

# St John the Evangelist

# Newsletter



SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER 2023

TWENTYSIXTH SUNDAY, TRINITY 17

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

## Church Services (also on-line)

### Saturday 30 September – St Jerome

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston super Mare

### Sunday 1 October – 26th Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Mark Smith

17.30 Evening Prayer with Benediction

### Monday 2 October – The Holy Guardian Angels

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Tuesday 3 October

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

### Wednesday 4 October – St Francis of Assisi

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Thursday 5 October

12.30 Mass – Fr Robert Ward

### Friday 6 October

10.00 Mass – Revd Preb John Andrews

### Saturday 7 October

10.00 Walsingham Cell Mass at Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

### Sunday 8 October – 27th Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Mark Smith

17.30 Evening Prayer

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Ezekiel 18 :25-28 (Reader: Jane)

Psalms 25

**R: Remember, remember your mercy O Lord**

Philippians 2:1-5 (Reader: Debra)

St Matthew 21:28-32

Intercessor - Kevin

## Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

I'm writing this on the Feast of Michael and the Holy Angels, Michaelmas, which gives its name to various events, university terms and markets among them.

The Bible is full of stories about angels. Sometimes in these stories we catch a glimpse of heaven, of the angels joyful in the presence of God, full of love for God, worshipping him constantly. Sometimes, we catch a glimpse of heaven being brought to earth, when someone has a dream, as Jacob did, that seemed to open heaven to him, to catch him up to heaven. Sometimes, we learn of holy guardian angels watching over us, as when Jesus said, *'Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.'* [Matthew 18:10]

Sometimes, more directly, we see the ways of God, the ways of heaven, explained to men and women, as when the angel Gabriel appears and brings a direct message to Zechariah about Elizabeth his wife bearing a son who will be called John and will be the forerunner of the Messiah. And, most famously of all, we see Gabriel appearing to the young Mary and telling her God would like her to bear his Son.

In these accounts, the angels bring heaven to earth and earth to heaven. They connect us on earth to the joy and glory of heaven. They give us an encouraging moment when we can see the reality at the heart of things, when we see it all clearly. They bridge the gap.

But these accounts also offer us a dilemma. We see the angels in Christian iconography. There they are in Renaissance paintings and in stained glass windows: the great and beautiful angels with iridescent wings; the fat little cherubs, flying around in the sky; the mighty seraphs with six wings; the warrior angels with spears and battle-axes, waging war against evil.

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The dilemma is this. I dare say that most of us have seen nothing that would remind us of an angel in our daily lives and again most of us are not expecting to see an angel, certainly in this life. Does this mean that there are no angels, or simply that we have failed to see them? Sometimes, most of the time, we do not see what is in front of our noses: *You hypocrite, says Jesus, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.*

In truth, many of us have as great a problem hearing as we do in seeing. We hear the words of scripture, and we might profess that they are the word of the Lord, that, to put it another way, the Lord is speaking to us through them. We might expect to hear through the human voice of the preacher or of a spiritual counsellor or of a soul friend some word from the Lord. But for most of us most of the time, our spiritual ears are too little attuned to hearing a word direct from the Lord. Would we trust it if we heard it? Do we indeed expect the Lord God almighty to have any direct interest in us personally, to be intimately involved in our lives?

This dilemma is not new. Consider the story of the call of Samuel. Three times he hears the voice of the Lord calling him and runs to Eli, *'Here I am, for you called me.'* Finally Eli understands that it was the Lord who called. The author explains that the *'word of the Lord was rare in those days.'* [1 Samuel 3]

Well, I'm not sure about the angels. What I am sure about is that the scriptures present a God who is longing to communicate with us, who uses every means at his disposal to do so. That's the movement reported in the Scriptures: God towards us, freely, unconditionally inviting us into the circle of his love. And I am convinced of our inability to see and to hear. How different life would be if we expected to meet God around every turn!

