

# St John the Evangelist

# Newsletter



SUNDAY 16 JULY 2023

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY, TRINITY 5

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 15 July

10.00 Mass at All Saints, WSM

### Sunday 16 July – Fifteenth Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Robert Ward

17.30 Evening Prayer

### Monday 17 July

18.00 Mass – Fr Robert Ward

### Tuesday 18 July

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

### Wednesday 19 July – St Gregory of Nyssa

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Thursday 20 July

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Friday 21 July

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Saturday 22 July - St Mary Magdalene

10.00 Mass at All Saints, WSM

### Sunday 23 July – Sixteenth Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Isaiah 55:10-11 (Reader: Peter)

Psalms 65:9-13

**R: Some seed fell into rich soil, and yielded a rich harvest**

Romans 8:18:23 (Reader: Celia)

St Matthew 13:1-9

Intercessor – Debra

## Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

Sunday's Gospel is the famous parable of the Sower. It is the only parable which is explained. This is more than a little odd. Jesus never explained his teaching. He taught to provoke and challenge and stimulate, '*he who has ears let him hear!*'

This may mean that the explanation of the parable of the Sower provided by Matthew (unless Fr Robert tells us differently) is unlikely to have come from the lips of Jesus. In the context of the persecution of the first Christians the explanation of the story makes sense as the weak fall away, and the cares of the world and the flesh and the devil begin their compromising work. But I don't think the explanation would not have made sense to Our Lord. The parable of the Sower is one of a group of parables called '*contrast parables*'. The point of these parables is contained in the contrasting times described in them.

The context is the harvest. The harvest is a metaphor used to describe the breaking through of the kingdom of heaven.

The beginning time is the frustration and hardship to which the Sower's labour is liable. The end time sees the dreary fallow land producing a field of waving corn, with a yield that surpasses all prayer and understanding.

The point... to us the labour, the sheer effort of believing and witnessing, may seem futile and fruitless and as things go wrong, we are tempted to cynicism. But Jesus is full of faith and confidence. God has made a beginning, bringing with it a harvest of reward. Despite failure and opposition, from hopeless beginnings God brings forth a harvest, a triumphant end, for God is always active, and all depends on his activity alone.

cont/...



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The assurance that God's hour approaches is an essential and radical element in the teaching of Jesus. We are judged in every moment and in every situation. Jesus speaks in parables to elicit from his hearers a decision about their own lives. Today is the hour, God's hour is coming, indeed it has already begun. So, with a renewed sense of urgency, this comes with the assurance of my love and prayers and my encouragement,  
Fr Brendan

## PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

<b>Saturday 15 July</b>	Our Blessed Virgin Mary, St Swithin, St Bonaventure and World Youth Skills Day
<b>Sunday 16 July</b>	Our Church, clergy and parish. Residents of Griffin Road and Parnell Road
<b>Monday 17 July</b>	The Care Homes in our parish, Elm View and Poets Mews, their residents and carers
<b>Tuesday 18 July</b>	Nelson Mandela and his gift of freedom from apartheid
<b>Wednesday 19 July</b>	St Gregory of Nyssa in Cappadocia – a great teacher of our faith
<b>Thursday 20 July</b>	Our market traders, all businesses in Clevedon and their customers
<b>Friday 21 July</b>	All fishermen and others who work on the high seas
<b>Saturday 22 July</b>	Our Blessed Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene. Our hope to replicate their devotion to Jesus
<b>Sunday 23 July</b>	Our Church, clergy and parish. Residents of Beaconsfield Road, Willow Court and Teignmouth Road

## 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

## PLEASE NOTE!

There is a PCC Meeting in The James Room, St John's Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm



## 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.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Saturday 15 July</b>	<b>THIS WEEK!</b> St John's Summer Fete – 14.00 to 16.00 in the Church grounds
<b>Sunday 13 August</b>	Parish BBQ, after Mass
<b>Saturday 16 September</b>	Quiz Evening, time to be confirmed, in the Church Hall
<b>Sunday 24 September</b>	<b>NEW DATE!! Harvest Lunch – 12.30 in the Church Hall NEW DATE!!</b>
<b>Saturday 2 December</b>	Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall

