



St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER 2021

ADVENT 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 4 December

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 5 December – Advent 2

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Preacher – Fr. Mark Smith

17.30 Said Evening Prayer from the BCP

Monday 6 December

18.00 Mass - Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 7 December – St Ambrose

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Wednesday 8 December – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Thursday 9 December

12.30 Mass – Fr Robert Ward

Friday 10 December

10.00 BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 11 December

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 12 December – Advent 3

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Preacher –

17.30 Said Evening Prayer from the BCP
followed by Benediction

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Baruch 5:1-9 (Reader: Judith)

Psalms 126:1-6

**R: What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

Philippians 1:4-6 & 8-11 (Reader: Alison)

St Luke 3:1-6

Intercessor – Celia

Daily Prayer (The Office)

Evening Prayer is said publicly in church every day (except Wednesday) at 5.30pm.

Morning Prayer is said at 9.30am when there is a 10.00am Mass.

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

Thank you to everyone who supported the first Advent soup and cheese lunch. We raised £50 for Clevedon Food Bank which is excellent. Next week it is Spiced Lentil Soup made by Debra Ward.

On Sunday we welcome our second guest preacher of Advent, Fr Mark Smith. Fr Mark is Chaplain of Kings Hall and Kings College Taunton, two Woodard Schools of which I continue to be Provost. Fr Mark has been their Chaplain for some fifteen years and has a wealth of experience of school ministry. I am grateful to him for accepting the invitation to come to us at a very busy time in schools.

So the days are counted off until Christmas day comes. We will all be busy making preparations to keep the Feast. Hopefully we shall be allowed so to do, COVID, the government and God willing! May I gently encourage you to give some time to prepare spiritually for the coming of the Christ child? Perhaps you could say the Advent Collect each day as a focus for your prayer and self-examination?

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

With the assurance of my prayers for you and yours,

Fr Brendan



The Vicarage Telephone Number is 01275 879617.

The Clergy's Recommendations for Advent Reading

Fr Brendan

My recommended Advent reading is John by Niall Williams.

'What invisible drama plays, what passes to and fro in the columns of air above them, none knows, but the disciples think: perhaps the time is arrived at last.'

Aged, blind and perilously frail, John the Apostle has walked ten thousand miles to tell of love. In a hundred years he has lived to witness sights and scenes that now cloud his mind. Of his followers, there are few remaining, banished with him to an island where they wait as storm clouds whip the island with rain. They wait for the world to free them from exile. They wait for signs that seem like they will never come.

But eventually a sign does come and together the disciples leave the island. They embark on a journey that will change their lives forever: a journey filled with purpose and fear which will test their belief - in love and in each other - to breaking point, and John must face his biggest battle yet.

Prebendary John

I would recommend To Be a Pilgrim by Basil Hume. It is an old book (1984 though it has been reissued since then) but still very relevant to anyone who seeks to follow Christ. Hume explores spirituality is a series of short thoughts, the sort of work you can dip in to and it is a great encouragement answering many of the questions any of us might face. It is an easy read.

It is published by St Paul Publications. ISBN 085439 231 9. It is available on Amazon price £9.99.

If anyone thinks they might like to read it but cannot get hold of it they would be welcome to borrow my copy.

Fr Robert

I'd suggest something like Tom Wright's 'Luke (or Matthew) For Everyone'. It is not academic, is easy to read and be bought for about £10 from Amazon.

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 at parishpriest@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

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 David or Betty, our Sickness Points of Contact (SPOC's), 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.

Advent Saturday Church Opening

Saturday 4th, 11th and 18th December -10.30 am and 1.00 pm

The Church will be opened on the three Saturdays in December, to show off our beautiful church to our local community. Light refreshments will be available. We plan to sell our draw tickets and the remains of the items from our church shop. It's an opportunity to raise some much needed funds as well.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help. Nicola & Kevin.

BREAD AND SOUP CHARITY ADVENT LUNCHES



Advent Charity Soup Lunches continue this Thursday, 9 December, in the Vicarage at 1.00 pm (after the Market Mass, which begins at 12.30). Donations please, all proceeds will be sent to Clevedon Food Bank.

There is no need to book a place, though it would be useful for catering purposes to know how many people to expect! Please let Fr Brendan know of any special dietary requirements.



Chat and Craft Group is meeting every Thursday afternoon drop-in between 2 and 4pm. Bring your own project along to work on, and chat to fellow crafters. Normally we have the kettle on, but while the electrics in the church hall are being worked on please bring your own drink. I will bring biscuits.

For more information talk to Sue at church or ring on 01275 877710.



CHRISTMAS MUSICAL EVENING

David Green is going to sing some Christmas songs and carols in the Church Hall at **7.00 pm on Friday 10 December**. This event will be free, but ticketed. Mince pies and mulled wine (or tea/coffee) will be available in the interval. Donations can be made to the Trussell Trust. Please let David know as soon as possible if you would like tickets – 07798 522918 or dmewin44@gmail.com

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/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(All subject to there being no changes in Covid restrictions)

Saturday 18 December 18.00 – 20.00	Barrels and Carols at the Vicarage. £4.00 per ticket, £3.00 for 10-18 year olds, free for under 10s. Tickets limited to 40 – first come, first served!
Monday 27 December St John the Evangelist 18.30	Mass with carols, followed by cheese and wine at the Vicarage
Sunday 30 January Candlemas	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 27 February Last before Lent	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 27 March Mothering Sunday	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 17 April Easter Day	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 29 May Ascension Day Festivities	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 26 June	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 24 July	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
Sunday 21 August	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass

CHRISTMAS FUND RAISING



Please continue to support our Christmas fund raising by taking raffle tickets to sell to your friends, work colleagues, neighbours and relatives, not forgetting to buy some for yourself! Already people have been very generous with their promises of prizes. Please bring these to Church and give them to Debra, or to Judith. It would be very helpful if you would place a tick by your gift once you have delivered it to us. Similarly, please return the raffle ticket counterfoils with the corresponding amount of money and give them both to Judith.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES

Any donations of prizes towards the Christmas Raffle will be gratefully received. If you have already marked something off on the list in Church – THANK YOU! Please give your gift(s) to Judith or Debra as soon as possible. There are still a few items on the list in Church if you would like to give something specific or feel free to supply any other prize.

