



St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 20 MARCH 2022

LENT 3

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 20 March – Lent 3

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

Monday 21 March

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 22 March

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross
– Fr Brendan Clover

Wednesday 23 March

10.00 Mass – Fr Robert Ward

Thursday 24 March

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 25 March – The Annunciation of the Lord

10.00 Mass from the BCP – Revd Prebendary John Andrews
19.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 26 March

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross
– Fr Brendan Clover

Sunday 27 March – Mothering Sunday - Lent 3

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

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Exodus 3:1-8 & 13-15 (Reader: Cameron)

Psalms 103

R: The Lord is compassion and love

1 Corinthians 10:1-6 & 10-12 (Reader: Gary)

Luke 13:1-9

Intercessor – Martin

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

In the year 390, Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, sent a letter to one of his parishioners. Ambrose was convinced that this parishioner had committed a grievous and public sin. In his letter, Ambrose told the parishioner that until he repented publicly he would not be allowed to receive Communion. Ambrose had excommunicated him. But this was no ordinary church member. It was Theodosius, emperor of the Roman Empire. It seems one of Theodosius' officials had been murdered in the Greek city of Thessalonica.

The exact circumstances are unclear. Perhaps it was a tax revolt. Perhaps it was a random terrorist attack. In any event, Theodosius had done what emperors always do. He sent in the army to teach the people of Thessalonica, and by extension the rest of the empire, a lesson. Some 7,000 people - men, women, and children - were killed, the vast majority of whom had had nothing to do with the death of the official. Ambrose was not a pacifist, but he knew that the emperor's actions needed to be condemned even if it meant the very real possibility of being sent to prison or killed. Emperors don't usually like to be challenged. Against all odds, Emperor Theodosius repented and publicly sought absolution from his bishop.

I've been thinking a lot about Ambrose and Theodosius lately. What would Ambrose say about the invasion of Ukraine? Religious leaders around the world, including our bishops, have stated that this war is an act of evil aggression. And it is. There is today no avoiding the hard fact that, whether we commit to the nonviolence of Jesus or to the 'judicious' use of violence, we are all stretched out between the catastrophe we have made of the world, and the promise of God's good creation and his kingdom.

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And if we read the Ten Commandments afresh it is clear that God is asking something extraordinary from his people – to throw away all their other comforts and securities, and to rely on him alone; to forget all the normal rules of power and dominance, and build a society that will reflect God's strange preference for the poor and the powerless.

In these dark days that remains a challenge. But it remains the challenge of this holy season. Can we rise to it?

Ever,

Fr Brendan

RECOMMENDED LENT READING

Entering the Twofold Mystery by Eric Varden

Erik Varden became Bishop of Trondheim in his native Norway in 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.

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 if 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

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 LUNCHESES



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 20 March	Our Church and Parish and the residents of Kenn Moor Drive
Monday 21 March	Thomas Cranmer, all Archbishops and Bishops, the hope of a new appointment to this diocese and the See of Ebbsfleet
Tuesday 22 March	The Prayerbook Society and all churches which adhere to its guidance
Wednesday 23 March	All Christians living in South America
Thursday 24 March	Young people who guidance and a goal in life
Friday 25 March	The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary and all pregnant ladies
Saturday 26 March	Orphans and orphanages
Sunday 27 March	Our Church and parish and the residents of Tutton Way and Sercombe Park

Annual Parish Meeting

Advance notice that our Annual Parish Meeting and APCM will be held on Sunday 24 April following the 10.30 Mass. If you have any items you wish to appear in the annual report, please let me have them by Sunday 27 March if possible.

Many thanks **Sue Rossiter**

pccsecretary@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk



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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Sunday 27 March
Mothering Sunday

A Rose Reception in the Church Hall
All things pink, plus cream scones with strawberries and cakes
Easter Egg Hunt and Pop up Café in the Church
(details to follow)

Tuesday 12 April and Wednesday 13 April

Sunday 17 April
Easter Day

Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in the Vicarage after Mass

Friday 6 May
St John's Patronal Festival

Festival Mass at 19.30: Revd. Canon Peter Newby, Canon of Westminster Cathedral will be our preacher
Lunch Time Concert
and Parish Dinner

Saturday 7 May

Parish Picnic in the Church grounds

Sunday 5 June
HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass
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Sunday 26 June

Sunday 24 July

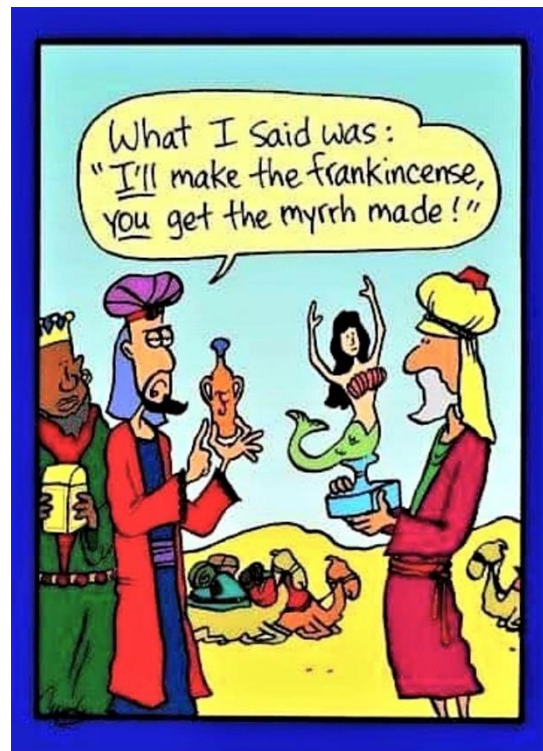
Sunday 21 August

Easter Biscuits

Betty is taking orders for her famed Easter Biscuits

Please place your orders on Sunday.

