

St George's Newsletter

No.156

Lent 5

Sunday 26th March 2023

10.00am Parish Mass

We lose an hour this weekend as clocks go forward in the early hours of Sunday morning. Do not turn up to church after the service is finished!

Dear Friends,

It might seem like a strange thing to do, to veil the crosses and statues in church as Passiontide begins. Paradoxically, however, this veiling can also be a kind of revealing. It jolts our perception. It can help us to let go of the familiar and routine. It can lead us to reflect upon why we do things and what our actions mean. Most importantly, it can simplify our prayer and open us up to the living mystery of God.

The classic 14th century English mystical text *The Cloud of Unknowing* offers a suitable guide to this kind of prayer that is called forth by a veiling of the familiar. I commend this passage to you:

though it may be good sometimes to think particularly about God's kindness and worth, and though it may be enlightening too, and part of contemplation, yet in the work now before us it must be put down and covered with a cloud of forgetting. And you are to step over it resolutely and eagerly, with a devout and kindling love, and try to penetrate that darkness above you. Strike that thick cloud of unknowing with the sharp dart of longing love, and on no account whatever think of giving up...A naked intention directed to God,...alone, is wholly sufficient... If you want this intention summed up in a word to retain it more easily, take a short word, preferably of one syllable, to do so. The shorter the word the better, being more like the working of the Spirit. A word like 'GOD' or 'LOVE'. Choose which you like or perhaps some other...and fix this word fast to your heart, so that it is always there come what may... So lift up your love to that cloud. Or, more accurately, let God draw your love up to that cloud...

With my prayers and blessings,

Fr Angus

Friday is my day of rest unless the matter is very urgent.

The week ahead

Sunday 26th - Lent 5 Parish Mass at 10am and Molly's cake sale after Mass

Monday 27th - St George's Tots in the Centre – 10:30am to 12:00pm

Tuesday 28th – St George's Church Choir rehearsal in the Centre @ 6pm

WRAP Community Choir meet in the Centre @ 7.30pm

Wednesday 29th - Said Mass in the Lady Chapel - 11.30am

Lent Group in Centre 7.30pm

Thursday 30th - Said Mass in the Lady Chapel - 9.30am

Stations of the Cross with Adoration – 2.00pm

Saturday April 1st - Coffee Morning in the Centre 10am-12noon

Sunday April 2nd.: Palm Sunday 10am Mass with procession starting at the Amphitheatre and dramatized reading of the Passion Gospel

Holy Week and Easter Services:

Monday-Wednesday 3rd to 5th April of Holy Week: 7:30pm Mass in Lady Chapel

Maundy Thursday April 6th : 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper with foot washing followed by the watch until midnight

Good Friday April 7th : family activities: 10am with Stations of the Cross for children

Good Friday Solemn Liturgy of the Cross: 2:00pm with dramatized reading of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross

Saturday April 8th : Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter: 7pm

Easter Sunday: April 9th : 10:00am with an Easter Egg hunt for children

Watch on Maundy Thursday: There is a sign-up sheet for those who are able to pray before the Blessed Sacrament after the service on Maundy Thursday until midnight. Please consider putting your name down for one of the 30 minutes slots. Ideally, it would be good to have at least two people watching together.

It is now possible to donate to St George's using your smartphone by scanning the QR Code shown on the right. If you are unsure on how to use it, please seek advice from our Treasurer, Alison Davis, or Fr Angus.



Easter Flowers - At St George's we have a tradition of donating lilies for Easter in memory of a loved one or to help make the Church beautiful for Easter. Prices vary, a Longi Lily costs in the region of £5 and Arum Lilies are usually more expensive. Please speak to Sue Bainbridge or sign the list at the back of the Church

Coffee Morning - We are having a coffee morning **Saturday 1st April 10am-12noon** combined with a book and bric-a-brac sale. We will be serving fresh coffee and cream, hot cross buns and cakes and biscuits.

Entry will be £5 children free. If you could make some cakes, we would be very grateful. Please let Sue Bainbridge know.

WRAP-CHAT We look forward to Edward Gray's presentation on life in the world of hospitality on **Wednesday, 5th April, in The Centre @ 3pm.**

The speaker for **May 3rd** has been changed and will now be our very own Margaret Barratt, giving us a talk on the Sue Ryder charity. Please do mark these occasions in your diary.

