



St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 7 APRIL 2024

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, EASTER 2

If you wish to contribute to the next edition of the newsletter, please email office@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk marking your email 'Newsletter Article' by **12 noon Thursdays weekly.**

Church Services (also on-line)

Saturday 6 April – Saturday in Easter Week

09.30 Morning Prayer

Sunday 7 April – Divine Mercy Sunday, Easter 2

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer and Benediction

Monday 8 April – Annunciation of the Lord

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 9 April

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

Wednesday 10 April

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Thursday 11 April

12.30 Mass - Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 12 April

10.00 Mass Book of Common Prayer- Fr Brendan

Saturday 13 April

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston super Mare

Sunday 14 April – Easter 3

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Robert Ward

Please Note no Evening Prayer at St John's as + Paul is being licensed as an assistant Bishop in our Diocese at Evensong, Wells Cathedral @ 3pm. All welcome.

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Acts 4:32-35 (Reader: Roger)

Ps 117

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end

1 John 5:1-6 (Reader: Helen)

St John 20:19-31

Intercessor – Dilwyn



Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

As I sit down to write this we have today said our goodbyes to John Scammell after his untimely and unexpected death. But what a 'send off' it was, and a lovely social gathering to follow. I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard today and I know that Janet and the family join me in this. What a loving and hard-working parish this is!

During the Funeral service these words from 1 Corinthians were read. 'Now we see a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.' Paul here is talking about our destiny, the reason God made each and every one of us, that in the end we shall see him face to face, and know him as we are known by him. That is Christian anthropology in a sound bite!

And that anthropology we rehearsed liturgically during Holy Week. What wonderful liturgies we enjoyed, and what a wonderful preacher. If you missed it, you missed a treat, no several treats. Huge thanks from me to everyone working behind the scenes to make all of that happen, not least our Sacristan and Head Server, Martin, and the flower arrangers, and the readers, and the choir, and the caterers. This Sunday our attention turns to 'doubting Thomas'. I hope I can find something helpful to say about him!

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It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the Word of God this Second Sunday of Easter, which is called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.' Christ has taught us that 'man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God but is also called 'to practise mercy towards others: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (Mt5:7). It is the Spirit who heals the wounds of the heart, pulls down the barriers that separate us from God and divide us from one another, and at the same time, restores the joy of the Father's love and of unity.' (Blessed Pope John Paul II)

This is the call to be loving and merciful. May we find it in our hearts to be so, to model this behaviour, and be agents of transformation in our community.

With Easter love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

Art Installation

Our artist writes:

For those who were not able to go up to the large cross, this is what you would have seen if you had. Everything that was on the cross when Christ was crucified was represented. At the top, a sign in Hebrew saying "**Jesus the Nazarene. King of the Jews**" and just below it, a crown of thorns.

Below these you would have seen a blood stained loin cloth along with a Roman hand spear which had been thrust through the cross. Nailed on each arm of the cross were two loaves of bread, and at the foot, a bottle of wine. The bottle has been nailed on. It drips wine into a bucket. The bread and wine represent the body and blood of Christ. The art piece was created to emphasize the importance of communion and to encourage onlookers to get closer to Christ's violent death.....a sacrifice made for us because he loved us and a request from him to "**do this in remembrance of me**".

This is the last week. Only the bread and wine remain on the cross. It still drips into the bucket. Thrown on the floor around the bucket you can now see the shroud. His body has gone. He has risen.

The idea for the bleeding cross, titled, **conmmunifixion**, came to me over 20 years ago. It was due to be placed in St Mary's church in Aylesbury, Bucks, but a series of events made it impossible to deliver. I shared the idea with my wife Jane last Christmas and she encouraged me to ask Father Brendan. He said yes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Brendan for allowing me to place the cross in St Johns church and for believing in the concept. And finally, a big thank you to all who attend the services for your patience over the weeks.

Finally, if you have not yet got close to the cross, I hope you make the short journey to the bleeding cross this Sunday, because next week, it will be taken down.

Geoff Carter

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Saturday 6 April

Walsingham Cell Mass. Our Blessed Virgin Mary and all our sister cells

Sunday 7 April

Low Sunday. Our Church and parish and the residents of Newlands Green and Staples Close

Monday 8 April

We pray for all who are called to fight in wars they do not believe in, for their safe return to their families

Tuesday 9 April

We pray for our own family units, that we may be strong when times are difficult

Wednesday 10 April

Our natural world and our awareness of the need to protect it

Thursday 11 April

The Christian church and its members in New Zealand. Our market traders and artisans

Friday 12 April

We pray for the ability to show the world our joy in Christ's resurrection

Saturday 13 April

St Martin – pope and martyr and all persecuted for their faith. Our Blessed Virgin Mary and all shrines dedicated to her

Sunday 14 April

Our Church and parish and the residents of Stonebridge

MASS TIMES

Below are the Mass times for St John's.