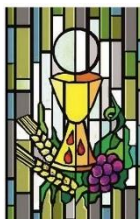
With my love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

## PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

<b>Saturday 30 September</b>	Our Blessed Virgin Mary and all shrines throughout the world dedicated to her name
<b>Sunday 1 October</b>	Our Church and parish and the residents of Churchill Avenue
<b>Monday 2 October</b>	All who are paralysed and dependent on others for basic care. All our Guardian Angels
<b>Tuesday 3 October</b>	All who live alone and would love someone to talk to
<b>Wednesday 4 October</b>	<b>St Francis of Assisi</b> and all who belong to the Franciscan Order
<b>Thursday 5 October</b>	The market traders, shop keepers and all visitors to Clevedon
<b>Friday 6 October</b>	<b>St Bruno</b> , founder of the Carthusian Order. <b>William Tyndale</b> who was born in Gloucestershire, studied at Magdalene College, Oxford and translated the scriptures from Greek to English
<b>Saturday 7 October</b>	Our Lady of Walsingham, St John's Walsingham Cell and Our Lady of the Rosary
<b>Sunday 8 October</b>	Our Church and parish and the residents of Wordsworth Road, Hansons Way and Wains Close



## 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.

## 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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 29 October

**Celebration Sunday for All Saints**

Sunday 26 November

**Celebration Sunday for Christ the King**

Saturday 2 December

Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall



## A VERY BIG THANK YOU!

to everyone who supported or helped with the Harvest Lunch in any way. It was a lovely occasion. Thank you also to those who cleaned and decorated the Church. It looked beautiful. Clevedon Food Bank were also delighted and grateful for our donations of Food and a monetary gift of £140. Thank you !!

## 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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:office@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)

## 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



**St John the Evangelist Church  
10 Queens Road, Clevedon, BS21 7TH**

Dear Newsletter Reader

I am writing to thank you for your support for St John the Evangelist Church.

The ministry of our church has been, and continues to be, possible through the generosity of our church members and loyal supporters of the church. We believe that St John the Evangelist Church is a vital part of our community and we hope you agree. Week by week we meet to worship and provide many activities for all ages to our community. We are also privileged through our ministry to offer support to those who have lost loved ones, and to welcome families celebrating marriages or bringing their children for baptism.

You may already support our church financially by way of a regular standing order or through gifts offered through our envelope scheme, in our offertory or at other events. Your generosity is vital to enabling St John the Evangelist Church to continue and grow in the way we serve our whole community. We would therefore like to invite you to consider supporting our work by joining the Parish Giving Scheme. It's quick and easy to join online or by telephone and all regular gifts given through the scheme are covered by the direct debit guarantee. You can make a one-off gift or give monthly, quarterly, or annually, whichever is most convenient and if you are a UK taxpayer you can also gift-aid this to enable us to recover a further 25% of the value of your gift from HMRC. The financial details of what is given will be confidential to our Treasurer, but I will be aware of the overall response and will write to thank all those who respond.

To start giving to Clevedon St John by PGS you can sign up online by visiting [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) or by scanning the QR code below. Use the search tool to find our church and then select 'Regular Giving'. Alternatively you can setup your gift by telephoning 0333 002 1271 and quote our unique PGS Parish Code - **010601377** or you can request a paper registration form by emailing [pgsregistrations@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:pgsregistrations@bathwells.anglican.org) or by calling 01749 670777

The easiest way to start supporting St John the Evangelist Church with Parish Giving Scheme is to use our 'Ways to Give' page. Please visit [www.waystogive.org.uk](http://www.waystogive.org.uk) or scan the QR code below and select our church from the list. Select 'Parish Giving Scheme' and then choose to follow the link to sign up online, register by phone or request a paper registration form.

