

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

4 August 2024



Dear friends,

The Olympic games are afoot. It has been a wonder to behold the breadth of sports on display, and the depth of ability of those competing. At its best, and as articulated in its own mission statement, the Olympics seeks to champion human excellence, perseverance, and fairness; to support the education of young people and the capacity of sport to be a force for social change; to overcome discrimination, prejudice, and violence; and to serve human dignity, equality, and promote peace. There certainly have been some achievements this year that have transcended national identity to universal acclaim – Simone Biles in gymnastics and Léon Marchand in swimming, for example. What a contrast to prevailing narratives of human division and hatred. This echoes with the Feast of the Transfiguration that mysterious event when the glory of God shines out in Jesus, radiant atop a mountain. Though the feast is often overlooked in Western Christianity, Archbishop Michael Ramsay is a notable Anglican voice who emphasized its importance (a stained-glass window of the Transfiguration is dedicated to him in Durham Cathedral). He was also a strong advocate of human dignity in the face of prejudice. The Transfiguration stands, Ramsey says, 'as a gateway, to the saving events of the Gospel, and is as a mirror in which the Christian mystery is seen in its unity. Here we perceive...that the Cross and the glory are of one, that the age to come is already here, that our human nature has a destiny of glory.' This means that even senseless pain, corrupt knowledge, and duplicity can be transfigured. Division and hate are not the last word. The light of this life-giving hope runs in the spirit of the Olympics, yet also exceeds it, to champion all human beings, of any ability, reminding us that our destiny to glory is fulfilled only when fearlessly and joyfully shared with all, especially those we exclude.

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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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 at St George's. Please ask the Rector or Wardens.

COME AND SING!

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

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER: newsletterwhyke@outlook.com

Please submit by Thursday

PARISH NOTICES

Jean Higham's Funeral Service

The funeral service for Jean Higham, who was a longstanding member of St George's, will be held at St George's on Friday 9 August at 2:30pm. Jean's family have said that anyone who knew Jean would be very welcome to come to the service. The Reverend Canon Bruce Ruddock will be taking the service.

Amphitheatre Picnic - August 14, 6pm

Come and join us for a picnic in the park. All are welcome, so bring some food, a blanket and a maybe a frisbee if you're feeling energetic!

Friends' Historical Research: a Milestone

The Friends of St Mary's Churchyard have now completed their work on the 1888 Extension, which contains burials from 1888 to the mid-1940s, with occasional secondary burials up into the 1990s. They have written 'potted biographies' of the roughly 1250 permanent residents of this part of the churchyard. This wealth of information can be found in the 'Database of the 1888 Extension' on the Whyke Burials website (www.whykeburials.com).

Summer Children's Eco Church

This summer families and children are welcome to come and learn how to care God's creation, with crafts and activities. This will take place on Sundays in August, 10-11:30am. If you have any questions, please speak to Sam Kelly or Zara Cross

Children's Toy And Clothes Swap Shop

As part of the children's Eco church activities, we plan to hold a children's swap shop on Sunday 18 August after Sunday morning Mass. Please bring your unwanted toys, books and clothes to church and swap them for items you would like. Please make sure items are in good condition. Any left over items will be sold at the Produce Show in the autumn.

Independent Safeguarding Audit

Please do complete the INEQE survey regarding safeguarding practice. Everyone's view is important. The survey can be found here: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/chichester/>

Celebrating Our Diocese And Our Faith

2025 will mark the 950th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of Chichester and Chichester Cathedral and 1700 years since the Nicene Creed. Find about events here: <https://celebratingfaith.co.uk/>. Bishop Martin has also invited everyone to respond to [four questions](#) about their faith. There is also an invitation to send in photographs. Details about that can be located [here](#).

Special Services

11 Aug Healing Mass

Upcoming Events

14 Aug Amphitheatre Picnic (6pm)

14 Sep Autumn Produce Show

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. You can also 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

The Transfiguration 4 August

10:00am Parish Mass (Eco Church For Children)

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Monday-Thursday

Mid-Week Masses in Lady Chapel

11:30am Said Mass (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

Meditation beings again in September

11th Sunday of Trinity 11 August

10:00am Choral Mass with Healing (Eco Church For Children)

EVENTS

No events this week