



St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 13 MARCH 2022

LENT 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)

Sunday 13 March – Lent 2

10.30 Solemn Mass with Baptism – Fr Brendan Clover
17.30 Talk, Devotion and Benediction

Monday 14 March

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 15 March

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross
– Revd Prebendary John Andrews

Wednesday 16 March

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Thursday 17 March – St Patrick

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 18 March

10.00 Mass from the BCP – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 19 March – St Joseph

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross
– Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 20 March – Lent 3

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
17.30 Talk, Devotion and Benediction

The Mass readings for this Sunday:
Genesis 15:5-12 & 17-18 (Reader: Peter)
Psalm 27

R: The Lord is my light and my help

Philippians 3:17-4:1 (Reader: Mark)

Luke 9:28-36

Intercessor – Debra

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

As we follow the tragic events unfolding in Ukraine, and **continue to pray for peace**, we also look to take action to support those forced to flee their homes.

But, as well as our vital prayers, are there other things we can do?

WE COULD GIVE FINANCIALLY

A number of organisations, and the governments of the countries bordering Ukraine who are receiving the vast majority of refugees, have confirmed that **financial support is much more valuable than collections of physical goods**, which are often subject to issues at customs and cause bottlenecks at distribution. The **Diocese of Europe and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG)** have launched a **joint Ukraine Emergency Appeal** to support partners on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding countries.

WE SHOULD PREPARE TO WELCOME THOSE FROM UKRAINE

It is not yet clear on how many refugees may arrive in the UK from Ukraine, but we do expect refugees to start arriving. **Welcome Churches**, who have huge experience of supporting churches who work with asylum seekers & refugees, have set up **Ukraine Welcome** which is a bespoke website with information for those arriving about life in the UK.

WE COULD CONSIDER TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

It looks that the UK Government may open a **Humanitarian Sponsorship Scheme** to those from Ukraine, and we can keep abreast of any such schemes which may open. Visit the **Sanctuary Foundation** where you can read more and **pledge to provide support for Ukrainian refugees** in your church and community, and send a message to the Home Office that we welcome Ukrainian refugees and will support them. The **Community Sponsorship Scheme** is already open to those from other countries, such as **Afghanistan**. Under this existing

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EVERY DAY IS A GOOD DAY TO BE ALIVE,
WHETHER THE SUN'S SHINING OR NOT.
Henry Robson

.../cont.

scheme, Community Sponsors find a home for the family and work with them to support their integration into life in the UK.

WE COULD WRITE TO OUR MPS

The unfolding situation in Ukraine highlights the unthinkable choice facing families of whether to flee their homes in the face of war. You can **email your MP** to urge the UK government to do everything they can to support those forced to flee Ukraine. Also, if the soon to be legislated [Nationality and Borders Bill](#) comes into force, it would criminalise any individual, including Ukrainians, who arrive in the UK through any irregular means of travel to claim asylum (Clause 11 of the Bill). Earlier this week peers in the House of Lords voted for several amendments to the Nationality and Borders Bill, **including the removal of Clause 11**. As the bill reaches its final stages, this is a critical time to **write to our MPs urging them to rethink this legislation**.

WE SHOULD SHOW SOLIDARITY TO ALL REFUGEES

The situation in Ukraine reminds us of all those forced to flee their homes, including those from Afghanistan, Syria, Hong Kong, and so many other countries. We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, and for all those caught up in this terrible conflict; we also pray that as the Church here in Bath and Wells, God would stir us to know what we are called to do to respond.

Fr Brendan

Electoral Roll

The revision of this year's Electoral Roll will begin from this Sunday and end on Sunday 3rd April when the new Roll will be published.

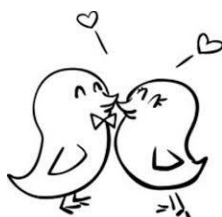
Apart from it being necessary to be on the Roll of the Parish in order to vote at the APCM, it is an opportunity to demonstrate in a tangible way commitment to the Parish and its mission. To be entered onto the Roll you must be Baptised and over the age of 16. You do not have to reside in the Parish as long as you have attended worship at the Parish Church habitually over the past 6 months (I fall into this category) or have been prevented from doing so due to illness, work commitments etc. You may also be on the Electoral Roll of more than one Parish but can only serve as a Church Officer (Warden, Treasurer, PCC member etc.) in one. I will explain on Sunday morning, if you can wait that long, how you can apply to be entered onto the Roll and will also display a name only roll at the back of the Church to see if you are already on it. If you are, you need do nothing for another couple of years when the Roll will then be created again.

Thank you.

Kevin Coaker Electoral Roll Officer



Congratulations to Lucy and Dave on their Engagement.
Best wishes for your future together from everyone at St John's
(Martin's Daughter)



RECOMMENDED LENT READING

Entering the Twofold Mystery by Eric Varden

Erik Varden became Bishop of Trondheim in his native Norway on 2019. This, his second book, is a meditation on the religious life, on the life of Christ, and the call to live in community.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book this year is

Embracing Justice by Isabelle Hamley. Isabelle is the Archbishop's former chaplain, now theological adviser to the House of Bishops. Her knowledge as an Old Testament scholar shines forth in the first three chapters on Genesis, Exodus and liberation. The remaining chapters deal with the Incarnation, the Crucifixion and Holy Communion.

in **The Way of the Franciscans - A Prayer Journey through Lent** Daniel Horan offers insights from Franciscans across the ages. There are questions for reflection or discussion.