If you need further information or want to talk this through with someone, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With God's blessing,



**Fr. Brendan Clover**  
Priest-in-Charge, St John the Evangelist, Clevedon

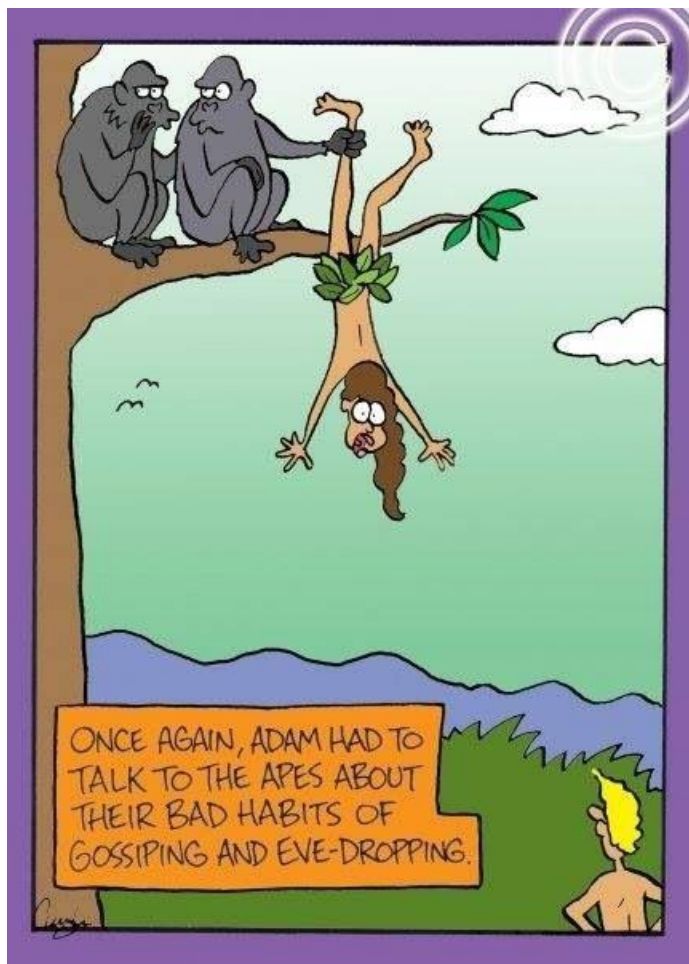
## Could you represent St Johns on the council of Churches Together in Clevedon?

There are 12 Clevedon Churches in CtiC, and together we are able to achieve things which would not be possible alone. For instance it was Churches Together which set up the Food Bank, and before that Clevedon Care, although both are now independent charities. Currently the biggest project is the chaplains. You may see them in the town centre or in the Hill Road area, wearing their grey sweatshirts. They are members of local churches who have been trained to offer support to local businesses and market stall holders. We also support Changing Lives and YMCA, and refugees in Clevedon. CtiC organises united events such as the Good Friday service in Queens Square.

The council meets 6 times a year, when representatives from all the member churches get together to share what is happening in the town and discuss the way forward. It is always interesting and sometimes inspirational to meet representatives from the other churches and hear what they are doing. I have been representing St Johns for a number of years, and have loved doing it, but find I can no longer manage the meetings.

If you feel this could be for you, speak to Gary, Nicola or Fr. Brendan or Judith

