

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSIONTIDE)

17 MARCH 2024



Dear friends,

The recent furore over the photo taken by Prince William of his family and then edited by Kate before its release to the media has highlighted the significance of images in our age. Images have a huge cultural, social and political influence. They shape how we relate to the world, others and ourselves. This makes the capacity to manipulate images a pressing social and moral question. Deeper than that it concerns how we encounter reality itself. In a time of Artificial Intelligence, this concern grows as entirely made-up images look authentic. There is much wisdom in Scripture's warning of the dangers of worshipping images. This warns us not only of the risk of replacing God for an idol, but also blinding us to how humans are called to be images of God. History witnesses to an extreme response: the destruction of all images. Just look in our cathedral for evidence of this. We find a more constructive alternative in the practice of veiling images during Passiontide. To enter church and encounter these things covered, immediately tells us that something is different. The veils paradoxically heighten our sense of sight and hearing. They lead us to look at ourselves, our church and faith afresh; to listen more carefully. They build anticipation of their being removed and the images rediscovered. In this way, the veils help draw us into the rhythm of Holy Week itself. As we die to all the ways we relate falsely to images, we are opened to Easter's transformative vision that lifts us beyond ourselves into a greater reality: God. God is the ongoing source of all that exists; the one who comes to us as Christ crucified and risen in the heart of reality; who remakes into living images of God; who commissions us to act as custodians of all that is life-giving, and to be those who perceive, create and share images that serve beauty, goodness and truth for the common good of all.

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.

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Rest day on Friday

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ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

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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

Rumboldswyke and St George's Children's Choir
Some of the Rumboldswyke children's choir will sing at the All-Age today. It is a joy to welcome them.

Sow A Seed Family Workshop

Learn how to sow and care for different plant seeds at our family workshop in the centenary centre today after the church service.

Palm Sunday Starting At The Amphitheatre

For all who wish, we start at the Amphitheatre next Sunday at 10am for the palm procession to church.

Maundy Thursday – Foot-washing and the Watch

For Maundy Thursday on 28 March, we need volunteers willing to have their feet washed. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church. There is also a sign-up sheet for those who are able to pray before the Blessed Sacrament after the service 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.

Chance To Win A Giant Easter Egg With Champaign

We have generously been donated a large Easter Egg and a bottle of champagne to raise funds for the church. To enter into the competition, a chart of 100 squares has been made up. You can buy one square for £2. Each square gives you a chance of winning. Please speak to Mary Acland to buy a square.

Work To Church Roof

Steeplejacks are working on the church roof at the moment, making essential repairs identified in the Quinquennial report. Steeplejacks have ancient roots (they are in the Bayeux Tapestry!) and are specialists at working at heights. The team have also worked on the cathedral steeple.

Are You On The Electoral Roll?

If you are a regular worshipper at St George's and/or live in the parish, you are invited to join our Electoral Roll. This enables you to vote at the APCM (19 May). It also helps us to accurately report the number of people in our church. Forms are available at the back of church. Do speak to Lesley Valerio, our Electoral Roll Officer, or the parish office for more details

Parish Eco Champion

The PCC have nominated Sam Kelly as our parish Eco Champion. Each parish in the diocese is encouraged to do so. Sam will help promote ecological concerns in the parish, a vital issue for our times.

Easter Flowers

To donate towards lilies for Easter, please sign up on the list in church or speak to Sue Bainbridge

Thursday Lent Group: Being Stewards of Creation

Our Lent Group finishes on 21 March at 7pm in the Church. For those attending, could you please read chapter 6 and the conclusion in *Saying Yes To Life*.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday 24 March: 10am start at Amphitheatre
Monday – Wednesday 25-27 March: 6pm Said Mass
Maundy Thursday 28 March: 7:30pm with foot-washing followed by the watch till midnight.
Good Friday 29 March: 10am Activities for children and families
2pm Solemn Liturgy of the Cross
Holy Saturday 30 March: 6:30pm Easter Vigil followed by barbeque and children activities
Easter Day 31 March: 10am with Easter Egg hunt

Forthcoming Special Services

14 April Mass with Healing Ministry
21 April All-Age Eucharist Patronal Festival

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 the QR code. Copies of the winter edition of the newsletter are now available. If you would like an electronic copy, please email friendswhyke@gmail.com.



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

5th Sunday of Lent 17 March

10:00am All-Age Service

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Tuesday-Thursday

Stations of the Cross with Adoration (Lent only)

2:00pm: Tuesday

Mid-Week Masses in Lady Chapel

11:30am Said Mass (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

5:30-6pm Monday

10:15-10:45am Thursday

Palm Sunday 24 March

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

EVENTS

Sow A Seed Workshop 17 Mar after church

St George's Tots 18 Mar 10:30am-12pm

PCC Meeting 18 Mar 7:30pm

Lent Group 21 Mar 7pm