



# St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 27 MARCH 2022

MOTHERING SUNDAY, LENT 4

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)

### Sunday 27 March – Mothering Sunday, Lent 4

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Talk, Devotion and Benediction

### Monday 28 March

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Tuesday 29 March

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross  
– Fr Brendan Clover

### Wednesday 30 March

10.00 Mass – Revd Prebendary John Andrews

### Thursday 31 March

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Friday 1 April

10.00 Mass from the BCP – Fr Brendan Clover

### Saturday 2 April

10.00 Mass and Stations of the Cross  
– Fr Brendan Clover

### Sunday 3 April – Passion Sunday, Lent 5

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Talk, Devotion and Benediction

## Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

This Sunday is '*laetare*' Sunday, or Mothering Sunday, and we shall celebrate it with a gathering after Mass and at the Mass itself.

Here are some of the traditions that have shaped Mothering Sunday into the celebration recognised today:

### The Journey to the Mother Church

In the 16th century, Mothering Sunday was less about mothers and more about church. Back then, people would make a journey to their 'mother' church once a year. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town. The service which took place at the 'mother' church symbolized the coming together of families. This would have represented a significant journey for many.

### A day off to visit Mother

Another tradition was to allow those working in the fields on wealthy farms and estates in England to have the day off on the fourth Sunday of Lent to visit their mothers and possibly go to church too. This was a variation on the theme of visiting the 'mother' church and was a move towards a more family focused occasion. Before the days of cars and roads, family get-togethers were far rarer, (and facetime was still a long way off). In some ways this tradition is still alive today as grown-up children often visit their parents on mothering Sunday.

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Joshua 5:9-12 (*Reader: Helen*)

Psalm 34

**R: Taste, O taste and see that the Lord is good**

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (*Reader: Sandra*)

Luke 15:1-3 7 11-32

*Intercessor – Celia*



cont/...

### **Simnel Cake**

Simnel cake has a strong affiliation to Mothering Sunday as it is usually associated with spring and Easter. It resembles a Christmas fruit cake but should be slightly lighter in texture. The other difference is the two layers of marzipan. Simnel cake should have a layer of marzipan running through the middle like a Victoria sponge and then another layer of marzipan on the top. Traditionally, you should also roll some marzipan into eleven eggs and place these on the top. The eggs are supposed to symbolize the disciples who followed Jesus – note that Judas is excluded.

### **Traditions today**

This Sunday, churches around the country will be sharing their own traditions, celebrating and giving thanks to the huge impact mothers have on each of our lives. The main service on Mothering Sunday in churches across the country is central to the life of the church. The church recognizes that the day may be difficult for some people and so it is common place for services to include prayers for those who don't find the day particularly easy. Families across the country will be preparing little presents and cards and, in some churches as in ours, flowers are blessed and handed out during the main service. Families come together to have lunch, or children make breakfast in bed for their mothers, leaving all the mess to be cleared up later! It's all about showing appreciation and many make a huge effort to make their mother feel special.

So, give thanks for your membership of Mother Church, for your own mother, departed or alive, and better still, come to church and celebrate the feast,

Ever,

Fr Brendan

## **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

## Electoral Roll

The revision of this year's Electoral Roll will end on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

## 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 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:-

<b>Sunday 27 March</b>	Our Church and parish and the residents of Tutton Way and Sercombe Park
<b>Monday 28 March</b>	All travellers and pilgrims
<b>Tuesday 29 March</b>	Scientists and those with the vision to experiment
<b>Wednesday 30 March</b>	Refuse and recycling collectors and centres
<b>Thursday 31 March</b>	Those who find faith in their later years
<b>Friday 1 April</b>	We remember Frederick Denison Maurice and all teachers of the Faith, particularly our own priests, Fr Brendan, Fr Robert and Fr John
<b>Saturday 2 April</b>	Our Lady of Walsingham, St John's Cell and all who work at the Shrine
<b>Sunday 3 April</b>	Our Church and parish and all who live in Oldfield and Claremont Gardens

## 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](mailto: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**

**Tuesday 12 April and Wednesday 13 April**

**Sunday 17 April**

**Easter Day**

**Sunday 24 April**

**Friday 6 May**

**St John's Patronal Festival**

**Saturday 7 May**

**Sunday 5 June**

**HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

**Sunday 26 June**

**Sunday 24 July**

**Sunday 21 August**

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 later in this newsletter)

Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in the Vicarage after Mass

Annual Parish Meeting and APCM after Mass

Festival Mass at 19.30: Revd. Canon Peter Newby, Canon of

Westminster Cathedral will be our preacher

Lunch Time Concert

and Parish Dinner

Parish Picnic in the Church grounds

Celebration Sunday – cakes and wine in Church after Mass

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## Easter Biscuits

Betty is taking orders for her famed Easter Biscuits

Please place your orders on Sunday.

