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Sunday 11th February 2024

A Note From **Your Vicar**

When was the last time you danced?
I don't mean moved side to side – properly danced? As an adult it's not very often. I never really went to nightclubs and my short time of salsa lessons did not take. If I ever do dance, it's either being silly with my kids or definitely on my own!

Dance at school was bordering on the ridiculous: 'pretend you're a tree' sort that never really caught on. Dancing at church can look and feel similarly ridiculous and makes me feel more English reserve than I ever really thought possible.

But.

Last Sunday we had the beginning of our trial of our two services in the one church building. During the opening worship, the children stay in the space. The pews are more inflexible but there is definitely more space than in the hall where nobody could move. Now in the church, there is a big gap at the front....and somehow kids feel less inhibition than adults when it comes to dancing and they simply went for it. Jumping up and down, playing the blow up guitars and spinning around they really really danced. I remember when my kids were smaller and they wanted to join in with the worship but found they could not yet read fast enough to keep up with the songs...that's part of development that progresses as reading improves but with dance...well you can be involved and it doesn't matter what your reading age

is. I made an off the cuff remark at the end of the song saying 'we've made a dance floor and we didn't know'...and I think we'll keep it... and even actually make it better. This week we're going to try adding a disco light in that bit of the church, so that the kids can really go for it (if they want to – no pressure for those who don't!). It might work, it might not but it'll probably be a simple and joyful way of connecting the kids with worshipping the Father who made them.

I admit that our ancient buildings and fixed pews do not really cry out 'dancefloor' and some of you might feel it is 'inappropriate'. It's definitely not for everyone but, in the scriptures, we read of how King David, danced before the ark of God as it was carried back into Jerusalem. He was only wearing an 'ephod' (sort of priest-vest thing) and his wife, Michal was 'ashamed of him' and told him so. David's response is telling: (this dance) was before the Lord, who chose me... I will celebrate before the Lord. I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes.'

I'm not dancing – not a pretty sight – but if I can make a space for the kids to dance and worship then I will. And in the story, I'd rather be David, than the one sneering.

God Bless

Nick

News

HAPPY HALF TERM

A heads up that Nick is taking some time off over half term so will not be available from **Monday until the following Tuesday 20th February.**

Rob and Bethan will still be available but may be needing to juggle some working from home so do get in touch via email should you need any help at all through the week. The office will be manned however for usual Office Hours - **Tues, Wed, Thurs 10-1pm**

As it's half term, most of our groups are taking a week's break so please note there is no Buggy Buddies, Stay and Play or SOUP next week but will return the following week.

Whatever you may be doing for Half term - we hope you have a great one!

CONGRATULATIONS JENNY!!

We are delighted to let you all know that our Rev Jenny Jeffery has been nominated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells to be a recipient of the Maundy purse which will be presented to her by King Charles at The Royal Maundy - a service in Worcester Cathedral on Maundy Thursday! It will be given in recognition of service to the church and community.

75 folk are chosen from around the country in recognition of the King being 75!! Each year the service moves to a different cathedral. Historically it used to be given to the poor but criteria is now changed and is given to recognise long service and Jenny has given so much not just to this church but as a School Chaplain for many years so this Maundy purse that she will be presented is very well deserved.

We're all very proud and thrilled for you Jenny!



THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 11th February

9.30am Holy Communion in Church

11.00am Worship Service IN OUR NEW HOME - THE CHURCH!!!

Monday 12th February

NO VICAR AVAILABLE UNTIL TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY

Tuesday 13th February

12.15pm Monthly Meal at The Vivary

7.30pm Bellringing Practice - for more info on joining the Bellringing Team, contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

Wednesday 14th February

7.00pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - a short service with a reflection and ashing.

Thursday 15th February

SOUP IS NOT ON THIS THURSDAY

Sunday 18th February

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Worship Service

We want to make our kitchen as good as possible for people who use our Church Hall. To do this, we need to have a look at the equipment and replace anything that is beyond it's use-by date.

I am planning on a kitchen clearout in early March, so if you have anything that you have (inadvertently or deliberately) lent to the church, could we ask that you collect it by the end of February please?

Just email me on rob@stgchurch.co.uk so we can arrange access to the kitchen!

Thanks everyone!

Rob

PARISH WEEKEND AWAY IN OCTOBER

We have a lovely group already signed up for Lee Abbey. That means that some categories of accommodation that we have been allocated are now full. However we can always try and negotiate more if you would like to come. What would be wonderful and bring more balance to the group is if some families or younger people come. At the moment only one family has actually booked although I know others are still wondering about it. We can guarantee that there will be times when your children will be looked after so that you get a break. There are also a play room and an art room that can be used.

