

# St John the Evangelist

# Newsletter



SUNDAY 30 JULY 2023

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY, TRINITY 8

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)

**Saturday 29 July – St Mary, Martha and Lazarus**

10.00 Mass at All Saints, WSM

**Sunday 30 July – Seventeenth Sunday**

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer

**Monday 31 July – St Ignatius of Loyola**

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**Tuesday 1 August**

10.00 Mass at All Saints, Weston Super Mare

**Wednesday 2 August**

18.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**Thursday 3 August**

12.30 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**Friday 4 August – St John Mary Vianney**

10.00 Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**Saturday 5 August**

10.00 Walsingham Cell Mass at St John's

**Sunday 6 August – Transfiguration of the Lord**

10.30 Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

17.30 Evening Prayer and Benediction

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

1 Kings 3:5 & 7-12 (*Reader: Robert*)

Psalms 119:129-136

**R: Lord, how I love your law**

Romans 8:28-30 (*Reader: Helen*)

St Matthew 13:44-52

Intercessor - *Diane*

## Words from Fr Brendan Clover

Dear friends,

The first two parables in Sunday's Gospel are concerned with what we recognize as being most precious. On the face of it they are very similar. In each case one thing is recognized as being worth everything: in the first case the treasure in the field and in the second the pearl of great price.

However, the way by which the one most precious thing is discovered differs, and St Gregory the Great comments how in the first case the treasure seems to have been stumbled upon, whereas in the second, the pearl seems to have been hard sought. In this we have a parallel with that greatest of gifts, the Faith. Whilst in no sense undermining the utterly gratuitous nature of faith – it is sheer gift – the means by which the gift is realized varies enormously from person to person. But what I suggest is the really crucial point in these parables is the reaction to the enormity of the gift and what is required to accept it. God is not just one more thing in our lives, the icing on the cake: he is the cake, the icing, and the cherry on the top! No worldly attachment is worth what God offers. This is what the rich young man could not grasp – he could not bring himself to give up everything to receive the one thing that truly mattered – and so he went away very sad. For most of us there is probably a fear that if we loved God whole-heartedly that somehow we might love others less, or life might be less full. But the reality is that when we entrust ourselves completely to God, we love more not less, we enter into the source of all love and we begin to love as God loves, which is so far beyond our often limited conceptions of what it means to love. We enter into the love which can transform the brutality of the Cross into the single greatest act of love, one which reverberates through all time.

Pope Benedict in his inaugural homily as Pope put it beautifully when he said:

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**If we let Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free, beautiful and great. No! Only in this friendship are the doors of life opened wide. Only in this friendship is the great potential of human existence truly revealed. Only in this friendship do we experience beauty and liberation. And so, today, with great strength and great conviction, on the basis of long personal experience of life, I say to you, dear young people: Do not be afraid of Christ! He takes nothing away, and he gives you everything. When we give ourselves to him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open, open wide the doors to Christ – and you will find true life.**

Amen.

Fr Brendan

## PRAYER DIARY

Please include the following in your daily intercessions:-

**Saturday 29 July**

**Sunday 30 July**

**Monday 31 July**

**Tuesday 1 August**

**Wednesday 2 August**

**Thursday 3 August**

**Friday 4 August**

**Saturday 5 August**

**Sunday 6 August**

Our Lady of Walsingham. Mary, Martha and Lazarus – companions of our Lord

Our Church, clergy and parish. The residents of Chapel Hill and Lime Kiln Lane

All pilgrims that they may arrive refreshed and spiritually rewarded at their chosen destination

St Alphonsus. All solicitors and lawyers

All travellers and holiday makers that their journey is safe and that they return refreshed

The Clevedon market traders and their customers

Jean Baptiste Vianney and all spiritual guides

Oswald, King of Northumberland, and all parishes dedicated to his name. Our Lady of Walsingham – the Blessed Virgin Mary – and St John's Walsingham Cell

Transfiguration of Our Lord. Our Church and parish and residents of The Triangle, Station Road, Old Church Road and Melbourne Terrace. The anniversary of the dropping of the bomb on Hiroshima.



## 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.

## PARISH BARBECUE SUNDAY 13 AUGUST (after Mass)

Everyone is invited to the barbecue!  
The cost is £5.00 per person – children under 13 free.  
Sign up list at the back of Church,  
or see Debra.  
Dietary requirements catered for.

## 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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday 13 August**

Parish BBQ, after Mass

**Saturday 16 September**

Quiz Evening, time to be confirmed, in the Church Hall

**Sunday 24 September**

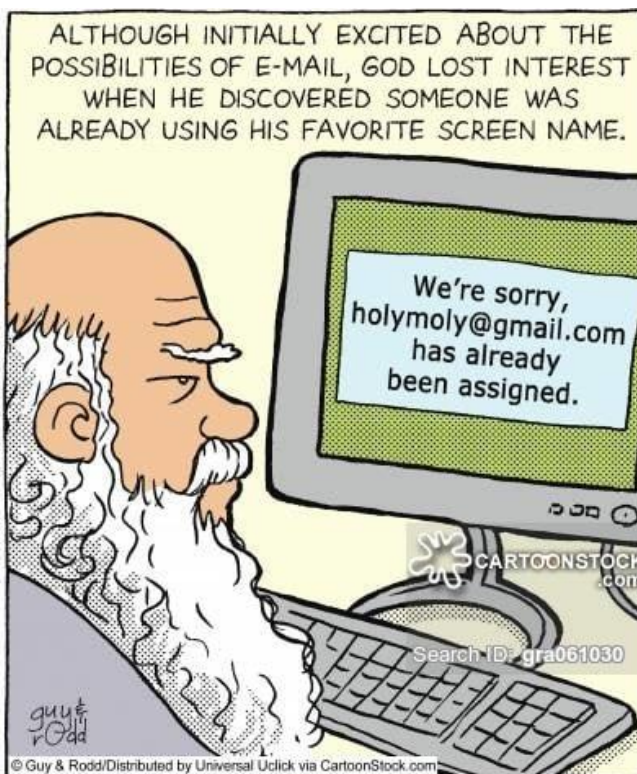
**NEW DATE!! Harvest Lunch – 12.30 in the Church Hall NEW DATE!!**

