOR LADIES OF ALL AGES  
IN THE PARISH & SURROUNDING AREAS.  
DO ANY CRAFT OR NONE AT ALL!  
ALL WELCOME JUST COME FOR A CHAT.

EMAIL [OFFICE@STGCHURCH.CO.UK](mailto:OFFICE@STGCHURCH.CO.UK)  
TO BE SENT THE ZOOM DETAILS

