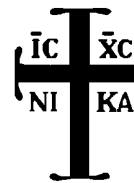




# St John the Evangelist Newsletter



SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 2021

ALL SAINTS

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 30 October

**10.00** Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Sunday 31 October – All Saints

**10.30** Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**17.30** Said Evening Prayer from the BCP followed by Benediction

### Monday 1 November

**18.00** Mass - Fr Brendan Clover

### Tuesday 2 November – All Souls

**10.00** Mass – Fr Robert Ward

**19.30** Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Wednesday 3 November

**10.00** Mass – Revd Prebendary John Andrews

### Thursday 4 November – St Charles Borromeo

**12.30** Market Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Friday 5 November

**10.00** BCP Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Saturday 6 November

**10.00** Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

### Sunday 7 November – 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 3 before Advent

**10.30** Solemn Mass – Fr Brendan Clover

**17.30** Said Evening Prayer from the BCP

## Words from Fr Brendan Clover

No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death:

One family, we dwell in him,  
one Church, above, beneath;  
though now divided by the stream,  
the narrow stream of death.

*(Charles Wesley)*

All Saints' Day and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on All Souls' Day both celebrate this mutual belonging. All Saints' Day celebrates men and women in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, and for the wonderful ends to which it shapes a human life; it is a time to be encouraged by the example of the saints and to recall that sanctity may grow in the ordinary circumstances, as well as the extraordinary crises, of human living. The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed celebrates the saints in a more local and intimate key. It allows us to remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life, or who nurtured us in faith.

Redemption is a work of God's grace; it is God who redeems us in Christ and there is nothing to be done beyond what Christ has done. But we still wait for the final consummation of God's new creation in Christ; those who are Christ's, whether or not they have passed through death, are joined in prayer that God's kingdom will be revealed finally and in all its fullness. We also sense that it is a fearful thing to come before the unutterable goodness and holiness of God, even for those who are redeemed in Christ; that  
cont/....

The Mass readings for this Sunday:

Revelation 7:2-4 & 9-14 (*Reader: Kevin*)

Psalms 24:1-6

**R: *Such are the ones who seek your face, O Lord.***

1 John 3:1-3 (*Reader: Helen*)

St Matthew 5:1-12

Intercessor – *Martin*

## Daily Prayer (The Office)

Evening Prayer is said publicly in church every day (except Wednesday) at 5.30pm.

Morning Prayer is said at 9.30am when there is a 10.00am Mass.

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it is searing as well as life-giving to experience God's mercy; and this instinct also is expressed in the liturgy of All Souls' Day. Remembrance Sunday goes on to explore the theme of memory, both corporate and individual, as we confront issues of war and peace, loss and self-gift, memory and forgetting.

The annual cycle of the Church's year ends with the Feast of Christ the King. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty. The ascension of Christ has revealed him to be Lord of earth and heaven, and final judgement is one of his proper kingly purposes. The Feast of Christ the King returns us to the Advent theme of judgement, with which the cycle once more begins.



**The Vicarage Telephone Number is 01275 879617.**

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

### 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.

### It's Shoebox time again!

**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. Further details and parcel labels from Sue Rossiter (tel. 01275 877710). Shoeboxes should be returned to church by **Sunday 14 November**. Alternatively you can pack a shoebox online at [shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk)

It would be very good if we had a prayer theme for each day of the week that we could all focus on, to help unite us as a parish.

Your parish priest has been trying to make time to create one but to no avail.

We are therefore looking for a volunteer.

Would you be able to look at the days of a month with the Ordo (which gives you all the liturgical detail, saints days etc.) at your side, and think of a prayer theme for each day other than Sundays when the prayer theme is 'Parish and People'? It's a relatively simple task. It just needs someone with the time to do it.

If this might be you, please have a word with Fr Brendan.

## CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

Some may recall in the dim and distant pre covid days that we opened the Church on a number of Saturday mornings offering tea, cake etc with volunteers on hand to show anyone around our beautiful building. Well, we are planning on doing the same again for Saturdays in December and are looking for volunteers to help for an hour or so. The plan is to open between 1030hrs ( Mass is from 10 till half past ) and 1300hrs offering an opportunity for visitors to look around and with tea, coffee and cake on offer. We also plan to look towards selling other items like our draw tickets, the remains of the items Hannah Jordan bought for our shop and indeed any other Christmassy type things so it will be an opportunity to raise some much needed funds as well. So, if you feel able to volunteer for an hour or so or feel like channelling your inner Mary to bake a cake or two, there will be a list at the back of the Church to pop your name on. Please speak to Nicola, Nick or Kevin. Thank you



**Chat and Craft Group** is meeting every Thursday afternoon drop-in 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)

- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (not December) – Celebration Sunday – join us for a glass of wine / sherry and cake to celebrate any birthdays or anniversaries during the month
- Saturday 13 November – MURDER MYSTERY Evening with Ploughman's supper starting at 7pm. Further details to follow and if you are interested in reading a part, please let Fiona know.

## 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/>

## A MESSAGE FROM FRED

Hello Everyone at St John's,

My local Church of Ireland (ie Protestant) church reopened its doors at Pentecost this year and I attended a service there for the first time. I immediately felt sure I would be happy as a member of the congregation there. The congregation is minute and it's a long time since any of us celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, so it didn't take the churchwarden long to rope me in as one of the readers and I feel like part of the furniture there now. I like to stay in virtual touch with St John's via the Newsletter . I hope your pilgrimage to Walsingham provided a time of peace and refreshment for all who took part.

