

St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2023

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY, 2 BEFORE ADVENT

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 18 November

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston super Mare

Sunday 19 November 33rd Sunday, 2 before Advent

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

Monday 20 November

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 21 November

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

Wednesday 22 November, St Cecilia

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Thursday 23 November

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 24 November

10.00 BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 25 November

10.00 Mass at WsM

Sunday 26 November – Solemnity of Christ the King

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Robert Ward

17.30 Evening Prayer and Benediction

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

Next Sunday is Advent Sunday, the first day of the Christian New Year. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think it serves as an anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent than that.

The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which translates to the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus, his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist, and his first miracle at Cana. During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas. By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the "coming" they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. The Advent season was not explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas until the Middle Ages.

Advent symbolizes the church's present situation in these "last days" as God's people wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah.

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20 & 30-31 (Reader: Gary)

Psalms 128

R: O blessed are those who fear the Lord

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 (Reader: Dilwen)

St Matthew 25:14-15 & 19-20

Intercessor - Celia

Create in me a clean
heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit
within me.

Psalms 51:10

Israel looked back to God's past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis, they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration, while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people.

So 'Come, Lord Jesus' or 'maranatha' should be our daily prayer in this sacred season. And talking of prayer please note the invitation to an Advent Quiet morning on Saturday 16th December, 10am - 12.30pm when I shall be talking about prayer over three addresses.

With my love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Saturday 18 November	Our Lady and her shrine in Walsingham. Elizabeth of Hungary and all who work in appalling conditions to bring help and comfort to refugees.
Sunday 19 November	Our Church and parish and the residents of Camplins, Blackmoor and Stickland
Monday 20 November	Premature babies, their parents and families and the medical teams who care for them
Tuesday 21 November	All who are mourning the loss of a loved one
Wednesday 22 November	Cecilia – patron saint of musicians and church organists
Thursday 23 November	Our Thursday Clevedon market, its traders, artisans and customers
Friday 24 November	All anticipating surgery and concerned about its outcome
Saturday 25 November	Our Lady of Walsingham, all who work at her shrine in Walsingham. Isaac Watts, hymn writer
Sunday 26 November	Our Church and parish and the residents of Fosseyway

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



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 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.



Advent at St John's

Sunday 3rd December - Advent Sunday

5.30pm 'From Darkness to Light' - a service of music and readings with Henbury Singers and friends directed by Andrew Kirk

Saturday 9th December -7.30pm Clevedon Choral Society Christmas Concert: Charpentier's 'Messe de Minuit pour Noël' and music by Gustav Holst and others

**Wednesday 13th December at All Saints Weston-super-Mare
7pm Carols by Candlelight**

Saturday 16th December

10am-12.30pm Advent Quiet Morning

10am Mass, three talks on Prayer by Fr Brendan at 10.45, 11.15, 11.45, 12.15pm Benediction

Sunday 17th December - Advent 3

5.30pm Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Sunday 24th December - Advent 4

4pm Christingle Family Service

11pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December

10.30am Family Christmas Mass

'From Darkness to Light'



READINGS & MUSIC ADVENT SUNDAY



SUN 3 DEC
5.30-6.30PM
ALL ARE WELCOME

SUNG BY HENBURY SINGERS & FRIENDS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 2 December	Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall
Sunday 3 December	Festival of Music and Advent Readings – 17.30
Saturday 9 December	Christmas Wreath Workshop – 10.00-12.30 and 14.00-16.30
Thursday 14 December	Clevedon Children Sing for Christmas – 16.00
Sunday 17 December	Celebration Sunday - St John the Evangelist
Sunday 7 January	Celebration Sunday - Epiphany
Sunday 11 February	Celebration Sunday – Sunday before Lent
Sunday 10 March	Celebration Sunday – Mothering Sunday

Christmas Wreath Workshop

Saturday 9th Dec 2023

10.00am-12.30pm and

2.00pm-4.30pm.

St John's Church Hall, Queen's Road,
Clevedon.

All materials and tuition provided
£25.00

Includes light refreshments.

All proceeds to St John's Church Hall
Restoration Fund.

To book email:

SarahLewis@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk



FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND ADVENT READINGS 5.30 on Sunday 3 December in St John's Church

The programme will contain a selection of sacred music and Advent hymns with Bible readings and poems. The conductor will be Andrew Kirk with members of the Henbury Singers and oboist Jennifer Mears. Further details to follow.

Christmas Fayre

St John's Church Hall

Clevedon.

Saturday December 2nd

2.00-4.00pm.



For the Christmas Fayre we are collecting

- Hamper items - sign up list at the back of church from Sunday
- Chocolate- big or small, bars or boxes
- Good quality gifts for Christmas
- Cakes
- Preserves
- Craft items e.g. crochet, sewing etc.
- Books
- Bottles - for the bottle tombola.
- Jewellery

A sign up sheet for helpers will also be at the back of church on Sunday.

