

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF TRINITY

22 September 2024



Dear friends,

It has been a delight to see our links rekindle with the Society of the Sacred Cross at Tymawr Convent, a contemplative community of nuns in the Welsh countryside. I wonder, have you ever been on retreat at a place like Tymawr? I commend it to you. Here are some words from Evelyn Underhill, a modern-day Anglican spiritual writer, about the need of retreat: *Most of us are bitterly conscious of the extent in which we are at the mercy of our surroundings: which grow ever more and more insistent in their pressure, their demands on our attention and time; less and less suggestive of reality, of God. They call out and keep out the least spiritual side of our nature: and almost insensibly, often with the very best intentions, and under plea of good works, family duties, social obligations, we capitulate to the surface activities of existence, the ceaseless chain of passing events. We forget that awestruck upward glance which is the mark of a spiritual man. Then we lose all sense of proportion; become fussy, restless, full of things that simply must be done, quite oblivious of the only reason why anything should be done. Our prayers become more and more like supernatural shopping lists, less and less like that conversation between one friend and another.... We can't rest in the Lord; there really isn't time for that. So we gradually forget what interior silence is like, and seldom enter the interior world.... We need a re-quickening of the spark of the soul; a re-emergence of the "fine point of the spirit" – that most sacred and least considered element of human personality, so easily shoved down into the cellar, smothered and forgotten in the pressure of practical everyday life... [T]here is a real danger that Christian spirituality in its deepest and loveliest reaches will be killed out by the pressure and demands of the social machine, and even of the ecclesiastical machine... [A retreat is] an opportunity of "steeping our souls in the beauty of the mysterious." To dwell quietly and without self-occupation in the atmosphere of God is surely the best of all ways of redressing the balance between the temporal and eternal sides of our life...to learn and maintain the art of steadfast attention to God.'*

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

Harvest Fair and Produce Show

It was wonderful to see so many people attend the Harvest Fair and Produce Show last Saturday. The day had a joyful atmosphere with many new faces from the wider community. There was a glut of high-quality entries in the Produce Show too. Congratulations to all those who won. Thank you again to all the fantastic volunteers who helped. £453.51 was raised for St George's.

Rumboldswyke Children's Choir

Rumboldswyke Children's Choir is restarting on Tuesday 24 September. It will be based at St George's church and open to all children from year 1 upwards. Mandy Roberts and Sue Howell-Evans are running the choir again. For Rumboldswyke school, children will be walked from school to the church at 3.15pm. Children from other schools can join us in the church at 3.30pm. Rehearsals finish at 4.30pm. Please email music@whyke.info if your child wishes to join. There is no fee. We would like all children in the choir to sing at the All-Age Worship on Sundays at St George's. We look forward to seeing you!

Last Friday Concert – 27 September, 7:30pm

Our next concert see the Horsham Borough Band perform, the 2024 London & Southern Counties 1st Section Champions. They make their return to St George's under the direction of Will Wilkins. Tickets £12 at the door; £10 [online](#). Under 18s go free.

Invitation To Afternoon Tea At Lakeview Grange

Lakeview care home on Whyke Road has invited parishioners at St George's to a complimentary Afternoon Tea on 22 October at 3pm. If you would like to come, please sign up on the sheet in church.

WRAP CHAT: Wed 2 October @ 3pm in the Centre.

This month we welcome The Revd Canon Bruce Ruddock, his talk is titled Roman Reflections. Ordained in 1983 he served his title in the parish of Felpham & Middleton-on-Sea followed by curacy at St Mary's, Portsmouth, then Vicar at St Michael's Barnes, Southwest London. In 1995 the Archbishop of Canterbury appointed Canon Bruce as his representative at the Vatican and Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome. In 1999, he became Canon Precentor at Worcester cathedral and then at Peterborough Cathedral. Until his retirement last year, Bruce was Chaplain at Chichester Cathedral.

Society of the Sacred Cross, Tymawr Convent

Some of you will know of our links with the Tymawr Convent, a community of contemplative nuns living in the Welsh countryside who welcome individual guests and groups for retreats and quiet days. Please find a copy of their newsletter attached or in church.