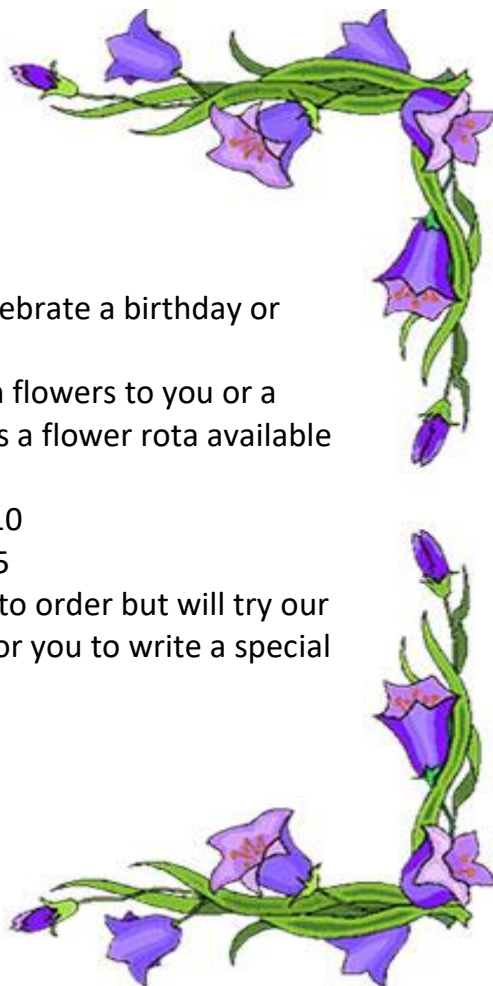
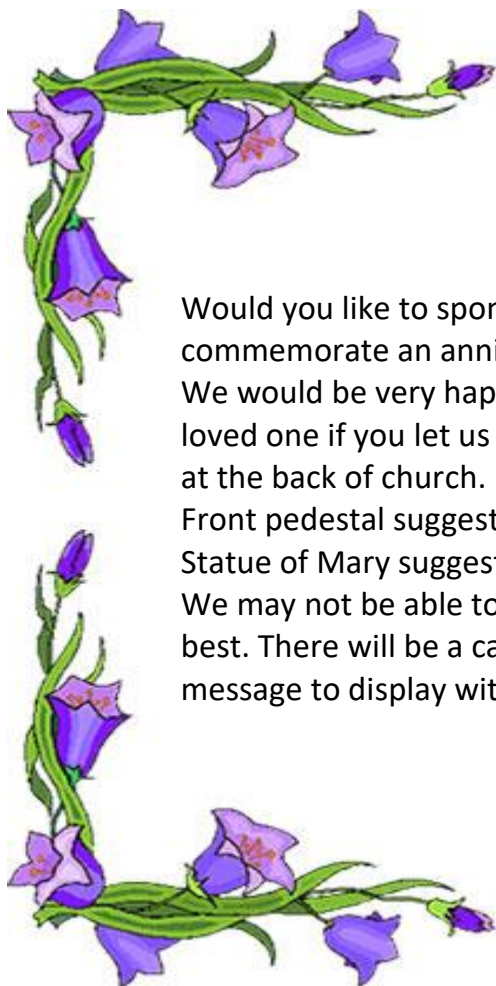


## ***St. John's Summer Fete !!*** **This Saturday July 15th 2.00-4.00pm**

**It's not too late!** We are still looking for offers of support to help set-up, pack-up and run a variety of stalls. Lists are at the back of church, please sign up or speak to Sarah on the day. Donations for the following are still welcome:

- Books
- Plants
- Jewellery
- Toiletries
- Bottles
- Knitted, crochet or handmade goods
- Preserves
- Cakes

Please bring things along before 2.00 pm on Saturday. We will begin to set up from 1pm.



## 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.

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glasbergen.com



**"Adam and Eve were not ashamed of being naked until they reached middle age and that's when God told them to cover up."**

### 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.



### 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/>

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SIRI ... SAY GRACE

### 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 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.

### A PATHWAY HOME

As we walk into church we can step onto a pathway guiding us home to God. St. John's church is adorned and rich in signposts pointing to and showing us the way home.

As our eyes look around we can absorb these signposts - **THE HOLY EUCHARIST, THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS, HOLY MARY, ST. JOHN, THE CRUCIFIXION, THE HOLY BIBLE, THE INCENSE, PRAYER CANDLES, THE PRIEST WHO DEVOTES HIS ENTIRE LIFE TO SERVING GOD. ETC,ETC,**

If we open our eyes we will surely realize picking up the signposts and absorbing them at mass, will guide us in our daily walk with God, guiding us to our heavenly home.

Jane Carter



## Here are the answers to Celia's latest quiz:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Esther                                     | 9. Columba            |
| 2. Earl Grey                                  | 10. Tudor (1503-1513) |
| 3. Sirocco                                    | 11. Mineral           |
| 4. Jimmy Greaves                              | 12. Ivor Novello      |
| 5. Queen Victoria's Jubilee                   | 13. The Rivals        |
| 6. Aldermaston                                | 14. 2006              |
| 7. Norfolk (Blakeney National Nature reserve) | 15. Salamanders       |
| 8. Love Again                                 | 16. Celtic            |

