

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

21 APRIL 2024



Dear friends,

In a wonderful anticipation of our Patronal Festival today, yesterday we hosted our first Plant Fair at St George's. We witnessed the best of our community. A huge amount of effort, care and attention went into the preparations for the day which saw the centre fill with plants of all kinds and varieties; cakes being baked; books, gardening equipment, and other items being donated to raise funds; children's activities being planned and prepared; a stall being set up by the school; and a host of volunteers from the congregation and beyond getting ready to greet and serve those who came. The morning started auspiciously with blue sky, sunshine, and a rush of plant donations being left at the door. And as soon as the doors opened the centre and church filled with the buzz of people and, what is more, there was a queue of yet others waiting to enter! It was a joyous occasion which saw many people from the wider community, young and old, come to look for bargains, find plants for their garden, explore the church and centre, take part in the activities, and meet with others and talk over a cup of tea. What better way for people to get to know who we are as a church? What better way to show what it means to be a parish church whose mission is to love God, others, and God's creation in our local context? What better way to celebrate our patron St George and help battle all the dragons of social dissipation and isolation that threaten the life of our local community and the good of all those who are our neighbours? Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Plant Fair and made it such a memorable and welcoming event. May all the plants that were sold grow a hundredfold and produce much fruit! I pray the Fair is the first of many more to come.

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

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RECTOR

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Rest day on Friday

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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

Patronal Festival And Picnic Today

We are celebrating our Patronal Festival today. The service will be an All-Age service with the children enacting the story of St George and the Dragon. As part of the celebration, we hope to host a patronal lunch in the centre. Those who would like to stay for lunch are asked to bring their own picnic to eat. Tea and coffee provided.

Last Friday Of The Month Concert Series

A new season of St George's Concert Series is soon upon us. The series begins on April 26, 7:30pm, with 'Guitar Extravaganza' a wide-ranging of programme of guitar ensembles performed by the West Sussex Guitar Orchestra, Linda Kelsall-Barnett and members of the West Sussex Guitar Club. Tickets are £12 at the door or £10 in advance online (bit.ly/guitarextravaganza), under 18s go free. Refreshments included.

WRAP-CHAT

Wednesday 1st May @ 3pm in the Centenary Centre. This month we are really looking forward to welcoming Nick Taunt, former Head of Bishop Luffa School. The topic 'The Highs and Lows of School Headship', should be really interesting. All are welcome to attend, why not bring a friend and/or neighbour. Refreshments are provided, we just ask for £2 to help meet overheads. We are a welcoming, friendly group, we not give us a try!

Works To Roof Completed

The steeplejacks have now completed the repair work to the church roof, including fixing the broken cord to the church bell. It has been a delight to hear the bell ring again.

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) and be nominated to the PCC and other roles within the church. 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 details.

Candidates For PCC And Churchwardens.

At the APCM on Sunday 19 May, we hope to elect new churchwardens, members to the PCC, and Deanery Synod Representatives to join existing members. PCC members are trustees of church and work together with Fr Angus to promote the life and mission of St George's. If anyone feels called to join the PCC, please speak to Fr Angus, the Deputy Wardens, or a current member of the PCC.

Interested in Reading Or Leading Intercessions?

We are looking for more people to join our team of readers and intercessors to lead prayers during the

Sunday service. These are important ministries and we are grateful to all those who already contribute. Please ask Fr Angus for more information.

Confirmation For Adults and Older Children

The Deanery Confirmation service this year will be held at the Cathedral on 24 July at 7pm. There will be two sets of confirmation classes at St George's, one for adults and one for children who are 13 years old or older. These are open to anyone who wants to be confirmed and, indeed, baptised. For the children's confirmation classes, there is a plan also to have a day out. Do speak to Fr Angus if you are interested.

First Communion Classes

First Communion Classes this year will run in June and July. They are open to any child who is baptised and between 7 and 12 years old. Any child who is not baptised is also welcome to join the classes. The children would be admitted to communion and baptised, if necessary, at the All-Age Eucharist on 21 July. Please ask Fr Angus or Zara for more details.

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.

THIS WEEK

SERVICES

Patronal Festival 21 April

10:00am All-Age Eucharist

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Tuesday-Thursday

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter 28 April

10:00am Choral Mass (J Team)

EVENTS

St George's Tots, 22 April 10:30-12pm

Community Food Hub, 26 April 10-11am

Friday Concert 26 April 7:30pm