Secondary School Admissions

If you require a Church Support Form to be filled in to support a school application, do contact Fr Angus.

For Bishop Luffa this will need to be completed in a face-to-face meeting with Fr Angus. Please email him to book a time to meet any day after 13 October.

Pet Blessing Service – 12 October @2pm

Do join us for a family-friendly Pet Blessing Service on Saturday 12 October at 2pm where there will also be a chance to remember pets who have died. Pets must be accompanied by their owners, dogs kept on leads and other pets in suitable containers.

Sister Act

All are welcome to come along and help with crafting items for the Christmas Fair on Wednesday 8 October, 7:30pm-9:00pm, Centenary Centre

Happy Café Breakfast – Not To Be Missed

Saturday 5 October 10am-12noon a delicious, cooked breakfast with lots of extras will be served in the church centre. Veggie options available. It can be breakfast, brunch or an early lunch! Everyone is welcome including friends, family and neighbours. Tickets available from Jill Merry adults £10 and children £5. Under 5's free.

Special Services

6 Oct	Healing Mass
12 Oct	Pet Blessing Service, 2pm
13 Oct	Harvest Festival

Upcoming Events

5 Oct	Happy Café Breakfast
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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

17th Sunday of Trinity 22 September

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

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Monday-Thursday

Mid-Week Masses in Lady Chapel

11:30am Wednesday Said Mass (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday Said Mass

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

5:30-6pm Monday

Michael and All Angels 29 September

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

EVENTS

St George's Tots, 23 September 10:30-12 noon

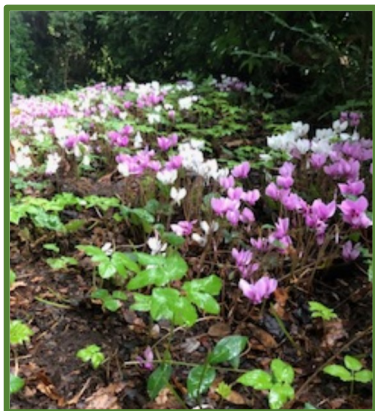
Community Food Hub, 27 September 10-11am

Friday Concert, 27 September 7:30pm

Society of the Sacred Cross, Tymawr Convent

Feast of St. Gregory the Great
3rd September 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Greetings from a bedewed and misty Tymawr....the autumn is arriving quickly, but let us enjoy the warmth that comes with these first autumn days. Good mushroom season!

And so, we end this period of rest, ready to welcome you and all our other guests back to the Chapel and the glorious grounds. We closed July with the Cardiff Chapter of TSSF, who made their annual retreat here after many years of absence. Then, in mid-August, Sr. Rosalind celebrated the Eucharist on St Clare's Day with the regional grouping of TSSF. The weather was dry but not so warm so, although we had set out spaces on the lawn for lunch, indoors was decidedly warmer! And in October Br. Sam SSF will preach at our harvest festival. A time to renew our links with our Franciscan brothers and sisters. Although it is many years ago that Br. Ramon SSF lived here in his hermitage there is still a legacy of relationships.

On the 5th August Miri, our grey cat, returned to the celestial hunting grounds to join her brother Taizé, who died a few days earlier. Sr. Joanna misses her very much, but is wooing a large ginger tom cat (semi wild) called Giles, who is deciding whether to adopt us or not.

Sr. Rosemary SLG came for a full week and helped us discover afresh the wisdom and incredible joy and gentleness of St John of the Cross. I suspect that is not quite the image many have of John, but for all the language of 'dark night', it is perhaps important to remember that his dark night in Spain would be balmy and warm and the sky would have been full of stars too. The week enabled a deep sharing between us, as well as a turning afresh to our primary yearnings and the One who drew us to Tymawr in the first place.

Sr. Janet joined the community of the Holy Cross at Whitland for her annual retreat, and enjoyed their hospitality and the peace of their monastery. As we had Covid in the house, she was 'obliged' to extend her stay away by a week, and so, thanks to the kindness of Jean, our chaplain, had a holiday in Monmouth.