Sue Rossiter



### 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.







## Church Flowers

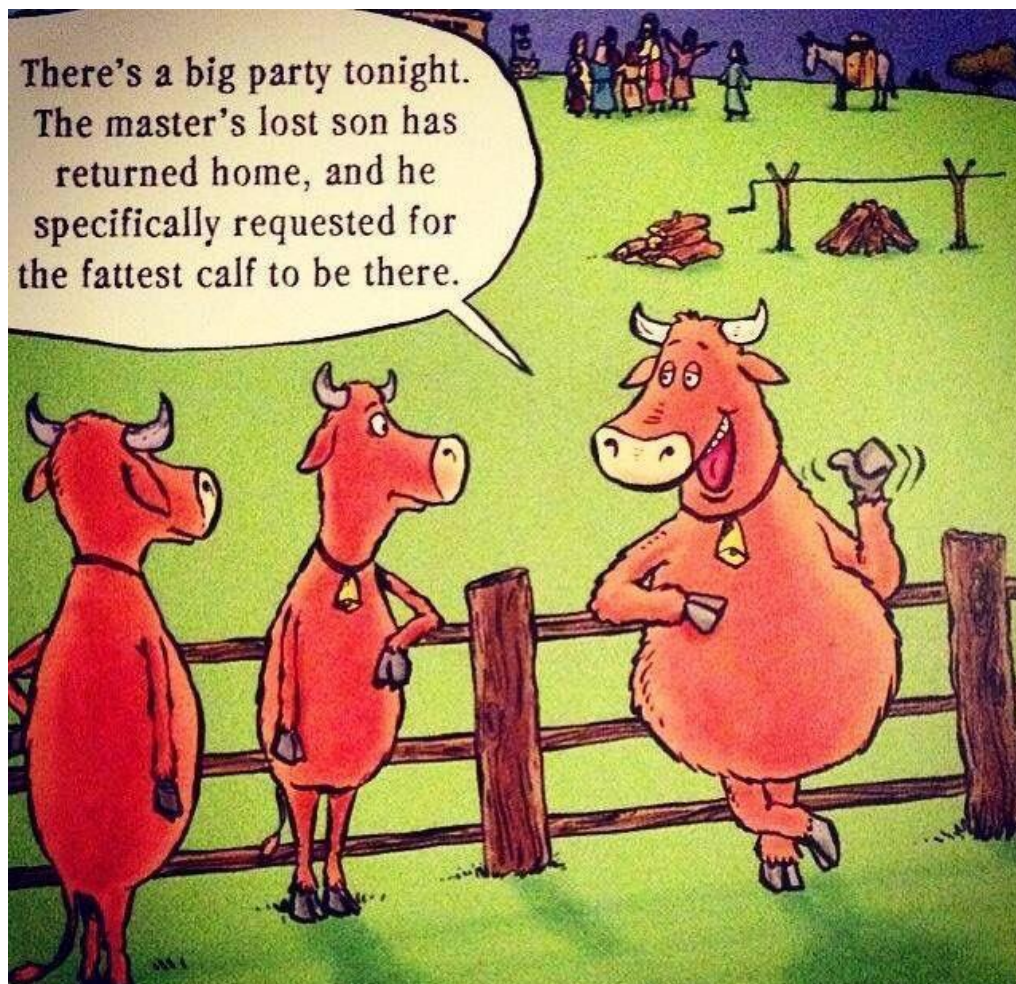
Would you like to sponsor church flowers to celebrate a birthday or commemorate an anniversary?

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.





On Thursday members of our Cell of the Holy House are taking part in our parish pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, calling first for Mass at Ely Cathedral on Thursday at 12.10pm. You can guarantee that we will be praying for our parish at the Shrine, but if there are particular people for whom you would like candles lit and prayers said please let me know.

Fr Brendan



### ***Celia Quiz !!***

1. Paul's assistant Timothy helped him serve which two communities?	9. Which former British coin was worth two shillings?
2. Which volcano exploded in Europe in 1979?	10. Which two cities were served by the first railway passenger service in England in 1830?
3. Ben Nevis is in which range?	11. How many eyes does a bee have?
4. What is the name of the chief pig in Orwell's Animal Farm?	12. Which sport was dropped from the Olympics after the first 7 modern Games?
5. What denomination was Copse Road Chapel when it was built in 1851?	13. Which Bohemian Duke will we remember fondly this December?
6. Which country launched the first man-made object into space in October 1957?	14. Who created the first translation of the Bible in English in 1525?
7. Which genus of trees includes the maple?	15. What is the Spanish name for the Falkland Islands?
8. Who is the heroine of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake?	16. First Barry Foster and now Marc Warren are the actors for which TV detective ?
GORDON'S POSERS !!	a: No bull up here?
b: Mount at sunset	c: But not on the water as in Cotswolds.

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.



### 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/>

### 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.

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](mailto:churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)

Gary's email address is [churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)

If you have any safeguarding questions or issues, please email [parishsafeguardingofficer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk](mailto: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/](http://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.



# moonlight memory walk



Walk in memory of your loved one  
**Saturday 7 October 2023**

Join us in Clevedon for an uplifting evening  
whilst supporting local families with every step

Register today [www.chsw.org.uk/moonlight](http://www.chsw.org.uk/moonlight)



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