Sunday – 10.30 am

Monday – 6.00 pm

Wednesday – 6.00 pm

Thursday – 12.30 pm

Friday – 10.00 (Book of Common Prayer)

On Tuesdays at 10.00 am and Saturdays at 10.00 am
Mass will be said at All Saints, Weston Super Mare, BS23 2NL

WANTED!

Small plant pots (suitable for an individual seedling) and multi-pot trays (NOT seed trays). Please see picture below. Sarah is collecting these.



AND IF YOU ARE A GARDENER

and are about to sow seeds (flower or vegetable) or divide older plants or take cuttings, please consider doing a few extra to donate to the Parish Plant Sale on 25 May.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 14 April	Celebration Sunday
Thursday 25 April	19.30 - PCC Meeting in the James Room
28 April to 5 May	St John's Festival Week
Sunday 5 May	Bring and Share Lunch
Wednesday 8 May	19.00 - Talk by Aidan Hart, iconographer
Sunday 19 May	Celebration Sunday – Pentecost
Sunday 19 May	Annual Parochial Church Meeting – after Mass in Church
Saturday 25 May	Plant Sale – TBC
Sunday 23 June	Celebration Sunday
Saturday 6 July	14.00 – 16.00 – Summer Fayre
Saturday 13 July	Glastonbury Pilgrimage
Sunday 28 July	Celebration Sunday
Sunday 1 September	Parish BBQ
Sunday 8 September	Celebration Sunday – Education Day/King's Accession
Sunday 13 October	Harvest Festival
Saturday 16 November	Murder Mystery Evening with fish and chip supper
Sunday 24 November	Celebration Sunday – Christ the King



VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!

If you would like to take one of the Communion elements to the altar during the offertory hymn, please let one of the sidespeople know when you come into Church on Sunday morning.

Wells Cathedral Parish Pass

You may have seen in the news last week, that Wells Cathedral has announced changes to its admission guidelines with free passes for parishioners in the Diocese of Bath and Wells and local people, and a new entry charge for tourists.

Entry remains free to enter for worship, prayer, and to light a candle and free passes are available for parishioners in the diocese. Information about the Parish Pass and how to apply for it is available from the Wells passes section of the Wells Cathedral website. You will note that the application form for a Parish Pass does require a signature from a churchwarden or incumbent.

Do you have any pearls of wisdom which could be used in the newsletter? They don't need to be religious; perhaps a special gardening tip, favourite recipe or an interesting story you'd like to share with your Church family. You can even remain anonymous if you wish. If so, please speak to Nicola or Gary or email office@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

St John's 100 Club

The 100 club is an easy way you can help raise money for St. Johns. It only costs £12 per year (equivalent to £1 / month) and you will be entered into a drawer every month with a chance to win a prize. Over the last 15 years the 100 club, has raised over £12,000 for the church and has paid out almost £8,000 in prizes. Providing we have more than 80* people join we will pay out £40 in prizes each month and any profit over £510 will be paid to the Church but there is no upper limit, the more the merrier and the more money that will be raised for the church.

The three prizes are:

- 1 st Prize - £25
- 2 nd Prize - £10
- 3 rd Prize - £5

*If there are less than 80 members, there will be no 3rd prize.

If you join the Club, please contact any of the organisers to enquire about joining, application forms can be located at the back of the church on the leaflet table. Talk to any of us in church or by emailing using one of the email addresses : pcctreasurer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk or churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

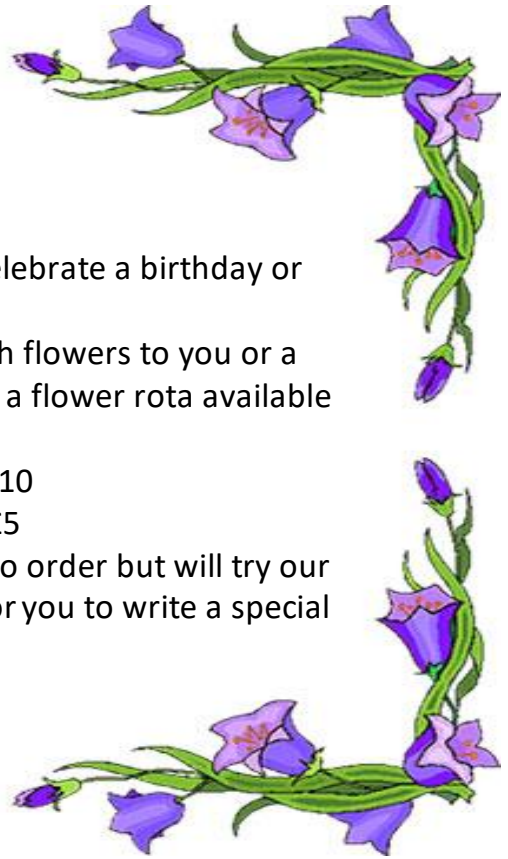
Chat and Craft Group

continues to meet every Thursday afternoon in the Church Hall between 2 and 4pm. Bring your own project along to work on, and chat to fellow crafters. A drink and biscuits will be available. For more information, talk to Sue at church or ring on 01275 877710.