Don't forget you can ask Hilary or Hilary about help with the cost and that information will be kept confidential.

February is decision time so please book in, sit back and anticipate a wonderful time 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. It is a special retreat and a really peaceful escape where we hope you will feel closer to God and to one another.

Their Renew, Refresh, Resource weekends are great and we hope that you will feel all of those things by being there together.

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 retreat!

church weekend away



**FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER
TO SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER
LEE ABBEY, DEVON**

FOR INFO EMAIL [HILHAYES7@GMAIL.COM](mailto:hilhayes7@gmail.com) OR [HILARYMCKEGS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:hilarymckegs@gmail.com)

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!

COMMUNITY FRIDGE TEAM

We would like to open for another day, but that requires more folk to help with both collecting / delivering from supermarkets and also more openers/ cleaners / closers. Just once a fortnight's help for an hour or so would be brilliant! Get in touch with Mervyn via email to fridge@stgchurch.co.uk

MOSSY CHURCH TEAM

Mossy Church is a nature themed community outreach group that meets every term to get together to provide sessions as outreach to the community. The sessions are either 'Mini Mossy' sessions for families with children aged 0-5 which take place during the weekdays, or 'Mossy' sessions for families with children aged 0-14 which take place on weekends and during school holidays. Each session is based on a nature theme (such as 'minibeasts', autumn, the seaside, stargazing and many more) and involve lots of nature crafts, activities, songs, stories and sensory play.

We need a team to help us with this great outreach - whether it's just helping prepare crafts, or being a helper on the day. It's such fun to see the enjoyment the families have, so come and join us to help us show God's amazing creation. And the best thing? It is just helping out twice a term max - not a weekly rota - woohoo! So please get in touch - email families@stgchurch.co.uk if you would like to find out more!

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 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

ST GEORGE'S WILTON



Ash Wednesday

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY
7.00PM

Join us for this special short service of prayer, worship and ashing.

"Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return"

ROSA'S RETURN

Whilst we are looking at the challenges that moving our 11am services may bring (and we accept those challenges!!) we are hoping people will be more focused on what all the great things are that it has opened up and we are now able to do.....One of those things is that we are now able to have our Rosa back again in the Hall on Sunday's at Coffee time (10.30am) selling her really beautiful handmade cards.

Rosa is so talented and sells wonderful cards for all occasions. Rosa will have a selection of cards available to buy including some beautiful Easter Cards which you cannot buy in the shops.

Rosa is also very generously donating any profits to St George's so do go, take a look and purchase after the 9.30 service or come along, grab a coffee and buy some cards before the 11am - just head down to the Hall everyone for 10.30am. At this point in time it is cash only but we'll look at ways to see how we can accept card payment going forward. But please bring cash and buy before they go!!

Rosa's Cards



On Sale After In The Hall

After the 9.30

Bring Cash, Give Joy!

CHARITY COLLECTION ST GEORGE'S BURSARY FUND

For the month of February we have set up a Fund so that we can support any of our Church Family who needs a helping hand.

This will be with a financial donation to help people to be able to join in with any of our church led events/activities that they may wish to join in but feel that it would maybe be difficult financially.

The St George's Bursary may be used to help with payment for things like a Church Weekend Away, attending a Christian Festival or even for smaller events that we will run through the year.

We don't want funds to be the barrier for our church family to be able to join in or access these things so we felt that if we had a fund that people could access to help make things feel a little easier on the pocket it could really make a difference and give people opportunities that may have otherwise missed out on.

Do give what you can, if you can! Our Sum Up card machines now accept card donations and there will be the usual cash boxes available in church for those bringing cash.

February
**charity
collection**

ST GEORGE'S
**BURSARY
FUND**

GIVING A HELPING HAND TO OUR
CHURCH FAMILY

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!

Need a chat with the Vicar?

1st Monday
of the month
1.30pm-3pm

3rd Thursday
of the month
7.30pm-9pm



To ensure there is more availability to have a chat with the Vicar, we have a regular daytime and evening slot. To book a slot, please email **office@stgchurch.co.uk**

In Loving Memory
We remember

**Mary Darche, Derrick Evans,
Kit Ball, Eleanor Davies, Fred
Dyer and Eleanor Davies**

*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 WILTON

pastoral care

Pastoral visitors are good listeners who care for others based on an understanding that God's love is for all people.

If you think that either you or anyone you know would benefit from having regular visits as they can't get out much, please do get in touch!

Hilary McKegney

Pastoral Care Coordinator



Email
pastoral-care@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