

St John the Evangelist

Newsletter



SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER 2023

TWENTYNINTH SUNDAY, TRINITY 20

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 21 October

10.00 Mass at All Saints, WsM

Sunday 22 October – 29th Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

Monday 23 October

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Tuesday 24 October

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

Wednesday 25 October – St Crispin and St Crispinian

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Thursday 26 October

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Friday 27 October

10.00 BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

Saturday 28 October – St Simon and St Jude

10.00 Mass at All Saints, WsM

Sunday 29 October – 30th Sunday

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Robert Ward

17.30 Evening Prayer

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Isaiah 45:1 & 4-6 (*Reader: Robert*)

Psalms 96

R: Give the Lord glory, glory and power

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b (*Reader: Alison*)

St Matthew 22:15-21

Intercessor - Judith

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

Sunday's gospel, in which Jesus' enemies try to entrap him by asking whether they should pay tax to Caesar or not, is often read as making a distinction between politics and religion. There is Caesar's world and that of God. Priests should keep out of politics and stick to spirituality. But this to misunderstand what Jesus is saying. Every human being is made in the image of God and so belongs to God. For Christians, politics is building the *polis*, the community, in which God's own children can live in dignity and happiness, as we await God's gift of the heavenly city, in which all politics will be finished and, thanks be to God, there will be no more party conferences! Isaiah shows God immersed in the great events of his time, the rise of Cyrus, the Persian ruler who transformed the political map of the Middle East and enabled the exiled Israelites to go home. Religion cannot be reduced to politics, but it has consequences for how we understand the point of politics.

So what is this clash between Jesus and his enemies about? They give us the clue: '*Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality.*' They contrast two ways of seeing the world: God's true way, and a human way, in which everything is viewed through the prism of wealth and status. Jesus's opponents are caught up in that human way, speedily producing Caesar's coin from their pocket, although that image would have polluted them.

If we see the world through the spectacles of status and money, the poor disappear. Etienne Griefu SJ wrote: '*A world dominated by*

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competition engages in a formidable task of classification, not only of performances but also of people. Right at the bottom of the chart are those who are not efficient enough. They thus become invisible to others, as they are unable to demonstrate their usefulness in any of the various exchanges we take part in... They also feel humiliated because they scarcely can have the means to say who they are or to make people notice the unique treasure they bear.'

We are all, in varying degrees, bifocal. Sometimes we are bewitched by the Caesars of our time, the wealthy and the famous, and lose sight of the beauty of those who do not count.

With love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Saturday 21 October	Our Lady of Walsingham, Our Lady of Lourdes and Our Lady of Fatima – all shrines dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus
Sunday 22 October	Our Church and parish and the residents of Cherry Hay, Ruddymead and Leach Close
Monday 23 October	All who work in power stations and keep our country supplied with the energy it requires to function
Tuesday 24 October	All considering adoption as an option to becoming a family
Wednesday 25 October	Crispin and Crispinian – shoemakers and martyrs at Rome. All shoemakers and chiropodists
Thursday 26 October	Alfred the Great – King of the West Saxons. His whole life was marked by the compassion of Christ. He founded centres of education and cared for the sick and poor.
Friday 27 October	All premature babies and their families
Saturday 28 October	St Simon and St Jude , apostles of Jesus. Our Lady of Walsingham – the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday 29 October	Our Church and parish and the residents of Butterfield Park

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 5 November	Celebration Sunday - All Saints
Saturday 2 December	Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall
Saturday 9 December	Christmas Wreath Workshop – 10.00-12.30 and 2.00-4.30
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

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.

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



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.

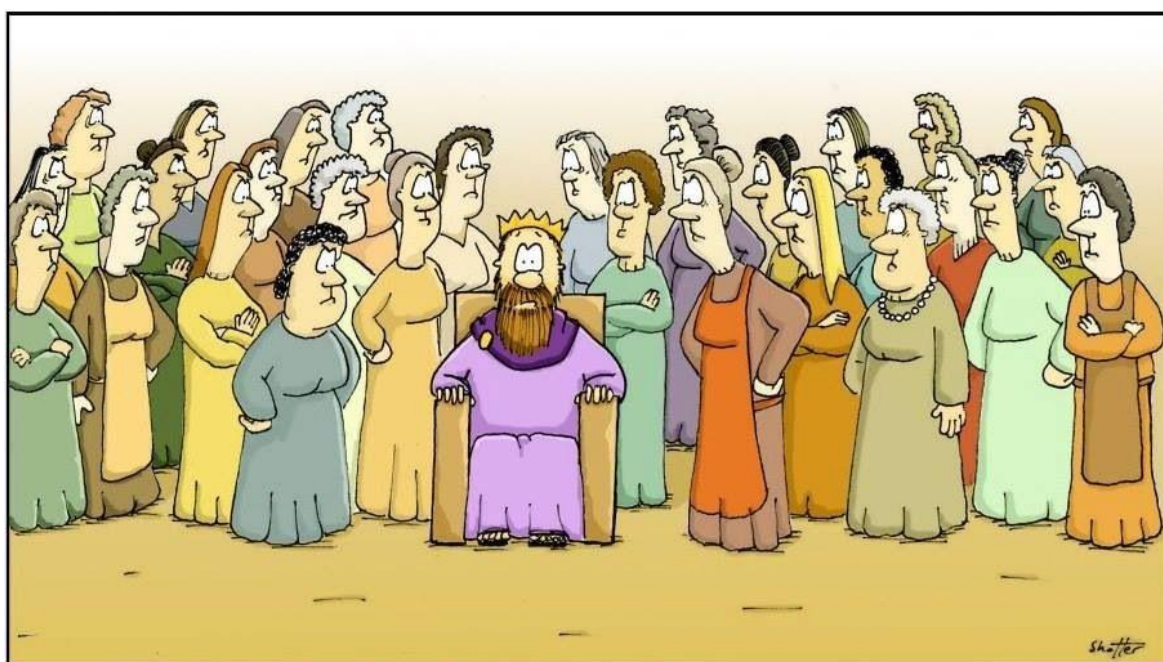
The council meets 6 times a year, when representatives from all the member churches get together to share what is happening in the town and discuss the way forward. It is always interesting and sometimes inspirational to meet representatives from the other churches and hear what they are doing. I have 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