All donations to church funds.



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.



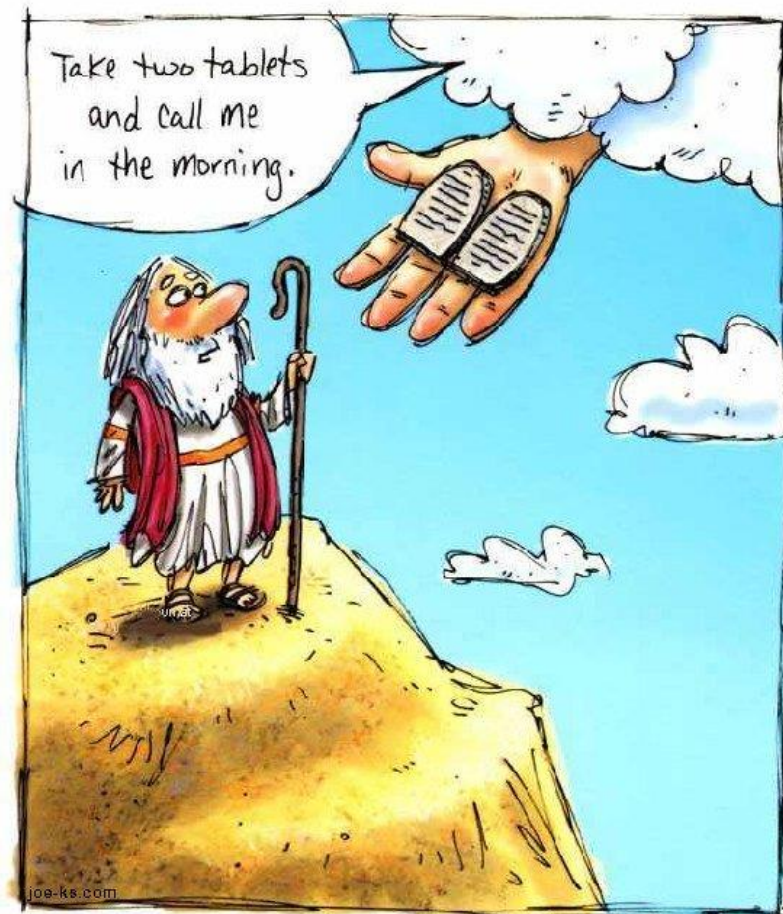
Clevedon Foodbank is still in of donations to support people in need in Clevedon and the surrounding area. Rising prices for electricity, gas, petrol and food add to the difficulties of those affected by illness, disability, bereavement, unemployment or low wages.

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



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 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 want 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.

ANSWERS TO CELIA'S LAST QUIZ

ALL IN THE MIND

- 1: Matthias
 - 2:1897 (Ontario)
 3. Small deer
 4. Edgar Rice Burroughs
 5. Revd. C.E. Thompson
 6. Richard
 7. Truro
 8. 21
 9. Portugal
 10. 1936
 11. Curaco
 12. Mendelssohn
 13. Bath
 14. Eighteen Eighties
 15. Garlic
 16. Claudia Winkleman (Strictly Come Dancing)
- And Gordon's**
a:Woollard; b: Swineford; c:Marksbury; d:Stockwood

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

AND A NEW QUIZ FROM CELIA –

STOP - AND THINK

1. In which region was the home of new Disciple Joseph?
2. When was the first telephone patented by Alexander Graham Bell?
3. What separates Anglesey from Wales?
4. Who was the leading run scorer in men's Test cricket in 2021?
5. When was Clevedon's weekly newspaper The Mercury launched?
6. Over which English kingdom did King Offa reign in the 8th century?
7. Azalea is another name for which flower?
8. What is the setting for ITV's new crime drama 'Holding'?
9. Isabella Mary Mayson was the maiden name of which famous Victorian author?
10. When was Northern Ireland's vote to stay in the UK?
11. What was the name of the Republic of Vanuatu until 1980?
12. How many operas did Vivaldi write?
13. Which country stages a tomato throwing festival?
14. The Black Prince was the first English Duke under which name?
15. What is the name of a female ferret?
16. Who wrote A Child's History of England for his children?

AND GORDON'S POSERS

a: Royal forest; b: Piscatory pools; c: Gallic straw; d: Young girls main

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.

Sunday 20th March 2022 – 3rd Sunday of Lent **You Are Always There For Me**

Bible reading: Psalms 63:1-8

Questions

- Who is always there when you need them?
- Do you think God is always there for you?
- Is God only available for believers or for everyone?

Prayer suggestion

Pray for people who are lonely, isolated or scared.

God, you have made us for a good purpose

And to be useful to you and each other.

When we fail to do what you want

Forgive us and help us to start again

Amen.

This week's challenge

Draw alongside someone who is alone

Activity suggestions

- Activity sheet for 3rd Sunday in Lent
- Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on Luke 13: 1 – 9

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