Important Public Notice

Statutory School Admissions Arrangement Consultation **Proposals to Alter The Admission Arrangements Applying For St John the Evangelist Church School**

The Consultation:

In accordance with the requirements of the 2021 School Admissions Code, the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust is proposing to remove the designated catchment area for St John the Evangelist Church School which is currently used to prioritise admission applications in the event of oversubscription (Criterion 3).

This proposal is subject to public school admission arrangements consultation according to the timeframe and arrangements set out below. It is proposed that the catchment area will be officially removed on 1 September 2023.

The reason for removing the catchment area is to generally improve the level of fairness for all children. It will no longer be the case that admission applications for children living within a defined catchment line on a map will be prioritised over those applications for children who live more locally when measured by straight line distance. Proximity of the home address to school will determine the application priority whereby those living closest to the school by straight line measurement will be given the higher priority. This also helps to support the principle of a wider school choice for parents and children.

You may view the proposed School Admission Arrangements and changes here:

North Somerset Admissions – BWMAT

The consultation will open on **3rd December 2021** and will close on **21st January 2022**.

During this period, you are invited to submit any comments concerning the proposals by letter or email:

Please e-mail: AdmissionsNSom@bwmat.org

Please write to: Admission Arrangement Consultation (North Somerset)
Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust
Flourish House
Cathedral Park
Wells
BA5 1FD

What happens next?

Following closure of the consultation, the Admission Authority will meet to consider any comments returned during the consultation period. Within eight calendar weeks of the consultation ending, a response will be published on the school website and consultees will be informed of this.

Once agreed in final form the Admission Authority will publish the 2023/24 Admission Arrangements on the school website by 15th March **2022**.

Here are the answers to Celia's latest quiz.

1. Boneshaker
- 2: 1577
3. Aire
- 4: Bath
- 5: Bartimaeus
- 6: John Dryden 1668-1688
7. Formosa
8. Post Impressionism
9. Satyr
10. 1549
11. San Francisco, California
12. White
13. 1920 (October)
14. 70
15. Charm
16. Verona

and Gordon's Posers

- a: Oxenpill;
- b: Ham;
- c: Worth;
- d: Downend

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP



Thank you, to everyone who attended the Christmas Wreath Making Workshop last Saturday.



£300 was raised for Church funds. The morning was a great success, filled with much fun and laughter and eating of cake. Thanks especially to Sarah for arranging a brilliant event and for instructing us all so well. You can see the results of our labour here.

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.

Please follow us on our new 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.

For those a bit more 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.



Sunday 5 December 2021 – Advent 2

The Messenger

Bible readings Malachi 3: 1-4 (Luke 3: 1-6)

Questions

- Have you received an amazing message? What did it say?
- Why does Malachi describe God's messenger as fire and soap (v 3)?
- How would you describe 'the messenger' to a non-Christian?

Prayer suggestion: - Thank God for all the prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus

*God, we thank you for our voices,
That we can speak and shout and sing
Let us remember every day to speak to you in prayer:
Amen*

This week's challenge: - Send an amazing message of blessing to a friend today?

Activity suggestions:

1. Activity sheet for 2nd Sunday in Advent
2. Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on Luke 3: 1-6

If you do not have access to a printer and would like the activity sheets printed out and delivered to you, please contact me (Fiona) and I'll arrange for you to receive copies.

Good Luck from St. John's Sunday Club Team (Sue & Fiona)



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 12th December

3pm CHRISTINGLE SERVICE with St John's School

Sunday 19th December

5.30pm LESSONS AND CAROLS

24th December - CHRISTMAS EVE

5pm FAMILY CRIB/CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

6pm Vigil Mass

11.30pm MIDNIGHT MASS

25th December - CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30am MASS OF CHRISTMAS DAY

26th December - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

10.30am SOLEMN MASS

27th December - FEAST OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

6pm MASS WITH CAROLS

28th - 31st December

Mass at the usual times

1st January 2022 – MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

12.30pm MASS WITH CAROLS

2nd January – SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

10.30am SOLEMN MASS

5.30pm Evening Prayer & Benediction

6th January – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

19.30pm SOLEMN MASS and Vicarage Party

CHRISTMAS APPEAL



HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOODBANK WITH FOOD AND FUNDS THIS CHRISTMAS

In the week leading up to Christmas Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead and Yatton foodbanks will be giving out Christmas hampers, and parcels to local individuals and families in crisis. Please support us by purchasing an item from the shopping list

DONATE FOOD

Help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to ensure we can provide food to help people in crisis.



DONATE MONEY

Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.



SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS

Christmas Cake
Savoury Biscuits
Hot Chocolate
Chocolate/ Sweets
Toiletries
Long Life Squirty Cream
Long Life Juice
Pringles
Soft Drinks
Tinned Salmon

Don't forget...

You can help transform
more lives with a
financial donation too.



www.clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk
info@clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1163153