Work goes on apace at Michaelgarth as the new air-source heat pump heating system is being installed. We had a set back, in that we have had to remove asbestos found in the basement cellar and obtain approval from the MCC buildings inspector to replace the ceiling with fire safe materials, but expect the heating engineers to return next week. As I admire the new radiators, I can already feel the warmth that they will provide, and without using oil! For the first time, the hall, stairs and landing will be heated! Our goal is to have tidied up the rooms and rehung the curtains by the beginning of October, so that we can open the doors to guests once more. Anyone coming for the Quiet Day in October will be able to have a look at the new heating system.

We have, finally, received planning permission for the solar PV array in the east field. We expect this to be installed shortly. Thank you to all who have contributed to these projects so far. In the coming months we expect to make decisions about replacing the convent heating – which system and when

Society of the Sacred Cross, Tymawr Convent

we call install. This is such a big project, and a little overwhelming, but it is absolutely essential if we are to be true to our commitment to come off fossil fuels and so reduce our carbon footprint.

Vijay and the garden team have been busy harvesting the produce of the garden, and some of the apple trees. It has been a poor year for plums. And over the last weekend of August, we hosted a scything course run by Monmouth Meadows. In November we shall be busy planting up the hedge alongside the new driveway to the Old Barns. Anyone interested in giving a hand?

This last week of August brings new life to the convent in the gift of three women staying alongside. We have welcomed Megan for three months, and Beth and Naomi for one month. All are good singers which lifts the quality of chapel worship. Their presence is a gift to us, and we hope their stay will be a gift not only for them but also for the wider church.



Holy Cross Eucharist 14th September at noon

+Dominic will be presiding at the Eucharist on Holy Cross Day, our patronal festival. If you wish to join the Eucharist please let Sr. Elizabeth know on elizabeth@tymawrconvent.com

Memorial for Companion Lois Cater 26th October 11.00am

You are invited to join the community for a requiem mass in memory of Companion Lois Cater, who died in June this year. The requiem mass, celebrated by the Chaplain, Companion Jean, will take place at 11.00am followed by a light lunch. Lois' sons and families will be present at this celebration of her life. Please let me know if you wish to attend by 20th October 2024 at reverendmother@tymawrconvent.com

As we celebrate the feast of Holy Cross, let us remain faithful in our prayer for the world and all who are suffering, sure in the enormity of God's love for all his creatures. As St. John of the Cross wrote to his friend, "Where there is no love, put love and you will draw up love."

With love from all at Tymawr,

M. Katharine

(See next page for details of the remaining Quiet Days in 2024)

Society of the Sacred Cross, Tymawr Convent

Quiet Days

14th September 2024.

Due to illness the day planned on the 7th September with Revd. Dr. Rachel Mann has been cancelled. However, Bishop Graham James has agreed to come and lead a Quiet Day on the 14th September on

Cross and cosmos: the matter of the world seen through John's gospel

Of the four gospels, John's is arguably the one most concerned with the world, as well as how we are to live in the light of both Cross and Resurrection. We will focus particularly on John 21, the frequently overlooked epilogue to John's gospel which brings these themes together.

5th October 2024

Notes from a Eucharistic Life

with Revd. Dr. Manon Ceridwen James

In the talks Manon will be speaking about how poetry can help us be attentive to God in the ordinariness of every day life. She will be sharing her own work as well as encouraging us to write about our own experiences of how we see our ordinary lives as Eucharist living.

Manon Ceridwen James is the Dean for initial Ministerial Training at St Padarn's Institute, Canon Theologian at Newport Cathedral and author of the poetry collection *Notes from a Eucharistic Life*.

9th November 2024

Let our Ordered Lives confess the Beauty of God's Peace: Holding Faith with the matter of the World

with Very Revd. Dr. Frances Ward

An exploration of the importance of order in our ordinary lives; and how the liturgy is Easter in Ordinary ...

Frances Ward is currently the Rector of Workington in West Cumbria; formerly the Dean of St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Suffolk; a writer, theologian and speaker.

If you wish to participate in this Quiet Day please contact the Revd. Dr. Jean Prosser on sschaplain@gmail.com It is essential to book a place as there are a limited number of places remaining.