Best wishes to anyone and everyone who remembers me. Fred

## CHRISTMAS FUND RAISING



The Social Committee has made the difficult decision not to hold a Christmas Fair this year due to the difficulties of holding such an event in a Covid safe way. Instead, we hope to have a BIG raffle, legally licenced and with printed tickets which we can sell to our family, friends and neighbours. It has been suggested we offer a cash prize of £100, but if anyone has a better idea, please speak to Fiona. We will need lots of other prizes, so if you have any unwanted and unused presents, please bring them to Church. In addition, you will find a list of possible prizes at the end of this newsletter. A copy of this list will be at the back of the church; if there is anything in particular you would like to provide please put your name against the suggestion. Feel free to donate other things if you wish! Your donations can be given to either Judith or Debra. If you would like to make a contribution to the main cash prize, please speak to Fiona.

### Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

All materials and tuition provided.

£25 per person includes coffee and homemade cake.

St John's Church Hall,  
Clevedon.  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
2021. 10am-12.30pm.

Limited places. To book  
please contact  
pcc treasurer@stjohns-  
clevedon.org.uk



Many of you will know that we sponsor a child through the charity Embrace – her details are in the Church porch. If you would like to further support the work of Embrace in the Middle East, please take a moment to look at their online brochure, which is full of beautiful cards and alternative gifts.

The link is <https://shop.embraceme.org> or call 01227 811646

## Answers to Celia's Quiz

### YOUR OWN CHASE

1. Congregational Chapel(1850), Copse Road Chapel(1851)
2. Dover(by Romans)
3. Isle of Man
4. Anne Robinson
5. Asia Minor
6. 1969
7. Beetle
8. Alexandre Dumas
9. Peanuts
10. 1918
11. Sweetbriar
12. Moonraker
13. Richard Ameryk (financed Cabot's 1497 voyage)
14. Kier Hardie(1892)
15. South America
16. Country File

### AND GORDON'S POSERS

- a: Rolex meadow - Watchfield    b: Beach, courage - Sand  
c: Value - Worth    d: Waggon for baby's bed - Draycot  
t



Donations to Clevedon Food Bank can be put in the Food bank bin at Tesco, taken to the Food Bank in Knowles Road on Mondays or Fridays between 9.30 and 11.30 am, or added to your local street collection. **There is also a basket in the porch at Church for your goods. Please deposit them when entering the building. Thank you. Sue**

### 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.

Please follow us on our new 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.

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.



## **AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR MEDITATION GROUP**

A small group of friends decided, about five years ago, to join together for silent meditation. Members came from various churches around the town but, mostly, from St John's. We hoped to grow in spirituality and understanding by following simple meditative techniques practised throughout the Christian World over many centuries. We all believe we have benefited from meditation and we would like to invite you to join our group and share our experience.

Very little is required other than an open mind, and a willingness to devote a small amount of time to inviting God into our hearts. We do listen to short talks and contemplate simple themes but we also learn a lot from each other.

### **HOW OUR GROUP PRACTICES MEDITATION**

We meet at 2.30 pm on alternate Tuesdays, at present in St John's Church due to COVID concerns, but previously in the homes of our members. Meetings last one hour. A note is circulated before each meeting, by email usually. This suggests a theme that we contemplate, and may discuss after meditation. Those that do not have email access are contacted by phone or post. As an example, Celia recently suggested the following theme, taken from Psalm 46:

*"Be still then, and know that I am God"*

At 2:30 pm we sit down and say a short prayer before entering 20-25 minutes of silent meditation. A prayer is then said for the peace of the world, followed by a recorded 5-10 minute talk on a meditation-related subject which we discuss together and, if we wish, share our reflections on the chosen theme. If we meet in a member's home we usually finish with a cup of tea and a biscuit.

### **HOW TO MEDITATE**

Sit down; be still but relaxed and alert.

Try not to think about anything; spiritual or otherwise.

Open your heart and mind to God's silent presence.

Persevere.

### **HOW TO JOIN US**

Simply talk to Ann Lindley, Celia Andrews, David James, or Fr Brendan.

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)

## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES**

**Any donations of prizes towards the Christmas Raffle will be gratefully received. If you would like to provide something listed below, there will be a list in Church on which you can mark your name as appropriate. If you would like to give anonymously, please put a tick in the 'Donated By' column.**

**Prizes can be given to Judith or Debra.**

### **Raffle Prizes**

Donations towards the £100 prize (2 x £25 and 5 x £10)  
Bottles – wine, sherry and spirits  
Store gift cards (available from Tesco and other retailers)  
Theatre and cinema tickets  
Restaurant and coffee shop vouchers  
Local shop vouchers  
Free haircuts/therapies/beauty treatments  
Boxes/tubs of chocolates  
Tins of biscuits  
Toiletry gift sets  
Anything else people can donate!

### **Christmas Hamper**

Christmas crackers  
Christmas cake  
Christmas pudding  
Wine  
Shortbread  
Net of nuts  
Dates  
Box chocolates

**Sunday 31 October 2021 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent (All Saints Day)**

**Love the Lord Your God**

Bible readings – Deuteronomy 6: 4 – 9 (John 11: 32 – 44)

Questions

What three things are most important to teach children?

Why does Moses tell the people they must obey Gods Commands?

How can we help one another to love God with all our heart, soul and strength?

Prayer suggestion: - Use Psalm 103 as inspiration for your prayers of praise and thanks

*Father God,*

*Thank you for the example of other Christians.*

*From the stories of their faith, may I grow in understanding.*

*From the stories of their kind-hearted deeds,*

*May I learn to do good*

*Amen*

This week's challenge: - Put some bible verses in places where you and your family will see them

Activity suggestions:

- Activity sheet for All Saints' day
- Puzzles, word searches and colouring in the Young Church Mag (YCM) for this week based on John 11: 32-44

If you do not have access to a printer and would like the activity sheets printed out and delivered to you, please contact me (Fiona) and I'll arrange for you to receive copies.

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