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For further details, call Karen at the Church office
on **01452 550554**

Email:

churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk

Or see our website,

www.st-george-brockworth.org.uk

St. George's Church Brockworth

Parish Magazine

MAY 2019

To Journey in Faith and Share God's Love

How to contact *your* St George's team

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Court Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4ET
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Phone: 01452 550 554
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Parish Website: www.st-george-brockworth.org.uk
Facebook: Search for "[St George's Church Brockworth](#)" and 'like' our page

Vicar: Position vacant. Contact during vacancy : 01452 550554

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The article deadline for the June issue is 15/05/19.
Please email stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com
If unable to email, please deliver hard copy to the Church Office.

Editorial Disclaimer & church policies :

Any ecclesiastical or political views contained in this magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC or the Editor. This church promotes good practice in work with children and young people. It has a current and active Child Protection Policy that's available to view at St George's Church & St George's Church Centre. St. George's, Brockworth is a Fair Trade Parish and supports the Parish Giving Scheme.

THIS MONTH'S COVER: Hellebores



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Parish Notes for May 2019

A very big THANK YOU to our “retired” Rev. David Sutch for leading our Lent course and all the Holy Week services and for our joyful Easter Day family service.

Thank you, too, to all who helped in any way with the Lent lunches. £231.65 was raised which will go to St. George’s restoration fund.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 4th May from 10 am – 12 noon in the Church Hall for our Bring and Buy plant sale. Even if you’re not a gardener, you’ll be very welcome to pop in for a coffee.

On Thursday 30th May, we will be celebrating Ascension Day with a short act of worship at 7 am on the top of Coopers Hill.

Saturday 1st June will be our Spring Fair, in the Church hall from 10 am until 1 pm. Again, we look forward to welcoming you there. Raffle tickets are now available from Church and from the office.

You will see from Gordon and Rona Clifford’s article, everyone is welcome to join the teams as they celebrate 20 years of Open The Book, in conjunction with Experience Church for Brockworth’s Primary School children. A big thank you to the teams for all their skill and hard work in bringing Bible stories to life for the children and especially to Gordon and Rona for organising the “Experiences” each year

Don’t forget that until a new vicar is in place, all contact should be made through the office on 01452 550554 or by email at: churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk and not to the Vicarage.

Keep up-to-date on our website:
www.st-george-brockworth.org.uk



This is the address Jane gave on her last Sunday in St. George’s.

You may have arrived at church this morning expecting me to preach an emotional sermon about my time here and about the fact that I am leaving this place, and yes part of it will be that, though I hope not too emotional! But in another way, today is no different to any other, my role, as is anyone else’s who stands here, is to preach the gospel and to learn, with all of you, to better live that gospel.

So, a question, have you ever thought, Maybe Jesus sometimes got it wrong? We might reasonably ask that after today’s gospel reading. How on earth can he be defending Mary here? Mary, sister of Martha, the sister who let Martha do all the work. Be honest: would you want to be stuck on a desert island with her? Let’s just think about what she

did.

Those who know, say that Mary had about a pint of spikenard, which is an enormous amount of perfume, especially of this particular one! Wealthy Romans would use just a little bit of it to anoint their heads because it was very expensive. It came all the way from the mountains of northern India where the nard plant grows. Spikenard was the fragrant, rich rose red oil derived from the root and the flower stalk of the nard plant.

Mary’s jar of perfume had the value of a year’s wages for a labourer – a year’s wages in that one jar!

In John’s gospel, Judas objected to Mary’s extravagance, pouring all that oil – much, much more than needed – onto Jesus’ feet. It’s a waste, an enormous waste. In Matthew’s gospel, it’s the disciples who object to the waste. And in Mark’s gospel, it’s the people standing around watching who object. It is, they all say, a misuse of precious resources and for what, a momentary devotion. You couldn’t run a family budget that way and still eat.

Not only did Mary squander the perfume, but the way she did the anointing was highly inappropriate. First, it was improper to anoint feet during a meal; that happened before a meal, and second, wiping Jesus’ feet with her hair was seen as scandalous, Jewish women did not unbind their hair in public, it indicated loose morals. If a married woman let her hair down in public, her husband could divorce her.