Clevedon Children Sing for Christmas!

is a choral outreach project for children aged 7-11, continuing this Thursday 23 November from 4-5pm in St John's Church Hall BS21 7TH and weekly until 14 December when there will be a performance in St John's Church at 4pm, to which all are welcome. Andrew Kirk will be leading this with support from Fr Brendan and other church helpers. Free Entry! For a registration form, please contact andrewkirkmusic@gmail.com or see the church website www.stjohns-clevedon.org.uk Please encourage any children of family members, friends or neighbours to come along to sing a wide selection of popular festive songs and carols at this special time of year! See the poster at the end of this newsletter.

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.





Christmas Tree Festival at Christchurch, Clevedon

Saturday 25 November 10.00 – 18.00

Sunday 26 November 13.00 – 17.00

Entrance Free – cash only event

Musical entertainment, festive refreshments and other stalls

Monies raised will be donated to charities supported by Christchurch, including Hospital League of Friends, Care for Uganda and Uganda Concern UK.



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.



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

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.



Thank you to those who donated a shoebox of gifts.



If you missed the deadline you can pack a shoebox online at shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk. Last year's boxes went to seven countries - Albania, Belarus, Bosnia, Central Asia, Moldova, Nigeria and Ukraine



at St John the Evangelist, Clevedon
One-off gift or give monthly, quarterly, or annually

Your generosity is vital to enabling St John's, Clevedon 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 is 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 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 or by calling 01749 670777

If you need further information or want to talk this through with someone, please do not hesitate to contact Nicola Coaker, Chair of St John's Finance Committee, Angela Edgar, Treasurer or Fr. Brendan Clover, whose contact details can be found at the top and bottom of this newsletter.



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.

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

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's 100 Club

The 100 club is an easy way you can help raise money for St. Johns. It only costs £12 per year (equivalent to £1 / month) and you will be entered into a draw every month with a chance to win a prize.

Over the last 15 years the 100 club, has raised over £12,000 for the church and has paid out almost £8,000 in prizes.

Providing we have more than 80* people join we will pay out £40 in prizes each month and any profit over £510 will be paid to the Church but there is no upper limit, the more the merrier and the more money that will be raised for the church.

The three prizes are:

- 1st Prize - £25
- 2nd Prize - £10
- 3rd Prize - £5

**If there are less than 80 members, there will be no 3rd prize.*

If you join the Club before 18 December 2023, your name will go into our additional 'Special Christmas Draw' with a chance to win £30 for 2024 members only.

We would like to thank Arlene for all the hard work she has put into setting up and running the 100 club over the last 15 year. Without her dedication, the church would have been at least £12,000 poorer. Arlene has now decided it is time to hand over the reins, so please don't let all her hard work go to waste and join today.

Please contact any of the organisers to enquire about joining, to get your application form and to be allocated a number, or two. Talk to any of us in church or by emailing using one of the email addresses below.

Remember, Christmas is just round the corner so why not buy your family and friends a number as an early Christmas present.

Fiona Dixon fional.dixon@btopenworld.com

Angela Edgar PCCTreasurer@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

Nicola Coaker Churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk

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/>

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.

Nailsea Choral Society
DIRECTOR: TOM WILLIAMS

JOHN RUTTER'S
GLORIA

and other works for a Christmas season featuring:
BRASS ENSEMBLE and ORGANIST

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2023
7.30pm | Nailsea Methodist Church

Tickets: ADULTS £15 U18s £5 | www.nailseachoral.org.uk

making music
SUPPORTING AND
CELEBRATING
THE MUSIC
Registered charity no: 263411



Celia Quiz !!

1. When was the foundation stone of St. John's laid?
2. When was our £1 coin first issued?
3. Of what does the flag of Finland consist?
4. Who founded the Promenade Concerts in London in 1895?
5. Who accompanied Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem?
6. When was Constitutional Monarchy introduced in Britain?
7. Which is the largest anthropoid ape?
8. Which is cricket's almanac?
9. In the verse "Monday's child is fair of face" what does Saturday's child do?
10. What is the earliest known name for mainland Britain?
11. What is a baby bat called?
12. What is the name of the spin off to Strictly Come Dancing?
13. Diamonds are composed of which one element?
14. Which King of England wrote several songs - including, it is said, Greensleeves?
15. Which tall, blue herb is popular with bees?
16. Who is the heroine of Shakespeare's Merchant Of Venice.

GORDON'S POSERS

- a: Opposite Queen's Easton? b: Boring place to live; Originally for monk/ anglers.

CLEVEDON CHILDREN SING FOR CHRISTMAS!



THURSDAYS
9 NOV TO 14 DEC

ST JOHN'S
CHURCH HALL,
BS21 7TH

4-5PM

FREE ENTRY
FESTIVE SONGS FOR AGES 7-11
WWW.STJOHNS-CLEVEDON.ORG.UK