



St John the Evangelist

Newsletter



SUNDAY 29 JANUARY 2023

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, FOURTH SUNDAY

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 28 January – St Thomas Aquinas
10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Sunday 29 January – The Presentation of Christ
10.30 Solemn Mass– Fr Brendan Clover
17.30 Evening Prayer
Monday 30 January
18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Tuesday 31 January – St John Bosco
10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Wednesday 1 February
10.00 Mass – Revd Prebendary John Andrews
Thursday 2 February
12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Friday 3 February
10.00 BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Saturday 4 February
10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
Sunday 5 February – Fifth Sunday, 3 before Lent
10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover
17.30 Evening Prayer and Benediction

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Malachi 3:1-4 (*Reader: Helen*)

Psalm 24

R: Who is this King of Glory? It is the Lord.

Hebrews 2:14-18) (*Reader: Robert*)

St Luke 2:22-32

Intercessor – Presiding Priest

Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

On Sunday we observe the ancient feast of Candlemas, or the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, or the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At the beginning of Mass candles will be blessed, and we will carry them in Procession around the church, thus re-enacting the journey of the Holy Family from Nazareth to the Temple in Jerusalem.

Blessing [candles](#) at Candlemas has been part of the Church's ritual observance of the feast ritual since the 7th century. Because the candle represents Jesus Christ, blessing the candle is in recognition of Christ as the '[Light of the world](#)'. In 542 AD, Emperor Justinian ordered that Candlemas be observed in Constantinople as [thanksgiving](#) for the end of the plague in the city and the Procession was a penitential one. Back then, Candlemas was called [Hypapante](#). This term refers to the time Jesus met Simeon and Anna at the Temple.

When the Western churches adapted Candlemas, it was dedicated to the [Virgin Mary](#) rather than Christ as it is in the Book of Common Prayer. In 1497, a Spanish conquistador from the Canary Islands named Fernandez de Lugo celebrated the first Candlemas dedicated to the Virgin Mary. On February 2, 1974, Pope Paul VI suggested that Candlemas should be considered a joint commemoration of both the Son and the Mother. Candlemas was first celebrated in the 4th century AD. It was also mentioned in the pilgrimage of the Spanish Nun Egeria to the Holy Land (381-384 AD). It is clear from this source that Candlemas took place to honour the presentation of [Jesus](#) at the Temple. By the [middle](#) of the 5th century, lighted candles had been introduced as a custom and thus the name 'Candlemas'. Pope Sergius I instituted the festival in the Western [church](#) in Rome.

cont/...

THE SECRET OF A HAPPY LIFE IS GIVING GOD:

1. The first part of your day
2. The first priority to every decision
3. The first place in your heart



.../cont

Jesus' presentation at the [Temple](#) serves as an affirmation of the virgin birth. This event is a crucial tenet of Christianity and an occasion that led to Mary being honoured as Theotokos, the Mother of God.

Many thanks, in advance, to all those who are preparing delicious food for our parish lunch so that we can celebrate the feast.

With my love and prayers,

Fr Brendan

PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

Saturday 28 January	Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all who maintain the Shrine in Walsingham
Sunday 29 January	Our Church and parish and the residents of Cannon's Gate
Monday 30 January	Charles I, King and martyr and ancestor of King Charles III. We pray for our new King and all the royal family
Tuesday 31 January	John Bosco, a priest who promoted vocational training, evening classes and industrial schools. We pray for all teachers in all walks of life
Wednesday 1 February	All who still suffer from leprosy and its stigma
Thursday 2 February	Presentation of the child Jesus in the temple and all new born babies
Friday 3 February	St John's School, its pupils, teachers and carers
Saturday 4 February	The Blessed Virgin Mary, St John's Walsingham Cell at Mass today
Sunday 5 February	Our Church and parish and the residents of Rivermead, Pedder Road and Dawes Close