All donations to church funds.



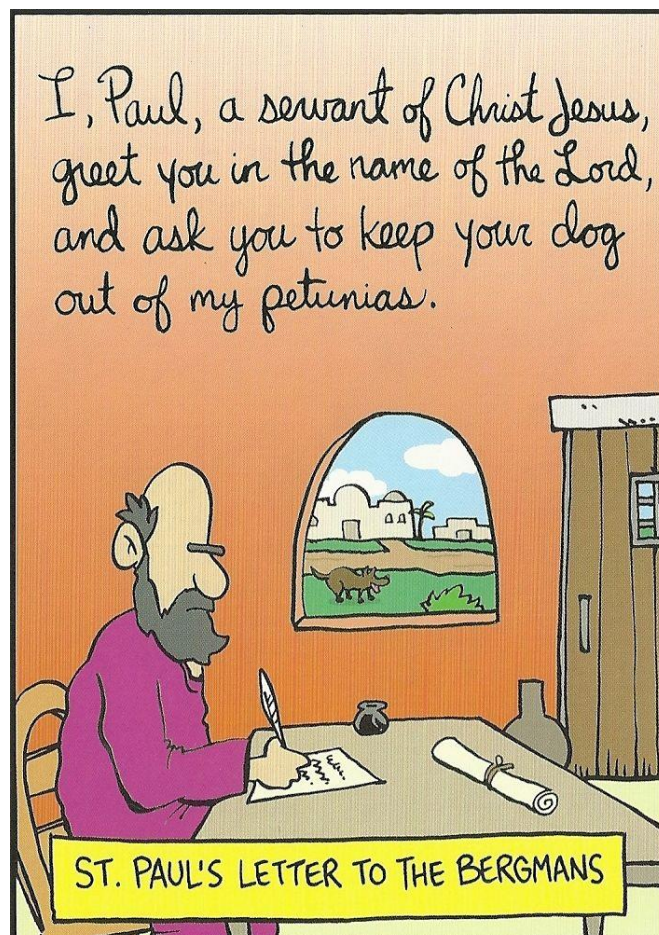
**Clevedon Foodbank** is still in of donations to support people in need in Clevedon and the surrounding area. Rising prices for electricity, gas, petrol and food add to the difficulties of those affected by illness, disability, bereavement, unemployment or low wages.

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](http://clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk), or contact them on [info@clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@clevedondistrict.foodbank.org.uk) or tel. 07722 769529



## ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S QUIZ FROM CELIA –

### STOP - AND THINK

1. Kingdom of Judea (Aramathea)
  2. March 1876
  3. Menai Straits
  4. Joe Root
  5. 1860
  6. Mercia
  7. Rhododendron
  8. West Cork
  9. Mrs. Beeton
  10. 1973
  11. New Hebrides
  12. 50
13. Spain (La Tomatina)
14. Duke of Cornwall
  15. Jill
16. Charles Dickens

### AND GORDON'S POSERS

- a: Royal forest; Kingswood  
b: Piscatory pools; Fishponds  
c: Gallic straw; Frenchay  
d: Young girls main; Maidenhead

### 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/>

### 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](mailto:churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)  
Nick's email address is [churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk) Thank you.

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**

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.

# Easter Egg Trail, Easter Crafts and Pop-up Cafe



Looking for something fun to do during the Easter Holidays with the children?

St. John's Church, Clevedon are running Easter egg trails for all ages and children's Easter crafts with a pop-up café for mums and dads.

£2.50 per child

@St. John's Church, Queen's Road  
Clevedon BS21 7TH.

Tuesday 12<sup>TH</sup> April and Wednesday  
13<sup>TH</sup> April 2-4pm.



## **Wandering**

Bible reading: Luke 15: 11-32

### Questions

What are the qualities of a good father?

Which son wandered the furthest from his father? Why?

What does this story tell you about God?

Prayer suggestion: - Thank God that he never leaves or abandons us.

*God, we thank you for our homes,  
Our Mothers and all who care for us  
and we thank you for your love  
Amen.*

This week's challenge: List the characteristics of God that you love most

### Activity suggestions:

- Activity sheet for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent
- Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on Luke 15: 1 – 3 and 11b to end and the additional sheet for Mothering Sunday

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