Ride & Stride – Saturday 9th September. Here, at St George's we are looking for someone to take on the role of co-ordinator, liaising with the local representative of the Sussex Historical Churches Trust. Could this be you? Please do have a word with Geraldine. For many years St George's has been open, with refreshments for anyone taking part and visiting on their route and we would like to continue.

Clock change: Don't forget that the clocks go forward this Sunday otherwise you'll turn up to church after the service is finished!

Palm Sunday: Just a reminder that, for all who wish, we gather at the Amphitheatre next Sunday at 10am for the Palm Procession to church.

The Cathedral Café – At last, the café, now named **The Cloisters Kitchen & Garden Café** has reopened. No doubt we will see each other there.

The WRAP Community Choir – During the summer of 2012, the WRAP Choir was formed, being part of the outreach mission of St George's, Jason Howard took on the mantle of being the founder musical Director. Since those early days the choir had increased with membership reaching a regular 50 attendees, with twice yearly concerts, no entrance fee but with donations received were given to numerous local charities. Sadly, since the pandemic, many local choirs have taken a hammering in the reduction of membership and WRAP has been no different. As from next Tuesday, 28th the choir will be taking a rest for a while, hopefully, with fresh leadership it may start up again. We wait and see. Thank you to all those who have either been a member at some time or who have supported us as part of our Friends and Family. **Thank you from Geraldine and Nikki**

New parish newsletter: Fr Angus will be taking over the newsletter from Ken and Geraldine from next week. The newsletter will be sent out from the following email address: **newsletterwhyke@outlook.com**. Do check your spam folders if you do not receive a copy. This email address can also be used for any items you would like to include in the newsletter. We will pass your e-addresses to him and will remove them from our records. Should you not wish this to happen please inform us by March 26th.

Finally as we put our pens down, figuratively speaking, your editors thank all those who have contributed to the Newsletter over the past three years. It was instituted at the time of the Covid-19 lockdown and, we believe, has been a valuable asset in keeping members of St Georges congregation informed as to future events, and we like to think, entertained. On our last page we have been looking over the early editions and recalling with photographs those members of the Clergy who have taken services during that time:

Contact details:

Parish Office: Tel. 01243 782885 Email: stgeorges@whyke.info

Rector: Revd. Fr. Angus Reid Tel. 01243 533112 Email: frangusreid@outlook.com

Newsletter contact: newsletterwhyke@outlook.com.

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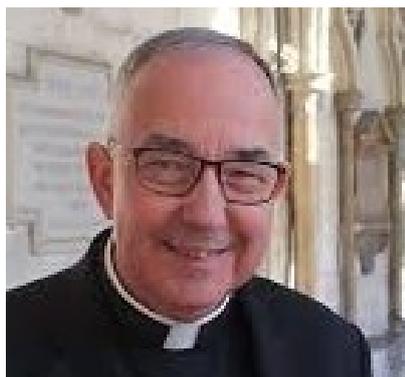
Three Bishops, an Archdeacon, a Dean, Canons and Reverends



Fr Tim Peskett



Fr Keith Richards



Fr John Hall KCVO



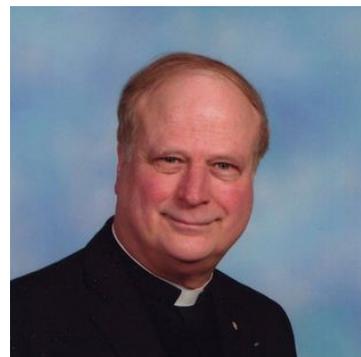
Fr Toby Boutle



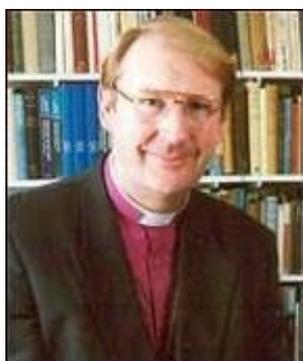
Bishop Martin Warner



Archdeacon Luke Irvine-Capel



Fr Lawson Nagel



Bishop Michael Langrish



Fr Philip Meader



Bishop Ruth Bushyager



Fr Angus Reid

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