





Sunday 10th March 2024 Mothering Sunday

A Note From **Your Vicar**

This week we hosted Mossy Church session inside the church building. It was such a lovely time with lots of families and under-fives crawling all around the building, climbing on pews, exploring the craft activities. With my daughter, I made a fox face on a leaf, decorated a hedgehog shaped biscuit with icing and sprinkles (which I didn't get a bite of...) and some lovely stories. These activities help our very youngest to explore the glories of creation and the creator in a gentle and loving way. At the same time, it's also a great opportunity for parents and the team to get to know one another.

I was playing with my daughter with rice, hedgehogs, scoops and chopsticks in the Lady Chapel. Another baby and parent were playing too and we got to chatting. Turns out they'd got married in St Georges. The Lady Chapel is the bit of the church where we sign the marriage registers, so that the very spot where once a couple legally committed to one another till death do them part, now hosts the child of that marriage to explore textures, pine cones and God.

Worship has been going on at this church for about 1200 years. It is a fixed point in our community serving and loving it's people and sometimes you get a snapshot of these generations coming together and echoing through time. I get the same sense when I look at the pictures of my vicary-predecessors on the wall or when I see old and new gravestones in the churchyard, or when the bells ring out across generations for historic events like the Queen's death; all of us are only one link in a long chain. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever, says the bible. We the people may well change, but God does not.

Sometimes people get confused and think that because God doesn't change or because memories are made in the building, the building should never change. This isn't true historically and it's not true theologically; we serve God and serve the community and the building helps us to do both. But sometimes.... sometimes it's like places echo with memories and life and when you find yourself caught in that little whirlpool of time, memory and God, it's really beautiful



St George's

News

MAUNDY THURSDAY TICKETS

As mentioned in last week's NewsBoard and on Sunday, tickets are now available for our Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion. Tickets are £10.

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.



LEE ABBEY WEEKEND AWAY

Lee Abbey update

Thank you so much all of you who have booked in for the weekend away together in October. At the time of writing we have 38 people going, 5 of whom are children, which is wonderful. You will all receive more information soon.

If you would still like to go we can try asking but we have been told there are no more singles available to us. There may be standard doubles and triples and family rooms - they all have a wash basin and are near other facilities. We can ask about ensuite but there are not so many of those. So do ask!

We won't wish the spring and summer away because they haven't properly started yet

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 10th March

9.30am Worship with Holy Communion and Choir with sung liturgy

11.00am Contemporary Worship Service with our children/young people's Sunday Clubs

Monday 11th March

10.00am Buggy Buddies For more info contact: families@stgchurch.co.uk

Tuesday 12th March

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

Wednesday 13th March

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

Thursday 14th March

12.00pm SOUP- Come and bring a friend for a bowl of soup. Do get in touch with Rob at rob@ stgchurch.co.uk

2.00pm Valley Cafe- our bereavement support group meeting for the final time before having a break over the spring/summer

Friday 15th March

12.15pm Monthly Lunch - meeting at The vivary Arms for lunch and NO NEED TO PREBOOK!! Come and join!

Saturday 16th March

9.30am Churchyard Gardening - our monthly gardening time in the Churchyard.

LOOKING AHEAD

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 Mossy Church An easter event for children - more details soon!

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

but we will look forward to the special hospitality and setting of Lee Abbey in October.

Hilary and Hilary

Further information from:

Hilary Hayes hilhayes7@gmail.com. or **Hilary McKegney** hilarymckegs@gmail.com

We do hope that all of you who have booked on will have a wonderful time at Lee Abbey.
Our Sunday Services here will continue as normal with Nick and Rob though we hope there may be an opportunity for one of them to join you for some part of the weekend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A huge THANK YOU to all those from the St George's family who stepped up to help to provide a welcome, reading, music and hospitality at the World Day of Prayer Services held here last Friday. We received so many nice comments about the warm welcome - so, that's good!

It hasn't been held at St George's since 2011, so it doesn't happen often - as there are lots of other churches in Taunton who like to take their turn.

We had close on 100 people through the two services, so, Thank You St George's!

Carole Smith





CONGRATULATIONS MERVYN!

On Tuesday evening, our Mervyn received a Mayor's Award in recognition of his support and dedication to our Community Fridge.

Mervyn worked very hard to help us set up the Fridge, looking at regulations, policies, food hygiene, recruiting volunteers and promoting it on Social Media to get the word out about the Community Fridge and what stock is available on the days it opens.

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!

COFFEE TEAM

Come and join our Coffee team to provide the wake up, the calm or the energy by helping on the coffee team serving the church family with refreshments in between our services. Get in touch via email to rob@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 llam) joyce07@btinternet.com mhhayes@outlook.com

Taunton Town Council has sponsored our Fridge and recognised his work so he now has a super certificate to show for it!



THE RETURN OF CHURCHYARD GARDENING

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all who helped with churchyard gardening last year, whether at the Saturday sessions (3rd Saturday morning of the month, March – November), or by caring for an area of the churchyard in your own spare time, as part of St George's ADOPT-A-PLOT scheme.

