

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF TRINITY

11 August 2024



Dear friends,

I wonder what you think whenever you see St George's flag flying outside our church. Over the last month, we have witnessed two rather different public displays of the flag. The first was during the European Football Championship where the flag represented a patriotic solidarity and show of support for our nation's football team. By stark contrast, more recently the flag has been flaunted during the rioting across the country. Its use by far-right groups, in particular, has made it more a symbol of prejudice, division, hatred, and the threat of violence. A YouGov poll earlier this year suggested that, though most people in Britain have a favourable opinion of people flying the flag, a quarter did not. The position varied considerably depending on whether one's politics is left or right leaning. The situation is clearly complex. It gets more so if you dig into the history of the flag's use in this country, with its roots in the crusades – something that predates its later connection to St George, that Turkish-born saint, and his patronage of England. How might we relate to this? One solution would be that we take the flag down, admitting it has become too compromised. But does this not cede ground too easily to those who claim the flag for hate? In this respect, it has been heartening to hear the impassioned voices of many from diverse ethnic backgrounds arguing the flag needs to be reclaimed for them and everyone. This echoes King Charles' intervention into the riots when he lauded the examples of community spirit that had met aggression with compassion and resilience. Imagine if every church that flew St George's flag did so in this spirit. Imagine if the flag declared publicly a commitment to fight prejudice without hiding from the ways we have hurt others in the name of country or creed. Well then we would be truer to the its core meaning: the victory of God's love over the powers of destruction as revealed in Christ crucified and risen.

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

YOUTH WORKER

Zara Cross

zaracross2011@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDEN

Sam Kelly

drsamkelly@gmail.com

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mark Arnold

mmarnold@btinternet.com

Jill Merry

merryjill@btinternet.com

Mike Mower

mikemower@outlook.com

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Ginnie Wyllie

safeguarding@whyke.info

TREASURER

Alison Davis

acd_123@live.co.uk

PCC SECRETARY

Mary Howick

mary.howick@sky.com

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

Healing Ministry Today

During communion today, anyone who wishes is welcome to go to the Lady Chapel for the Laying on of Hands by lay ministers and Anointing with Oil by a priest. You may ask for Laying on of Hands for yourself or on someone else's behalf or both. Anointing can be repeated even if you have received it recently. Lay ministers will guide you at the Lady Chapel. You can choose to have both the Laying on of Hands and Anointing or simply one of them.

Fr Angus On Annual Leave

Fr Angus is on leave from Monday 12 August until 24 August. Fr Philip will preside on 18 August. There is no Morning Prayer and no Thursday masses. Wednesday Masses will be held, with Archdeacon Luke presiding. For any pastoral emergencies during this period, contact Archdeacon Luke (archchichester@chichester.anglican.org).

Choir On Summer Holiday

The choir are on a summer break and will return on 8 September.

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

15 Sep All-Age Eucharist

Upcoming Events

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

11th Sunday of Trinity 11 August

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

Morning Prayer

No Prayer This Week

Mid-Week Masses in Lady Chapel

11:30am Said Mass (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday – No Mass

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

Meditation beings again in September

12th Sunday of Trinity 18 August

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

EVENTS

Amphitheatre Picnic, 14 August 6pm

Community Food Hub, 16 August 10-11am