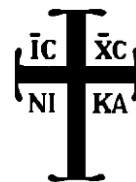




St John the Evangelist

Newsletter



SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2023

SIXTH SUNDAY, SECOND BEFORE LENT

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 11 February

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 12 February – Sixth Sunday, 2 before Lent

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

Monday 13 February

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 14 February – St Cyril and St Methodius

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Wednesday 15 February

10.00 Mass – Revd Prebendary John Andrews

Thursday 16 February

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 17 February

10.00 BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 18 February

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 19 February – Seventh Sunday, Next before Lent

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

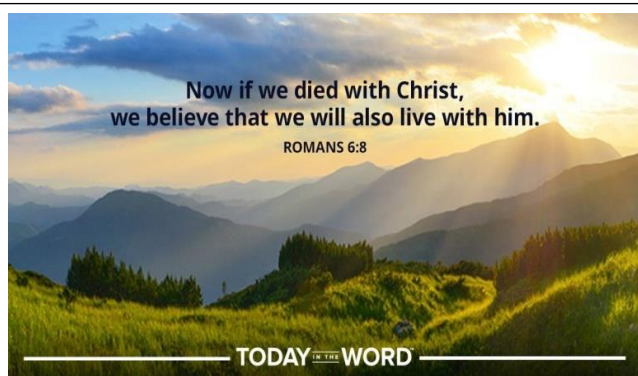
The Mass readings for this Sunday:
Ecclesiasticus 15:16-20 (*Reader: Kevin*)
Psalm 119

R: They are happy who follow God's law

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 (*Reader: Sandra*)

St Matthew 5:17:37

Intercessor – Judith



Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

The anguish of our world has been palpable this week as the anniversary of the war in the Ukraine approaches and as the number of people killed in the earthquake in Syria and Turkey continues to rise. Thankfully the international community is responding to both of these tragedies by providing resources, and with a degree of urgency, and we have seen some remarkable and extraordinary examples of what compassionate humanity is capable of.

But the question not far from many people's minds is this: *'If there is a God, how can he allow this?'* Now I, for one, cannot, will not, and could not, believe in a God who causes earthquakes, or indeed any kind of human suffering. To believe in such a God would be immoral. That's basically the conclusion of the book of Job - well worth a read. And by the way, when we see God inflicting pain, or indeed threatening to do so, in the Old Testament, I believe that we, children of the New Covenant, should disown the Old. A God who causes suffering cannot be worshipped. But a God who is involved in suffering is worthy of our worship, our love and adoration. Archbishop Michael Ramsey once said, *'God is Christlike, and in Him there is no-Christlikeness at all'*. What he is articulating is not that God causes suffering, but that He is involved in it, is totally identified with it, and is found to be present in it, because of the Cross of Jesus Christ. For our patron saint, St John the Evangelist, the cross is the Exaltation of the Son of Man, the profoundest revelation of what God is in Himself, a God who is totally identified with our

.../cont

cont/...

human suffering, bears it with us, and finds the possibility of redemption not apart from it, but because of it and within it. As the priest poet W. H. Vanstone puts it:

'Drained is love in making full; Bound in setting others free; Poor in making many rich; Weak in giving power to be. Therefore, He Who Thee reveals Hangs, O Father, on that Tree Helpless; and the nails and thorns Tell of what thy love must be. Thou art God; no monarch Thou Throned in easy state to reign; Thou art God, Whose arms of love Aching, spent, the world sustain'.

I can say Amen to that!

With my love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Saturday 11 February

Sunday 12 February

Monday 13 February

Tuesday 14 February

Wednesday 15 February

Thursday 16 February

Friday 17 February

Saturday 18 February

Sunday 19 February

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Walsingham and Our Lady of Lourdes

Our Church and parish and the residents of Hurn Road, Wranglers Farm Green and Gullivers Bank

All who control and maintain public transport

St Valentine and all who are lonely and feel unloved

Sports men and women who give their time to train young folk and thus give them a purpose in life

All our market traders. St Sigfid and all Christians who live in Sweden

SPCK – the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge

Our Blessed Virgin Mary and all pilgrims to the Holy House in Walsingham

Our Church and parish and the residents of Coxway



SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY **2.00 – 4.00, St John's Church Hall**

Please bring your donations (eg coats, scarves, hats, trousers, jumpers, shoes, bags, kitchenware, brick-a-brack etc) – anything we can sell to the Church Hall at **10.00 am on 18 February**. (Please note: we cannot accept anything electrical).