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Sunday 29 January	The Presentation of the Lord – Hot Meal in the Church Hall at 12.30 Tickets £7.50 (under 16's free). Details at the back of Church
Saturday 18 February	Jumble Sale in the Church Hall – 14.00 to 16.00. Details to follow.
Sunday 19 February	Celebration Sunday – Sunday before Lent
Sunday 19 March	Rose Reception for Mothering Sunday Cream tea and prosecco in the Church Hall after Mass
Sunday 9 April	Celebration Sunday – Easter Day
Sunday 7 May	St John's Patronal Festival and Celebration of the Coronation of King Charles Bring and Share Picnic Lunch in the Church grounds (if fine) or Church Hall
Saturday 13 May	Plant Sale – 10.00 – 12 noon in the Church grounds
Saturday 15 July	St John's Summer Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church grounds
Sunday 13 August	Parish BBQ, after Mass
Saturday 16 September	Quiz Evening, time to be confirmed, in the Church Hall
Sunday 1 October	Harvest Lunch – 12.30 in the Church Hall
Saturday 2 December	Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall

CANDLEMAS LUNCH – this Sunday 29 January

12.30 in the Church Hall

Wine available for a donation

If you want to re-gift any unwanted Christmas presents to the raffle for this event, please bring them with you on Sunday and pass them to Sarah. Thank you.

Do you have talents and experience to share?

After many years of loyal and dedicated service to this parish and the PCC, with much sadness we are saying farewell to our PCC Secretary, Sue and our Treasurer, Fiona at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in April. Sue and Fiona have done a fabulous job at keeping the PCC on track procedurally and financially. We thank them so much for all they have done for St John's Church.

We are now in search of replacements for Sue and Fiona, who are difficult acts to follow. However, both these roles are supported by the diocese who run an induction programme, regular updates, access to the diocese Finance Department and the Diocesan Secretary's office, plus buddies in similar roles in other parishes, and the support of the Churchwardens, PCC Chair and relevant sub-committees at St John's.

We hope the following provides a brief insight into the roles we are looking to fill:

PCC Secretary

The primary responsibilities of a PCC Secretary are to support the PCC Chair in the preparation and organisation of meetings and to handle all correspondence on behalf of the PCC. The Diocesan Office contacts the parish from time to time to request specific information, every effort is made to keep this to a minimum and all meeting agendas are issued and minutes stored electronically using Microsoft Office.

PCC Treasurer

You do not need to have been a treasurer of an organisation before. In many respects it is not too dissimilar from keeping good control of household finances, however, if you have an understanding of some accountancy practice it will be useful but not essential. This role implements decisions made by the PCC. This role is also supported with diocesan induction training for new treasurers, updates and continued support throughout the financial year for all financial procedures and processes.

For further information about both roles please speak with Nicola or Gary, Churchwardens.



DUSTERS AND MOPS AT THE READY PLEASE!

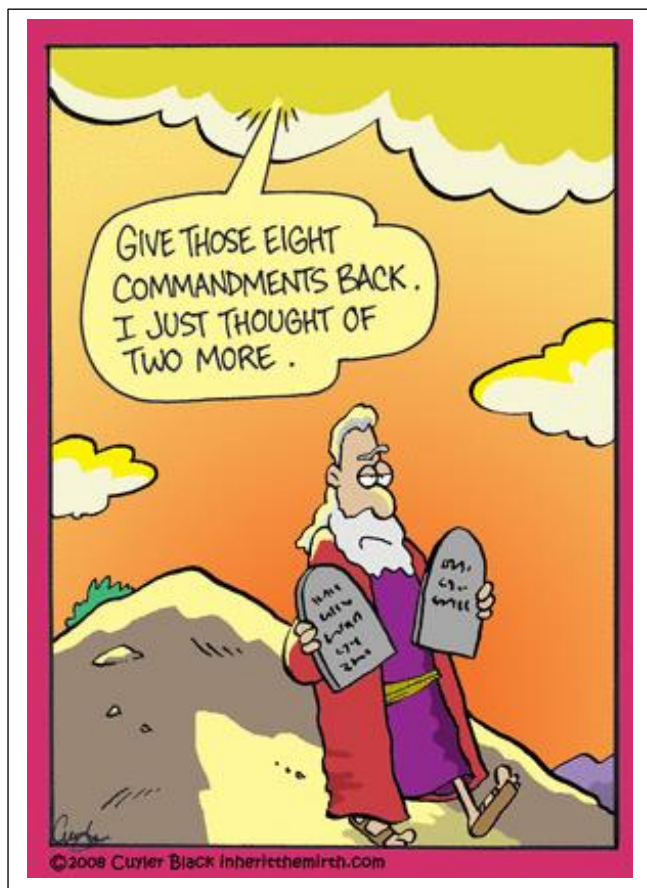
The little sunshine we've had is showing that, once again, our beautiful Church is in need of some TLC. So, please come armed with duster and polish on

Saturday 28 January (THIS WEEK) after the 10.00 Mass.

