

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

04 FEBRUARY 2023



Dear friends,

Our scripture readings today evoke the centrality of wisdom to our faith. Ours is a time sorely in need of wisdom. But it is also a time when the voice of wisdom is easily drowned out. We are suspicious of any who claim too much wisdom. Yet, we also unthinkingly support those who pamper to our unexamined biases so that we might vote for them, buy their goods, like their profile. Moreover, modern society puts a premium on those able to interpret data, process information, and turn words into powerful slogans of propaganda. T.S. Eliot was prescient in his poetic play *The Rock* when he wrote: *The endless cycle of idea and action / Endless invention, endless experiment / Brings knowledge of motion, but not of stillness; / Knowledge of speech, but not of silence; / Knowledge of words, and ignorance of the Word... / Where is the Life we have lost in living? Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?* With these words, we can appreciate why scripture is wary of human wisdom. Yet this does not mean faith considers human wisdom always to be bad. That leads to irrational fundamentalism. Rather, faith calls us to a new vision – one where it is not the experts, the powerful, the rich or the popular who are judged wisest. Instead, it is those of who open their hearts and minds to the divine wisdom at the heart of things. These discover what matters most by living with a humility and generosity that overflows into wonder at creation's beauty and the dignity of others, and a willingness to make costly decisions for justice and mercy. These sages live not in the spotlight but with the hidden flame of love's wisdom. They champion how true wisdom comes from the God who gives each of us the power to live out love's truth as revealed in Jesus, divine wisdom made flesh. May we too shine with wisdom's delight in the human race.

With my prayers and blessings,

Fr Angus

DONATE TO ST GEORGE'S

The life and mission of St George's depend on your support. There are many ways to donate:

Gift Aid: Gift Aid envelopes are available in church that enable us to reclaim tax on donations made by UK taxpayers, increasing the donation by 25%.

Regular Giving: Setting up a standing order, preferably via the Parish Giving Scheme. Forms are available at the back of church.

Contactless Giving: A card reader is available in church for card donations. Card donations are also accepted via our website.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk: Use this when you buy online. For each purchase, a donation will be made to your nominated charities.

QR code: Scan this image to donate via your smartphone:



Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH OFFICE

01243 782885

stgeorges@whyke.info

RECTOR

Fr Angus Reid

01243 533112

frangusreid@outlook.com

Rest day on Friday

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Susan Howell Evans

she1549@yahoo.co.uk

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mark Arnold

mmarnold@btinternet.com

Jill Merry

merryjill@btinternet.com

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Mary Howick

safeguarding@whyke.info

TREASURER

Alison Davis

acd_123@live.co.uk

YOUTH WORKER

Zara Cross

zaracross2011@gmail.com

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

newsletterwhyke@outlook.com

Please submit by Thursday

NEW TO ST GEORGE'S?

Welcome! If you have any questions, please ask a Warden or Fr Angus, we are happy to help.

VOLUNTEERING

There are many ways to engage in our life, mission and worship. Ask the Rector or Wardens. There is something for everyone.

COME AND SING!

Music is central to our worship. Our choir sings at the main services and practises once a week. You are welcome to come along. Contact Susan Howell Evans.

PARISH NOTICES

Ash Wednesday Services

There will be a Choral Mass with the Imposition of Ashes at 7pm on Wednesday 14 February. The 11:30am Mass will also have the Imposition of Ashes.

Palm Crosses

There is a basket at the back of the church for any old Palm crosses. These will be used to make ash for Ash Wednesday. Thank You.

Easter Vigil Feast And Sleepover

Celebration of the Easter Vigil, which falls on the night before Easter Day (30 March this year), lies at the core of what we are and do as Christians. It is one of the most beautiful services of the year, full of mystery and symbol, drawing on darkness, fire, light, water, scripture, song and the Eucharist to declare the victory of God's love over death. The Vigil proclaims that the joy of Easter cannot be contained but must be shared. We hope to encourage more people to discover the Vigil and the fellowship of Easter. So, this year, given enough interest, we hope to hold a barbeque after the service along with games, a film and sleepover for children. If you can help, speak to Fr Angus or Zara Cross. There is also a sheet in church to indicate if you can attend to help with planning.

WRAP-CHAT

Wednesday 7 February @ 3 pm in the Centre. This month we welcome Richard Plowman, former Mayor of Chichester and currently the city's Town Crier. Richard will be telling us about the Rotary Club and how they are working to eradicate Polio.

Pancake Party For Families

Pancake party with crafts, a story and singing in church, a pancake race and pancakes in the church centre. Begins at 3pm on 10 February. Suggested donation of £3 per family at the door. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please register on Eventbrite ([pancake-party-whyke.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/pancake-party-whyke.eventbrite.com)).

Stations of the Cross with Adoration During Lent

At 2pm each Tuesday during Lent, 20 Feb to 19 Mar, there will be a service of the Stations of the Cross with a period of Adoration of the Sacrament.

Thursday Lent Group: Being Stewards of Creation

Our Lent Group focuses on ecological concerns through the eyes of faith and worship. We will read the book *Saying Yes To Life* (the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book in 2020) written by local author Ruth Valerio. There are 5 sessions. 7pm on Thursdays from 22 Feb to 21 March in the Centre or church. The book is available from St Olav Christian Bookshop or on Amazon. Copies can be borrowed from Fr Angus. Sign-up sheets at the back of church.

Parenting Children Course

A parenting children course will be running at St George's centenary centre for parents and carers of

children up to 10 years old. The course consists five sessions with refreshments, a talk with practical advice, group discussions and a course booklet. It will run on between 12:45-14:45 and starts Wednesday 21 Feb. For more information or to register, please go to Eventbrite ([parenting-course-whyke.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/parenting-course-whyke.eventbrite.com)) or www.whyke.info/parenting-course/.

Happy Café

On Saturday 2 March the Happy Café will be open in the church centre serving a cooked breakfast together with many extras. Everyone is welcome. Tickets will be available soon. In the meantime if anyone has any food warmers please could you let Louise Gibbon know by email louisejames34@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01243 537646.

Forthcoming Special Services

14 February Choral Mass of Ash Wednesday, 7pm
17 March All-Age Eucharist

Upcoming Events

2 March Happy Café

Friends Of St Mary's Churchyard

The Friends are a group of volunteers who care for, celebrate, and enhance our churchyard as a sacred space and haven for wildlife. For info, scan here:



Prayer List

If you want to add someone to the parish prayer list, please contact the parish office or Fr Angus.

Pastoral Ministry

Please contact Fr Angus for pastoral matters like visits, baptism, confirmation, first communion, weddings, funerals, house blessings, etc.

Sacrament Of Reconciliation (Confession)

Available by appointment with the Rector.

Lost Property

A lost property box is located in the sacristy. Please contact the wardens or church office for more info.

THIS WEEK

SERVICES

2nd Sunday before Lent 4 Feb

10:00am Choral Mass (with J-team)

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Tuesday-Thursday

Mid-Week Masses in Lady Chapel

11:30am Wednesday (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

5:30-6pm Monday

10:15-10:45am Thursday

Sunday Next before Lent 11 Feb

10:00am All-Age Eucharist with Healing Ministry

EVENTS

St George's Tots 05 Feb 10:30am-12pm

WRAP CHAT 07 Feb, 3pm

Pancake Party 10 Feb 3pm