We might reasonably consider Mary's behaviour to be foolish, it certainly doesn't seem very adult or responsible, rather impetuous and emotional. We know that Mary was extremely grateful to Jesus because just before this, Jesus had raised her brother Lazarus, from the dead and quite possibly Mary would have been destitute without Lazarus, certainly if the way she used the perfume was anything to go by! Mary may also have had some sense that she was about to be separated from Jesus, that he had nearly reached the climax of his ministry. In a week, he would be dead. She anointed his feet the day before Palm Sunday, his triumphal entry into Jerusalem where he'd be hailed King of Israel, the one who comes in the Name of the Lord. Her anointing shows that Jesus is king. It was a prophetic act and it prepared Jesus for burial. Still, Mary's spectacle of love and service seems excessive even to us, and was certainly distasteful to them. So the question remains, why did Jesus defend impulsive Mary and rebuke sensible Judas. It may be that Jesus was speaking to me, and perhaps to you too, when he said, "Leave her alone." It may be that what John has highlighted for us in this scene are two different ways to be a disciple, to be a follower of Jesus. There are two different attitudes about discipleship, and most of us, if we're honest, have both of them in us. For Judas, discipleship was a duty, an obligation. The censorious,

shaming moral voice scolding, "Think of the poor," but he wasn't really interested in caring for the poor. He was just plain calculating. On the other hand, for Mary, discipleship was about passion, the thing that energized her. She's animated by generosity, tenderness, and enthusiasm, so in the moment, so vulnerable, and Judas was getting on her case about it. Maybe she has something to show us about how to follow Jesus. Five days later, it was the night of the Last Supper, Maundy Thursday, and Jesus instituted the Eucharist. He wanted to show his disciples true discipleship, so maybe Mary's foot washing inspired him. We know how it went, Jesus got up during the meal, stripped off his outer garment, wrapped a towel around himself, girded himself like a servant, and washed the feet of his disciples... exactly what will happen here on Maundy Thursday. After he did this, he told his disciples, "If I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other's feet. I've laid down a pattern for you. What I've done, you do... I give you a new command: love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples – when they see the love you have for each other." Jesus wants us to follow him, like Mary did, out of passion, out of desire – not out of duty or obligation. If we find discipleship a burden, a yoke, we're missing the point; our motivation is

From the Registers— March 2019

Baptisms

Sunday 17th March Rebecca Sanderson
Sunday 24th March Toby White

May God, who has received you by baptism into His Church, pour upon you the riches of His grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may be daily renewed by His anointing Spirit and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

Marriages

Saturday 30th March Victoria Green & Luke Dewsbery

Victoria and Luke attending the
marriage preparation course,



Faithful God, giver of all good things, give these couples wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their lives together. May they dwell together in love and peace all the days of their life, seeking one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Funerals

No funerals during March

Please also remember all who are sick or bereaved and who need our prayers

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health; comfort and restore those who are sick and bereaved, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your unfailing love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

YOU ARE WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT!

Negative thoughts can actually harm you physically. In a recent study by the universities of Exeter and Oxford, it was found that if you listen to that critical inner voice, you will end up with an increased heart rate, consistent with feelings of being under threat and distress.

On the other hand, positive thoughts have the opposite effect. Those in the study who were encouraged to be kind to themselves when things went wrong, reported more self-compassion, connection with others, and had feelings of relaxation and safety.

No wonder that Paul urges us: "Brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4: 8,9)

100 Club April 2019 WINNERS

1st — Richard Ashenden (84)
2nd — Jan Bowkett (91)
3rd — Erica Holbrook (21)

confused. Love motivates true discipleship. That's what Mary showed us. God wants passion, not duty; love, not obligation; desire, not burden.

The point is: if we want to engage in caring for the poor or any other kind of Christian ministry, we mustn't do it out of obligation. God doesn't want us to follow him out of guilt or fear or compulsion. The challenge for every Christian is, engage in ministry and follow Jesus out of passion, out of love, out of thanks. Motivation matters... a lot. The way of duty is: I'll follow and obey God so that he'll accept me. The way of passion is: God loves me, accepts me, delights in me, and in response I follow and obey. The human inclination is the way of duty, the gospel is the way of passion. That is why we need to hear it often.