The sessions are between 9.30 – 12.30, but sometimes people come for just an hour. That's absolutely fine of course; although they might then miss the tea break!

If you feel you would like to come along and help this year, please do; or come and have a word if you'd like to know more about caring for a specific small area of the churchyard in your own spare time.

And THANK YOU AGAIN to all of you who do already help.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON SATURDAY 16TH MARCH!

Tane, Michael & Tricia
On behalf of St George's Churchyard
Gardeners



COMMUNION PREPARATION!

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 occassional llam). At the moment we only have the lovely Yardleys who are helping us with the setting up which means that they are

being AMAZING and having to help us every week.

Michael and Tricia have said that they would be very happy to show people the ropes if anyone is willing to help them. There are photos to help you know where to put everything away too so we will try to make this as easy as possible for you.

Although it is an easy way to help serve the Lord, it feels such a privilege to be able to serve in this way. Please get in touch with Bethan in the Parish Office to let her know if you can help, even if just on occasion so that Michael and Tricia can have a well deserved break! Thank you!



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).

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



MONTHLY MEET UP IN THE VIVARY

We are trying a different day for those who couldn't make a Tuesday so we're seeing if a different week day can work so we're going for ... **Friday 15th March 12.15 for 12.30pm**

As the kitchen is open on Fridays we don't have to preorder, just turn up on the day. So pop it in your diary and if you are free to come along, do join us in the Vivary Arms for food and friendship!

EASTER SERVICES

On **Good Friday** we will be having a reflective service in Church at **10.30am**.

On **Easter Saturday** we will be having something for families to come and engage in - more details will follow shortly.

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.**

So we hope there will be something for everyone to engage in this Easter.

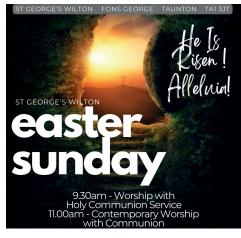
Across the town there will be an 11 hour of Prayer with Pursuit down at North Street Church led by our wonderful Maestro Chris and there is a certain buzz about some worship being sung around the town...but agan more info will follow.

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 and dont miss out.

So please, pop all these dates in your diaries, more information on it all shall soon follow but we do hope that you join in with our Easter services and those across the town.







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@11 so get in touch with us via **families@stgchurch.co.uk**



POP THE DATE IN YOUR EASTER DIARY

For all our 0-5's all our childrens groups - Stay & Play, Buggy Buddies, Tots@11, Kids@11 and Mossy Church and...well anyone with 0-5's come and join us for some Easter fun together!





COME AND HELP STAY & PLAY!

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!

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 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
Underwood, John Kina

Jean Underwood, John Kinahan and Phyllis Lloyd

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.

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 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: prayer@stgchurch.co.uk

Christian Giving

Robin Stamp

Email: giving@stgchurch.co.uk

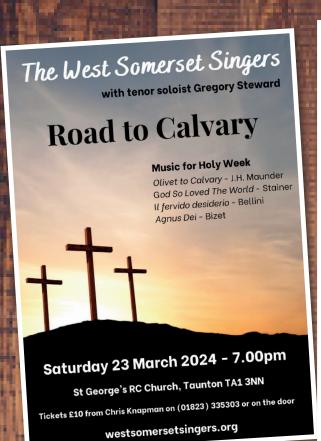
Electoral Roll Officer

Laurie Jeffery

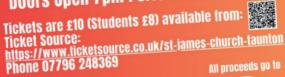
Email: laurie.jeffery@sky.com

Deanery Synod Reps

Hilary Hayes Hilary McKegney

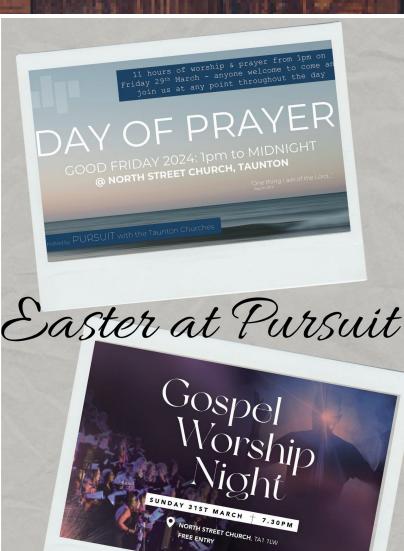






Ticket Price Includes: Nibbles, 'Banger in a Bun'at the interval Followed by Gake & Collee after the show Bring your own drink to enjoy the evening!





GIVE IN LENT



HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOOD BANK WITH FOOD THIS LENT

In the 6 weeks of Lent, the food bank will provide emergency food parcels for local people and families facing hardship.

The amount of help needed is outstripping the donations we're receiving. Please donate an item or two from our shopping list, if you can.

SHOPPING LIST

UHT MILK (all types) Tinned Fruit

Tinned carrots

Tinned Sausage & Beans

Tinned Ravioli/Spaghetti Tinned Macaroni Cheese

Tinned Vegetarian Meals

Mug Shots/Cup a Soup

Tinned Rice Pudding

Tinned Custard

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

To find out how to donate food visit taunton.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1163094).