



A Note From **YOUR VICAR**

Last week we joined with St Georges Romans Catholic Church for our annual joint service. We take it in turns to host with visitors offering the preacher. This time it was Rob's turn to preach, he did a good job and nobody said a peep about a Cromwell preaching in a Roman Catholic Church....

There is so much in common between the Roman Catholic and Protestant Church; we worship the same Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we read from the same bible, we engage in regular worship, receive communion and meet in a castle (ahem). We are definitely drawn from the same tree and yet Anglicans emphasise different aspects of the church from their Roman heritage. This is fairly obvious in the way we conduct our normal Sunday worship from the different dress that clergy wear to the use of incense and who is involved in the service. St Georges Catholic Church is a stunning building with remarkable windows and enormous amount of light.

Yet the most wonderful surprise last Sunday was the double booking. The service started at 4.00. But at 3.50 the entire building was filled with members of the Kerala Community, a portion of Roman Catholicism that hails from South India. A Bishop specifically for that community from across the whole of Britain was visiting and welcoming younger people to their first communion and the families were dressed as though they were attending a wedding (which in Catholic Theology they kind of are... but that's another story). Those leading the ceremonies were dressed with incredible complexity, beautiful garments

and marvellous hats that have wondrous names that I do not know about. In my mind, I tend to think of Catholic rites as fairly structured and formal – this is generally true – and yet what I hadn't appreciated was that understandings of structure and formality are diverse. In an English setting, formality generally means only one thing happens at a time in a sober tone – whereas last Sunday, events were treated with great earnest seriousness whilst multiple things happened simultaneously; a song was being sung, statutes being acknowledged, flowers being moved, people blessed at the front by the Bishop, kids were eating sweets that I think they were supposed to wait for...it was a little overwhelming and totally charming act of worship. The church was also full. Then at the end of our scheduled joint service, we had to scoot out because the Romanian language Mass was about to begin...

I actually find this quite exciting and enriching and a hopeful sign. I've been a Christian most of my life and the majority story in the West has been of the slow march of secularism that will destroy the church. But I believe in a God who resurrects people and a God who is constantly renewing his church. The average Anglican is now a woman under 30 living in Sub-Saharan Africa and I think what we might be seeing in our little town is the beginnings of a reversal, as those who once received missionaries now return and re-tell the gospel that much of the West has forgotten.

God bless,

Nick

St George's News

ST GEORGES THANKS

As mentioned in Nick's article, Last Sunday we joined with St George's RC Church to celebrate St George's day. Hosted by them this year, we arrived to find a Syro Malabar service still happening with their Bishops from England and Wales there - it was a wonderfully colourful and warm welcome!!

May we give our thanks especially to Chris for all his hard work with the music and the Choir and to Rob for giving the homily.

Thanks also to those of you who came along to support and represent us at St George's - it was great to have you there.

Next year it will be our turn to host so we'll let you know more about that next year!



CHEESE & WINE EVENING

THERE ARE STILL SOME TICKETS REMAINING for our **Wine and Cheese Evening** that we are holding on **3rd May in the Church Hall**.

We have a guest Wine Connoisseur, Chris Smith, joining us for the evening. He knows his wine, and is great at sharing his wine knowledge 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.

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.

Rob

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 28th April

9.30am Worship With Holy Communion

11.00am Contemporary Worship Service

Monday 29th April

9.15am Morning Prayer

10.00am Buggy Buddies For more info contact: families@stgchurch.co.uk See article in NewsBoard

7.30pm Worship Gathering for our 11am Worship team and anyone with a musical bone that would like to join! Email chris@stgchurch.co.uk

7.30pm MENS SHED - CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO BANK HOLIDAY ON 6TH!! !!

Tuesday 30th April

7.30pm Bellringing Practice- for more info contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

Wednesday 1st May

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

Thursday 2nd May

9.15am Morning Prayer

Friday 3rd May

7.30pm Cheese & Wine

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.

Do keep your eyes out for our APCM reports and the Electoral Roll which will be made available very soon!

Remember to 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

MINI MOSSY CHURCH CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

We had another really lovely Mini Mossy Church event on Monday where they celebrated and explored our wonderful planet Earth through crafts, games, sensory play, stories and a trail. Keep your eyes peeled for our next Mossy Church adventure... remember to check out our Mossy Church Facebook Page.



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 some information fliers which are coming soon and invite your friends.

More information from Jane Hamilton, Hilary Hayes or Helen Clegg

WOMEN IN THE PUB

As the next Women In the Pub looks to fall on Bank Holiday Monday, we have shifted our May date to Monday 13th May.

This time, the lovely Rosa will show us how to make greetings cards so for this once, there will be a small charge of £2 to cover materials.

NEXT ONE MON 13TH MAY

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
Women IN THE PUB
MEETS EVERY
1st MONDAY at 7.30pm
(EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS!)