We will also need volunteers to help at this fundraising event. If you can help on the day to sort – from 10.00 am - or assist with selling, or clearing up, or can spare the time to do all three, please let Margaret or Sarah know.



If anyone has palm crosses from last year or earlier years and would like them burnt for ash to be used on Ash Wednesday (22nd February), please bring them to St. John's leaving them on the west end altar as soon as possible by **Friday 17th February** latest.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Saturday 18 February	Jumble Sale in the Church Hall – 14.15 to 16.00. Details below.
Sunday 19 February	Celebration Sunday – Sunday before Lent
Sunday 19 March	Rose Reception for Mothering Sunday Cream tea and prosecco in the Church Hall after Mass
Sunday 9 April	Celebration Sunday – Easter Day
Sunday 7 May	St John's Patronal Festival and Celebration of the Coronation of King Charles Bring and Share Picnic Lunch in the Church grounds (if fine) or Church Hall
Saturday 13 May	Plant Sale – 10.00 – 12 noon in the Church grounds
Saturday 15 July	St John's Summer Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church grounds
Sunday 13 August	Parish BBQ, after Mass
Saturday 16 September	Quiz Evening, time to be confirmed, in the Church Hall
Sunday 1 October	Harvest Lunch – 12.30 in the Church Hall
Saturday 2 December	Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall

Do you have talents and experience to share?

After many years of loyal and dedicated service to this parish and the PCC, with much sadness we are saying farewell to our PCC Secretary, Sue and our Treasurer, Fiona at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in April. Sue and Fiona have done a fabulous job at keeping the PCC on track procedurally and financially. We thank them so much for all they have done for St John's Church.

We are now in search of replacements for Sue and Fiona, who are difficult acts to follow. However, both these roles are supported by the diocese who run an induction programme, regular updates, access to the diocese Finance Department and the Diocesan Secretary's office, plus buddies in similar roles in other parishes, and the support of the Churchwardens, PCC Chair and relevant sub-committees at St John's.

We hope the following provides a brief insight into the roles we are looking to fill:

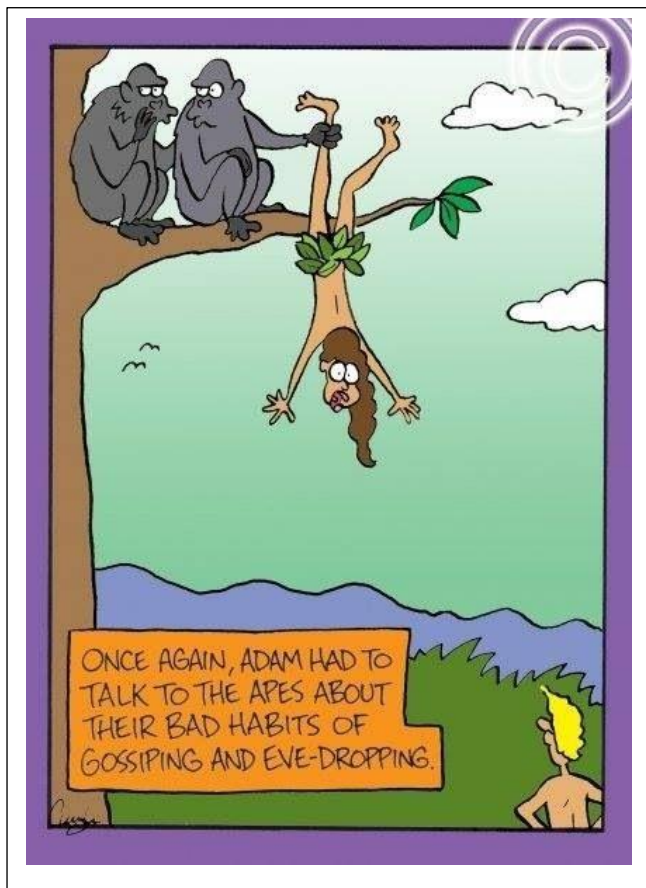
PCC Secretary

The primary responsibilities of a PCC Secretary are to support the PCC Chair in the preparation and organisation of meetings and to handle all correspondence on behalf of the PCC. The Diocesan Office contacts the parish from time to time to request specific information, every effort is made to keep this to a minimum and all meeting agendas are issued and minutes stored electronically using Microsoft Office.

PCC Treasurer

You do not need to have been a treasurer of an organisation before. In many respects it is not too dissimilar from keeping good control of household finances, however, if you have an understanding of some accountancy practice it will be useful but not essential. This role implements decisions made by the PCC. This role is also supported with diocesan induction training for new treasurers, updates and continued support throughout the financial year for all financial procedures and processes.

For further information about both roles please speak with Nicola or Gary, Churchwardens.



JANUARY'S 100 CLUB WINNERS

1ST Don

2nd Gale

3rd Maureen

Congratulations!

It's not too late to join!
Speak to Arlene.

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.

Plant Sale Saturday 13th May 10-12noon

A date has now been set for our plant sale to be held in the church grounds.

If you are taking cuttings or splitting plants this winter/spring, please do a few extra for the church plant sale.



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



"I still have trouble sleeping. I thought when I died I could rest in peace."

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.

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.

Celia Quiz Answers

1. 1940
2. 1985
3. Armenia
4. Turkey
5. Moses and Aaron
6. Baptists
7. Lemur
8. Susie Dent
9. 635
10. Ethelred 2nd

11. Weasel
12. Leonard Bernstein
13. Head
14. 1920s (John Logie Baird)
15. Otago
16. The Jungle Book

GORDON'S

a:Hamwood; b: Stringston; c: Blackford

HOW WE WORK

If you have any useful ideas and suggestions that would benefit the life of our church please share these with the relevant members of the sub-committees below, for discussion at their next committee meeting. The majority of our church work is done by the committees, who in turn make recommendations for approval at our PCC meetings. We are always looking for new members to join our committees, if you have any talents and/ or experience to share for the benefit of our church, please see the committee chairs about joining. You are not required to be a PCC member to serve on a sub-committee and membership can be associated with a particular project for a few months, or for the whole year.

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Sub-Committees	
PCC	
Chair	Fr Brendan
Churchwarden	Nicola C
Churchwarden	Gary L
PCC Secretary	Sue R
PCC Treasurer	Fiona D
Electoral Roll Officer	Kevin C
PCC Member	Derek C
PCC Member	Michelle H
PCC Member	Judith B
PCC Member	Helen C
PCC Member	Peter W
PCC Member	Sarah L
Worship Committee	
Chair	Fr Brendan
Member	Diane W
Member	Gary L
Member	Sue R
Temporary organist	Kevin C
Head Server and Sacristan	Martin I
Fabric Committee	
Chair	Gary L
Member	Derek C
Member	Martin I
Member	Peter W
Member	Margaret J
Community Committee	
Chair	Sarah L
Member	Betty T
Member	Celia A
Member	Debra W
Member	Fr Brendan
Member	Judith B
Member	Margaret J
Member	Nicola C
Finance Committee	
Chair	Nicola C
PCC Treasurer	Fiona D
Member	Fr Brendan
Member	Lynne B
Member	Roger M

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.



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.



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

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.

SUNDAY 19TH FEB

7.00-8.30PM

**@ CHRISTCHURCH
CLEVEDON**

YOUTH CHURCH

**COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING TOGETHER
WITH WORSHIP, TEACHING AND PRAYER
(AND SNACKS)
EVERYONE'S WELCOME!**



BESLEYJOSH@GMAIL.COM

YOUTH@CHRISTCHURCH-CLEVEDON.ORG.UK

The event above is specifically aimed at young people in Years 7-13.