Calling all bakers! If you would like to provide a cake(s) for one of our regular Celebration Sundays, please add your name to the list at the back of Church. Alternatively, if you would like to celebrate a special occasion (perhaps an anniversary, birthday or exam success) please put your name against the relevant date and bring along your cake (it doesn't have to be homemade) on the day. Any questions, please speak to Sarah or Debra.





Church Flowers

Would you like to sponsor church flowers to celebrate a birthday or commemorate an anniversary?

We would be very happy to dedicate the church flowers to you or a loved one if you let us know in advance. There is a flower rota available at the back of church.

Front pedestal suggested minimum donation £10

Statue of Mary suggested minimum donation £5

We may not be able to provide specific flowers to order but will try our best. There will be a card and holder available for you to write a special message to display with the flowers.

Website

Please log into our website with as much frequency as you are able in order to bring it up the Google ratings...

It is <https://www.stjohns-clevedon.org.uk/>

The website is a dynamic tool, so please send any comments, criticisms or ideas to Fr Brendan

On-line Giving

Here is the link to our on line facility:
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/b8e3af98-2c05-4dfb-bd27-570f15c91a21> this link has been added to our Website, our Church Near You page and all our YouTube and other online offerings including social media. Please feel free to share it with all your friends to help with the ongoing good work of our Parish and the exciting outreach plans for our near future (not to mention the maintenance of our beautiful building and Hall!!) The QR code appears further on in this newsletter.

Sick List

If you need to let the clergy know of anyone who is unwell and/or is needing pastoral care, please email office@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk or mention this to Betty, our Sickness Point of Contact (SPOC), after the service outside of the church building. Any requests will be passed on to Fr Brendan and names will be added to the sick list.

Thank You

“Thank you very much to all those members of St John’s church family who made Thursday such a special send off for John. There are so many to thank and I’m afraid I may miss someone out. The music was wonderful as was the singing. Helen and I were determined we would sing and we did with encouragement from the strong voices behind us. The prayers were sincere and Fr Brendan’s address gave a good insight into John’s character. Here I must mention the amazing sound of Fr Brendan singing Ave Maria, a favourite of John’s, from the Lady Chapel. My heart did a somersault. A truly wonderful surprise. It was also lovely to hear the bells, as usual informing Clevedon that something special was happening at St John’s. There were many comments from visiting family and friends about how beautiful our church has been decorated for Easter and how they were made to feel welcome in church and at the Reception afterwards. As usual, the food was excellent and very well laid out. I’m sure no-one went away hungry. Our thanks also for the beautiful flowers, cards and letters with such comforting words which Helen and I have received.

The day was memorable for many reasons which is a comfort. I feel truly blessed to belong to such a warm and caring church family. A heartfelt thank you one and all from Janet, Helen and Jonathan. xxx “



Celia Quiz Answers!!

- 1. North Africa**
 - 2. Thomas Edison**
 - 3. Volta**
 - 4. Putney**
 - 5. John Betjeman**
 - 6. O Level**
 - 7. Thrush**
 - 8. Anne Bronte**
 - 9. Ernie**
 - 10. Dutch New Amsterdam)**
 - 11. Pyongyang**
 - 12. Devon**
 - 13. Joy**
 - 14. Greeks**
 - 15. Tiger, lion, jaguar, leopard**
 - 16. Shirley Bassey**
- GORDON'S**
a: Dial; b: Whatley; c: Thickwood



If you were able to find some change (or notes!) to put into the Lent Boxes in aid of the Additional Curates Society, please can they be returned at your earliest convenience and given to Derek Coaker who will process them and send the money to the society. Thank you.

Fund Raise as You Shop

We have registered St John's with easy fundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easy fundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

Although you may only raise a few pence with every purchase, these donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohntheevangelistclevedon/>

For those technically minded, here is the QR code for our online giving. Simply scan the code with your smartphone QR scanner and be magically directed to our 'givealittle' page.



If you need to contact a Churchwarden please contact Nicola Coaker or Gary Lewis. Nicola can be emailed at churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

Gary's email address is churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

If you have any safeguarding questions or issues, please email parishsafeguardingofficer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk



The Vicarage telephone number is 01275 879617

The Office Number is 07522 494 504

Please follow us on our website at: <https://www.stjohns-clevedon.org.uk/> or at www.achurchnearyou.com/church/111185/ or on YouTube 'St John's Clevedon' or on Facebook: St John the Evangelist Church, Clevedon or join our WhatsApp group.