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.

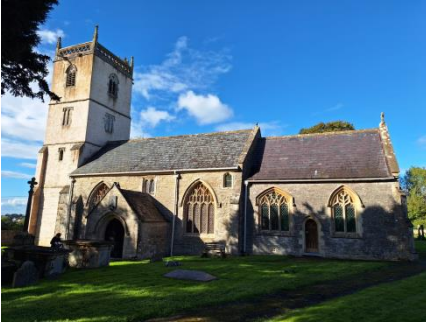


Some of Solomon's courtiers had to question the wisdom of a man with 700 mother-in-laws

What did you do last Saturday (14 October)?

St. Johns bell ringers went off on their annual outing. 12 of us including friends and non-ringing driver (thanks David) headed south on a sunny afternoon for a short tour that was in sight of the Mendips but not quite in sight of the sea!

We visited 4 towers during the afternoon starting at St. Andrews, Loxton, in a lovely little village on the West Mendip Way. The oldest bell in the tower was cast in 1380, so it has been sounding out towards Crook Peak for over 600 years! The bells are rung from the porch, with the tenor ringer standing on the step!



Next on our itinerary was the only non 6 bell tower of the afternoon and one with what we think is a unique dedication to St. Congar. At Badgworth the five bells are twice as heavy as our own and they were quite challenging to ring well. Two of the bells were cast in Bristol in about 1450.



We then turned westwards towards Hutton and The Blessed Virgin Mary. The 6 bells there are rung from the porch and are again twice as heavy as ours but easier to ring than the previous bells despite longer unguided ropes testing the rope handling of our ringers. There was an unexpected treat in store too! The local ringer who met us offered teas and coffees all round, which were gratefully accepted by all present (especially as there was also a loo there!)



Our final tower of the afternoon was St. Augustine at Locking, a slightly lighter ring of six bells boasting another 600 year old bell, cast around 1380 by the Bristol foundry. It was here that the ladies of the band rang some extremely well struck rounds. Well done! A good tower to finish at with an 'interesting' spiral staircase.

Thanks to the local ringers who let us in, and locked up after us (and who made tea!) Thank you to all who were there and made the outing a success and also to the staff of The Coach House at Locking who looked after us and fed us very well!

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.



Church Flowers

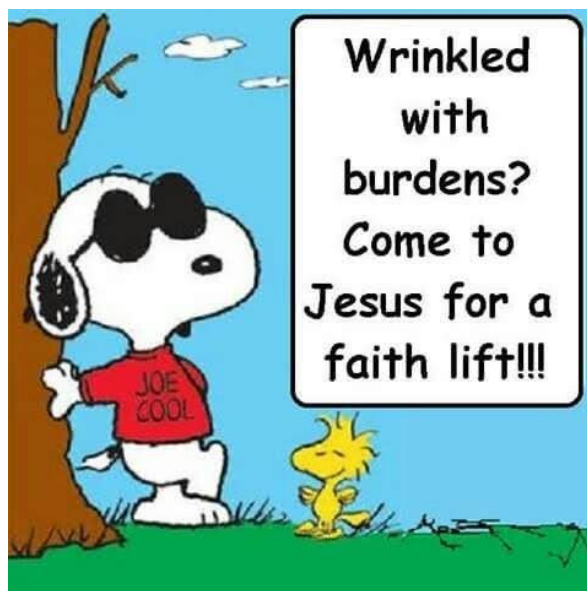
Would you like to sponsor church flowers to celebrate a birthday or commemorate an anniversary?

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.





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.



It's Shoebox Time! Operation Christmas Child

is once again collecting shoeboxes full of small gifts to send to children in need around the world. Suggestions for gifts include toys, school supplies, hygiene items, hat, gloves, scarf - but no toothpaste or sweets, no liquids or glass. Parcel labels and instructions available in church or from Sue Rossiter (tel. 877710). Please bring your filled boxes to church on or before **Sunday 12 November**. Alternatively you can pack a shoebox online at shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk. Last year's boxes went to seven countries - Albania, Belarus, Bosnia, Central Asia, Moldova, Nigeria and Ukraine



Celia Quiz answers !!

1. Royal Hotel
2. Ted Heath
3. Tiger, lion, jaguar, leopard
4. Quasimodo
5. Simon of Cyrene
6. London (January 1946)
7. Krakatoa
8. Ashes To Ashes
9. Birmingham
10. Queen Victoria
11. Delphiniums
12. Gustav Holst
13. David Lloyd George.
14. 1651(October)
15. Antarctica
16. Archery

GORDON'S

a Cleeve; b North Wick; c Blackmoor

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

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

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.