Coffee will be provided for those using elbow grease!

Thank you.

Sandra Coaker and Diane Woolf



SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY
2.00 – 4.00, St John's Church Hall

Please remember this event when you are having a clear out – we are wanting donations eg coats, scarves, hats, trousers, jumpers, shoes, bags, kitchenware, brick-a-brack etc – anything we can sell. (We cannot accept anything electrical). Further notice of when we need these donations will follow in a later newsletter.

We will also need volunteers to help at this fundraising event. If you can help on the day to sort, sell, or clear up, or can spare the time to do all three, please let Sarah know.



If anyone has palm crosses from last year or earlier years and would like them burnt for ash to be used on Ash Wednesday (22nd February), please bring them to St. John's leaving them on the west end altar as soon as possible by **Friday 17th February** latest.

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.

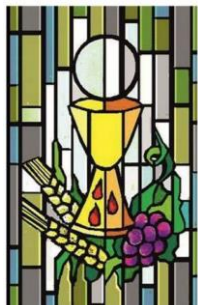


"It was my secretary's fault. She forgot to put breathing on my to-do list."

**Plant Sale
Saturday 13th May
10-12noon**

A date has now been set for our plant sale to be held in the church grounds.

Please be thinking about this. If you are taking cuttings or splitting plants this winter/spring, please do a few extra for the church plant sale.



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 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.

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

HOW WE WORK

If you have any useful ideas and suggestions that would benefit the life of our church please share these with the relevant members of the sub-committees below, for discussion at their next committee meeting. The majority of our church work is done by the committees, who in turn make recommendations for approval at our PCC meetings.

We are always looking for new members to join our committees, if you have any talents and/ or experience to share for the benefit of our church, please see the committee chairs about joining. You are not required to be a PCC member to serve on a sub-committee and membership can be associated with a particular project for a few months, or for the whole year.

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Sub-Committees	
PCC	
Chair	Fr Brendan
Churchwarden	Nicola Coaker
Churchwarden	Gary Lewis
PCC Secretary	Sue Rossiter
PCC Treasurer	Fiona Dixon
Electoral Roll Officer	Kevin Coaker
PCC Member	Derek Coaker
PCC Member	Michelle Hibberd
PCC Member	Judith Boulden
PCC Member	Peter Woolf
PCC Member	Sarah Lewis
Worship Committee	
Chair	Fr Brendan
Member	Diane Woolf
Member	Gary Lewis
Temporary organist	Kevin Coaker
Head Server and Sacristan	Martin Ingram
Fabric Committee	
Chair	Gary Lewis
Member	Derek Coaker
Member	Martin Ingram
Member	Peter Woolf
Community Committee	
Chair	Sarah Lewis
Member	Betty Taylor
Member	Celia Andrews
Member	Debra Ward
Member	Fr Brendan
Member	Judith Boulden
Member	Margaret James
Member	Nicola Coaker
Finance Committee	
Chair	Nicola Coaker
PCC Treasurer	Fiona Dixon
Member	Fr Brendan
Member	Lynne Box
Member	Roger Mortimore

I need a forever home – very special boy.



He is 7. Well trained. Obedient. Good recall. Loves attention, affection, and cuddles. Loves the car, a good traveller. Perfect companion dog. Does not like being left (may become more confident with that once settled). Very good walking on lead and off lead. Good with humans and children. He has been fine with other dogs. Don't know about cats (but may be fine – doesn't chase squirrels or pigeons). We are happy to talk to anyone with genuine interest. 07887 768145
If there is a good home out there but money is tight – there is the confirmed foster possibility of assistance with food and vet bills, etc.



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.



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.



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

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.