**Saturday 2 December**

Christmas Fayre – 14.00 – 16.00 in the Church Hall

### 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 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.



### 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.



## August 2023

As you read this you may well be putting your feet up and having a well-earned rest from school, work or even church! Summer is a time for taking things a little easier and making space for rest and relaxation. But of course, many continue to work hard to make such recreation possible for us! We may want to take a moment to value all those who make our holidays possible. There's always room to say, 'thank you!'

You will be aware that I recently had the opportunity of taking a little time out for some sabbatical. Howard and I spent a month walking the Via Di Francesco, a pilgrimage walk, in the footsteps of St Francis, in Italy. We walked some 140 miles from Rome to Assisi, using local transport for the other 40 or 50 miles along the way. We took our time, not least because of the wear and tear on our hips and knees as we went up and down steep gradients. In addition, it gave us room to notice things along the way.

It is often the small, seemingly insignificant things which can get overlooked as we travel through life isn't it. How many of us make the time to 'stand and stare' as William Davies puts it in his poem, 'Leisure'? So, I found myself discovering new meaning in the unexpected moments of pause that the walk brought us. The brief conversation with Destiny, a refugee, whilst we waited at a bus stop, who generously shared his bus tickets with us. The awareness of the world of creation around us – birdsong; the quill of a porcupine on the path; a family of wild pigs running through wheat fields. The kindness and hospitality of strangers. Encountering God in new people and places.

During this month, when perhaps the business of your life is stilled a little, are you expecting to encounter God? Will he need to break in or interrupt you, or how might you intentionally make time for him? Where might you notice the glimpses of God in the world around and hear his voice speaking into your experience?

I hope that this summer you will experience not only the rest and recreational power of a good holiday but also the space to renew your relationship with God. Along with the writer to the Ephesians, I pray 'that you may have the power to comprehend, ...what is the breadth and length and height and depth,' of God's love for you.

With love and prayers

+Ruth





## Church Flowers

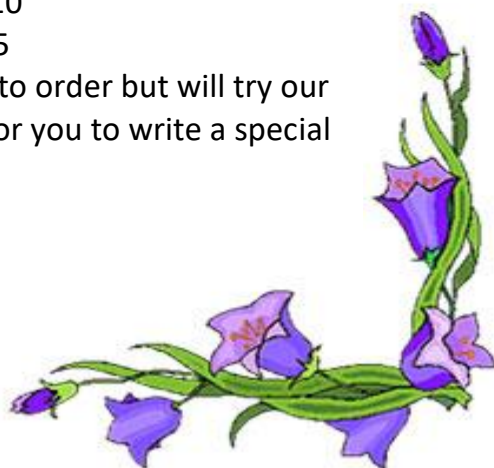
Would you like to sponsor church flowers to celebrate a birthday or commemorate an anniversary?

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.



## 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

## ANSWERS TO CELIA'S LATEST QUIZ

1. 1889 (May)
2. William Gladstone (1868-74)
3. Kampala
4. A View To A Kill
5. Bethany
6. August 1498
7. Termite
8. Henry Searle
9. 25 October
10. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
11. Chlorophyll
12. Victoria Coren-Mitchell
13. 15th
14. Toothbrush
15. Uranus
16. Cubism

## AND GORDON'S POSERS

a: Following Isaac; Walton      b: Do you? John Peel? Kenn      c: try,try,try again      Failand

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](mailto:office@stjohns-clevedon.org.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.



## 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 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](mailto:churchwarden@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)

Gary's email address is [churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@stjohns-clevedon.org.uk)

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**

**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/](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.



AEJ MUSIC & THE COLAB NETWORK  
PRESENT

# *Striking* A CHORD

WITH ADRIAN & EMMA-JEAN



**ALL SAINTS CHURCH | 24 AUGUST**  
WITH GUEST ARTIST RICHARD LENNOX

19h00 | All Saints Church, All Saints Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS28 2NL

Tickets: £12 Available from [www.aejmusic.com/events](http://www.aejmusic.com/events)



# moonlight memory walk



Walk in memory of your loved one  
**Saturday 7 October 2023**

Join us in Clevedon for an uplifting evening  
whilst supporting local families with every step

Register today [www.chsw.org.uk/moonlight](http://www.chsw.org.uk/moonlight)



Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West  
Registered Charity No. 1009224





# Volunteers needed in Clevedon!

Help asylum seekers in temporary  
accommodation feel welcome

We're looking for sensitive, friendly, proactive people to  
give 2-4 hours a week (times and days flexible to suit)

More information:

[rwns.org.uk/volunteer](http://rwns.org.uk/volunteer)

Email:

[volunteer.coordinator@rwns.org.uk](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@rwns.org.uk)



Refugees Welcome North Somerset

[www.rwns.org.uk](http://www.rwns.org.uk)

Charity no: 1198327

**ST JOHN'S SUNDAY CLUB**  
**30 July 2023 – Sunday 17**

Bible reading:

Questions

Prayer suggestion

This week's challenge

Activity suggestions

- Activity sheet for Sunday 17
- Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on

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