**GORDON'S:** a: Bristol; b: Shepton Mallet; c: W.S.M

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

### 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)

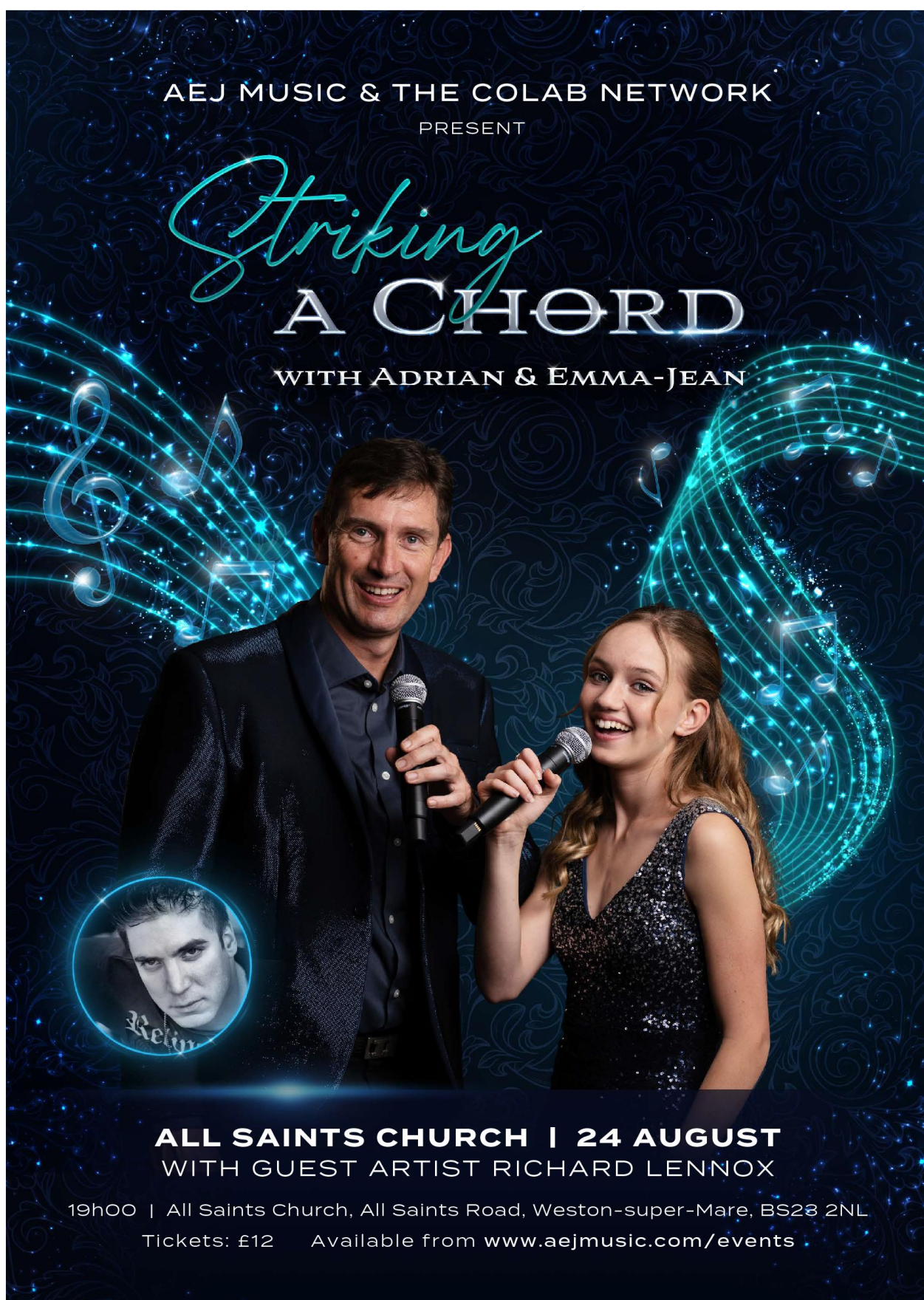
If you have any safeguarding questions or issues, please email [parishsafeguardingofficer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk](mailto:parishsafeguardingofficer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)



**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.



AEJ MUSIC & THE COLAB NETWORK  
PRESENT

# *Striking* A CHORD

WITH ADRIAN & EMMA-JEAN

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH | 24 AUGUST**  
WITH GUEST ARTIST RICHARD LENNOX

19h00 | All Saints Church, All Saints Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS28 2NL  
Tickets: £12 Available from [www.aejmusic.com/events](http://www.aejmusic.com/events)



# 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)



Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West  
Registered Charity No. 1009224







# Volunteers needed in Clevedon!

Help asylum seekers in temporary  
accommodation feel welcome

We're looking for sensitive, friendly, proactive people to  
give 2-4 hours a week (times and days flexible to suit)

More information:

[rwns.org.uk/volunteer](http://rwns.org.uk/volunteer)

Email:

[volunteer.coordinator@rwns.org.uk](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@rwns.org.uk)



Refugees Welcome North Somerset

[www.rwns.org.uk](http://www.rwns.org.uk)

Charity no: 1198327