Richard Harries, former Bishop of Oxford, offers us **Hearing God in poetry - Fifty poems for Lent and Easter**. Each chapter is a poem and a short reflection on the poet, poem and some gentle theology.

Henry Martin is a retired prison chaplain retired to France where he devotes his time to writing, painting, his husband and their dog. **Vincent van Gogh and the Good Samaritan** recalls Henri Nouwen's classic on the prodigal son.

SUNDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

Continuing this Sunday, 13 March, a series entitled 'Talk, Devotion, and Benediction - an opportunity for all to engage with the Festival Icons' at 5.30 pm in Church.

On Palm Sunday there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction

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.

LENT LUNCHES



Please join us for a frugal bread and soup lunch every Thursday during Lent. Lunch will be in the Vicarage immediately after the 12.30 Mass. All donations will be given to the Clevedon Food Bank. Everyone is welcome.

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Sunday 13 March	Our Church and Parish and residents of Hazell Close
Monday 14 March	Ourselves and our individual Lenten journeys
Tuesday 15 March	All priests and deacons leading Lenten courses
Wednesday 16 March	Artists and sculptors
Thursday 17 March	St Patrick, the people of Ireland and all missionaries
Friday 18 March	Doctors and all who have birthdays today
Saturday 19 March	St Joseph, the husband of our Blessed Virgin Mary, and all carpenters
Sunday 20 March	Our Church and Parish and the residents of Kenn Moor Drive

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Sunday 27 March	A Rose Reception in the Church Hall
Mothering Sunday	All things pink, plus cream scones with strawberries and cakes
Tuesday 12 April and Wednesday 13 April	Easter Egg Hunt and Pop up Café in the Church (details to follow)
Sunday 17 April	Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in the Vicarage after Mass
Easter Day	
Friday 6 May	Festival Mass at 19.30: Revd. Canon Peter Newby, Canon of Westminster Cathedral will be our preacher
St John's Patronal Festival	Lunch Time Concert and Parish Dinner
Saturday 7 May	
Sunday 5 June	Parish Picnic in the Church grounds
HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee	
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



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. 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.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Betty will be taking orders
for her famed
Easter Biscuits
soon.

More details, including
the price, will follow.



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**"Wireless communication is nothing new.
I've been praying for 75 years!"**

Clevedon Foodbank is still in of donations to support people in need in Clevedon and the surrounding area. Rising prices for electricity, gas, petrol and food add to the difficulties of those affected by illness, disability, bereavement, unemployment or low wages.

The foodbank would appreciate donations of the following:

**Tinned fruit
Instant Coffee
Instant Mash Potato
Toilet Rolls
Microwavable Rice
Jam
Long Life Milk
Cat food
Tinned pasta
Toiletries
Laundry Powder/ Liquid**

Donations of food may be brought to church and put into the purple bin in the porch, taken to the Food Bank depot in Knowles Road on Monday or Friday mornings, or put into the collection bin at Tesco's in Clevedon (Sainsbury's in Portishead, Waitrose in Nailsea). Tesco's add 20% to the value of donations.

For more information and how to ask for help if you need it, see their website at clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk, or contact them on info@clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk or tel. 07722 769529



“Stop resting in peace and start getting some exercise.”

Save the date!

Nailsea Choral Society's next concert will be a performance of **Stainer's Crucifixion**, to be held on **Saturday 26 March at 7.30 pm** in Nailsea Methodist Church.

This wonderful piece will be performed by the choir, organ and professional soloists.

Tickets cost £6.00/£12.00.

Further information is available on the Society's website

www.nailseachoral.org.uk and Facebook page: Nailsea Choral Society.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We have received the following report on the shoeboxes we sent at Christmas.

Thank you for bringing joy to a child living in Central Asia! Your shoebox gift was one of 65,668 sent from the UK to a country in Central Asia. Your shoebox gift is helping to show the love of Christ, planting seeds and building goodwill between communities of all faiths and none. However while political and religious sensitivities continue within Central Asia and for the safety of our ministry partners living in restricted areas, they have asked us not to disclose details about the specific country your shoebox was sent to. Please know that even though we are not able to disclose exactly where your shoebox gift went, we are confident that it will bring great joy and hope to the precious child receiving it, both now and for many years to come.

In the South Bristol area we processed a wonderful 13,206 boxes. The UK sent 277,350 shoeboxes in total. Globally we sent 10.6 million gift filled boxes of love to children all around the world. We are very grateful for all the donations received, either actual boxes, gifts to help top up those which needed it, or money to help with transport. We wish to thank God for all that help received and will be holding a Thank You Service at **Christ the Servant Church in Stockwood** on **Saturday 26th March at 2.00 pm**. We would love to see you there to share in our gratitude and celebrate the wonderful work which God has helped us to achieve.

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

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 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.



If you need to contact a Churchwarden please contact Nicola Coaker or Nick Dixon. Nicola can be contacted on 07940759891 or email her at churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

Nick's email address is churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk Thank you.

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



The Vicarage telephone number is 01275 879617

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.

St John's Children's Club
Confidence in God

Bible reading: Psalms 27:1-14

Questions

What or who gives you confidence?

As you read the psalm, did any phrases stand out for you?

How can you have greater confidence in God?

Prayer suggestion

Spend a few minutes resting in God's presence; receive his love and protection.

*God, you keep your promises
And listen to all who call upon you.
Let me come to you in prayer
And to know that you are always ready
To help me and protect me
Amen.*

This week's challenge

Try writing your own psalm to remind you of God's promises

Activity suggestions:

- Activity sheet for 2nd Sunday in Lent
- Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on Luke 13: 31 - 35

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)