

ST GEORGE'S NEWSLETTER

Serving God and the community in Chichester

DEDICATION FESTIVAL

6 October 2024



Dear friends,

I am not sure what specific words of dedication Bishop Wilberforce would have used when he consecrated our church in 1902. There is no one authorised service for the consecration of a church in the Church of England. We might, however, look to the words in the current prayer of dedication used in this diocese. At the consecration of a new church the bishop prays, 'Father in heaven, source of holiness and true purpose, it is right that we praise and glorify your name. For today we come before you, to dedicate to your lasting service this house of prayer, this home in which we are nourished by your word and your sacraments. Here is reflected the mystery of the Church...a temple built of living stones, founded on the apostles with Jesus Christ its corner stone.... Here may your children, gathered around your altar, celebrate the memorial of the Paschal Lamb, and be fed at the table of Christ's word and Christ's body. Here may prayer, the Church's banquet, resound through heaven and earth as a plea for the world's salvation. Here may the poor find justice, the victims of oppression, true freedom. From here may the whole world clothed in the dignity of the children of God, enter with gladness your city of peace.' The prayer reminds us how a church building has a unique purpose. Here the Gospel is to be proclaimed, the sacraments celebrated, prayer nourished, and the life of service embodied. A church's physical presence, if it is to be faithful to its calling, depends on the dedication of its people to God and serving others. St George's stands as a testament to the dedication of countless people over the last century. Yet it does so in an age of unparalleled uncertainty regarding the place of God, faith, the parish church, and, more generally, questions of human purpose in our culture. Here the very precariousness of St George's, and every church like it, puts a pressing question to all who pass by: to what or to whom do you dedicate your lives? For all who come through our doors, let us show them our response with confidence, joy, truth, love, trust and peace.

With my prayers and blessings,

Fr Angus

DONATE TO ST GEORGE'S

The life and mission of St George's are entirely dependent 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: Set up a standing order, preferably via the Parish Giving Scheme (<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk>). Contact the treasurer for details.

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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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, 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. These are offered as a part of the church's sacramental ministry of healing which continues the ministry of Christ himself whose healing, reconciling, and restorative presence is given to us in the Eucharist through the Holy Spirit and whose grace empowers us all to minister God's healing to others. This sacramental healing ministry is a key part of this and is principally focused on our spiritual well-being while recognising how intimately connected this is to our physical, emotional, intellectual, and social lives. 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.

Chichester Combined Church Recording Group

It is with immense gratitude that we will be welcoming the Recording Group to our Harvest Festival. The Recording Group, co-ordinated by Jennifer Woolfrey, have been visiting St George's since before the Covid lockdowns. The Group will formally present the fruits of their labour at the Harvest Festival in a bound volume which includes photographs, detailed descriptions and the history of the fittings and furnishings of the interior of the church. This be an invaluable record.

Blessing Churchyard Lawnmower At Harvest

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously towards the new lawnmower for the churchyard. The full cost of the mower was met by your donations. As part of our harvest festival celebration, Fr Angus will bless the lawn mower during the service.

Harvest Food Donations For Food Bank

Ahead of our Harvest Festival Eucharist on Sunday 13 October, we are asking for donations for the foodbank, particularly tinned and dried food, nappies and toiletries. Donations can be placed in the container at the back of the church. Thank you.

All-Souls Service

Our All-Souls Choral Mass, in which we commemorate our loved ones who have died, will be held on 2 November at 6:30pm. There is a list in church for anyone to add names to be read out during the service. If you prefer, you can contact the parish office on 01243 782885 or stgeorges@whyke.info.

No Mass This Thursday

There will be no Mass this coming Thursday (10 October) as Fr Angus is taking a funeral at the crematorium.

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.

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.

Special Services

2 Nov All Souls Service, 6:30pm

Upcoming Events

3 Nov Halloween Party, 2pm.

Rumboldswyke Children's Choir (RCC)

RCC is based at St George's church and open to all children from year 1 upwards. The runs every Tuesday during term time from to 4.30pm. Please email music@whyke.info if your child wish to join.

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

Dedication Festival 6 October

10:00am Parish Choral Mass with healing ministry (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 NO MASS

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

5:30-6pm Monday

Harvest Festival 13 October

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

EVENTS

St George's Tots, 7 October 10:30-12 noon

Sister Act Christmas Crafting, 9 October, 7:30pm

Pet Blessing Service, 12 October, 2pm