THE VIVARY ARMS, TAUNTON

Come and join us on the 1st Monday of the month. We'll often bring something "to do" - a quiz, a craft or even share a meal but it's more about having time together to catch up!
OPEN TO ALL
You don't have to attend St George's to come along!
For more information email office@stchurch.co.uk

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

WELCOME TEA

If you are new to St Georges or have been coming to us for a while now and haven't been to one of our Welcome Teas, we are having one on **Saturday 11th May from 10.30am - 12.30pm.**

It's just a great way for us to welcome you and hopefully if we can, get a chance to catch up with you. It's been wonderful to welcome you at the St G's services but we're aware that it can get a bit busy sometimes! If you would like to come along then please do email the office (office@stgchurch.co.uk) to make sure we have enough cake to go around and if you have any dietary requirements or accessibility needs we can help to accommodate.

Nick and Bryony



Rosa hopes to be back in the Church Hall with her cards on Sunday, so do come along and have a look! She always very kindly makes a donation to the Church from her takings and is helping us to buy some new toddler chairs for Stay and Play!

VOLUNTEERS AREA

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

We'd love to enlarge our group of volunteers who open / clean / close the St. George's Community Fridge. Why not volunteer by contacting me (Mervyn) at fridge@stgchurch.co.uk to find out more? We'd also like to be able to offer to have the Fridge open much more as the word is spreading across the town so if we can serve our community in this way it would be great to have more of you onboard!!

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

COMMUNION SET UP TEAM

We are in need of some more people to come onto the team to help us to set up Communion for the 9.30am service (and the occasional 11am). There are guidelines to follow so you'll have a step by step walk guide to show you where to find everything and where it goes and the Yardleys would be more than happy to show you the ropes! Although it is an easy way to help serve the Lord, it feels such a privilege to be able to serve in this way. Do email office@stgchurch.co.uk if you think you could be of help and serve.

ST GEORGE'S

Children & Young People News



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

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.

YOUTH @11

It's important that you book through St George's, and not directly online as you'll need our group code. You can find out more about Spree at <https://swym.org.uk/spree-sw/>

TAUNTON YOUTH GATHERING

This is a **NEW** youth group set up for Christian young people 11+ in Taunton from different churches to come together to make friends, encourage each other in their faith with food, fun, worship, games and bible teaching.

It costs £1 per child to cover refreshments. It's a very relaxed group, currently with youth from Trull Church, Taunton Baptist Church, Vineyard and Creech Baptist Church, now to be joined by St Georges! It will run roughly each month and we'll let you know the dates as they're released – the next one will be on **18th May** and another on **13th July**. We'll be sending along one of our youth leaders each time. If your young person would like to try it out, please get in touch - we'll you more info!

SPREE with SWYM WEEKEND CAMP

Our young people are invited to join our lovely team of leaders from St G's for this jam packed, fun filled camp especially for them which takes place at Westpoint, Exeter. It runs for ages 8-17, but we're looking to send our Youth@11 age range of 10-16 years. There's live music, games, activities, worship, bible teaching for different age groups and even a fairground!

We are joining up with Trull's and Creech Baptist Church's youth groups so we'll be camping and eating with them and their leaders together. There are small tents available to borrow if your young person doesn't have access to one.

The cost is £100 including all food and tickets. We are really keen that cost not be an issue which stops a young person from going on this camp, so please get in touch if you'd like to access the **St G's bursary fund** to help, which has been set up for this purpose.

We need to get an idea of numbers ASAP so we can register before they run out of tickets! **Please email families@stgchurch.co.uk by Saturday 4th May to book your place** (you can still book after this time, but we need numbers so our leaders know who's coming) or if you have any further questions.



KIDS @11

KIDS@11 FOR 3-10

We have great fun in our Kids@11 Club. We have songs, short creative prayer activities, Bible stories, crafts, games and activities. Starting off in the Church, we then head to the Hall for our session and come back to church to end with worship together!



ST GEORGE'S Children & Young People News



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.

It's for those of you with young people still at primary school, we are running a three day Jungle themed holiday club **at St George's from 24-26th July for ages 4-11.**

It's £5 per day from 9.30am-3.30pm. It's going to be lots of fun with crafts, games, music and bible teaching.

Do get in touch if you have any questions. Book your child's space now at <https://form.jotform.com/241073081263044>

We'll let you know more details very soon but do pick up a leaflet from Church!

ONLY £15 FOR 3 DAYS

IN THE JUNGLE

Holiday Club For 4-11's

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

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

BROUGHT TO YOU BY **pulse** ministries

Email: events@stgchurch.co.uk

OUR SUNDAY CLUBS ARE BACK!

It's great to have our Sunday Clubs back for this new term. They all have lots of terrific things that they will be doing with our Children and Young People.

We start in the Church for our time of worship together and then head off to their Sunday Clubs - Tots and Kids@11 down in the Church Hall and the Youth@11 in the Prayer Shed.



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.

*Start children off on the way
they should go,
and even when they are old
they will not turn from it.*

Proverbs 22



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

Brian Underwood, Gladys Williams, Fred Mills, Betty Rourke and Audrey Dootson

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

Tel: **07747 496842**

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