We see Mary's lavish generosity, and we may wonder how we might ever be like that or ask even, do we really want to be like that. We can't become truly generous by an act of will, or by a feeling of guilt, or by sense of duty.

The way to true generosity is connecting with the gospel, making it part of who we are, what we identify with. The good news is that God deeply loves and cares for us. The quality of our relationship with God is what gives us value and security and importance

Acting out of duty, following moral rules, earning our place with God, doesn't lead to a true change of heart.

Mary showed us a discipleship motivated by passion and gratitude. It's discipleship as a response to God's acceptance and love of us, and that's repentance, a change of heart. Mary showed us the disciple's heart, a heart changed. God longs for our love, for passion, not duty.

Imagine your life, as I imagine mine, without guilt, fear, or duty. Imagine the church not being associated with guilt and duty. Imagine not feeling guilt and duty about your family or work or God. That's the gospel ideal. True discipleship comes not from duty, but from love.

I have spent the last seven years endeavouring to live the gospel way here with you all, learning with you that the way of passion is knowing that God loves us, accepts us and delights in us. I have seen and experienced passion and love. I have shared with you, loved with you, laughed with you and cried with you and what I have found here amongst you is loving discipleship and generosity as mirrored in the actions of Mary. I cannot think of a better group of people with which to have shared my joys and sorrows over the last seven years, and they have been many; and I thank you, all of you

and I wish for you, well what I wish for you is best expressed in words which are not my own and which are my gift to you all now. Please accept them with the love with which they are offered,

**The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you**

**To shine upon you and be gracious
And be gracious unto you
The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you
And give you peace, and give you peace;
And give you peace, give you peace.**

God bless you all.

Vicar Jane we'll miss you so
We won't forget you wherever you go
You and John and Ed and Dan
Chrissie and Alfie, the "big little man"
You'll all be missed, you're a marvelous crowd
Your family really do you proud
Needles and natter won't be the same
Without you, who are we to blame?
You've always gone the extra mile
To help us learn and laugh and smile
Your Quiet Days are great it's true
Brownshill is special and so are you
We're very grateful to you and John
For your patience on and on
John with his whisky and your white wine
We're sure retirement will be just fine
So good luck Vicar and patient spouse
Be afraid when we all come to your new house
Love and laughter, thanks and praise
Happiness be with you all your days.

Liz Curtis

ROLL AWAY THE STONE

My stone
Shouldn't moan
Perfect but flawed
Help me Lord
Roll it away
Help me I pray
Give me grace
To 'wash my face'

Turn my wrong into right
In the day and in the night
Help me lead
Where there's a need
Make me humble
Not to stumble
Bear the load
Along the road

Human and weak
Help me seek
Others views
And good news
Striving for best
At work or rest

Alone, not able
But at your table
I'll always stand
Holding your hand

My beautiful stone
Trying not to moan

Liz Curtis





Thanks from The Rev David Sutch

To those who made the week before Easter so Holy, my thanks!
 To Rona who provided the music for our hymns.
 To all those who read the scriptures to us.
 To those who humbly braved a foot to be washed.
 To our servers and sacristan and Deacons.
 To our cleaners and brass rubbers.
 To our wonderful flower team for Palm Sunday, the Garden of Repose
 and the glorious sight for Easter.
 To the Ass, sorry the Donkey,
 who helped carry our Lord in
 procession.
 To all who helped make the week
 Holy.

May the rest of our lives be holy too.
 Your brother in Christ

David



Dear All,
 I just had to write a note for the magazine to say thank you. It seems
 that is all I have been saying for the past few weeks, but yes, I'm
 saying it again.
 What a glorious and generous send-off you organised for John and I.
 Wonderful food, though why would that surprise me at St George's!
 Kind words, and very generous gifts.
 I will use my pen often and remember you all when I do, the picture
 will have a place in the study at our new home and the glass bowl,
 which I will not leave to the removal men, will, I hope be used often.
 The cheque I think will be used for the garden once we are settled in.
 The many bottles of wine and bunches of flowers and the rose bush
 from Mother's Union and other small gifts; well, they will lighten my
 life and remind me how fortunate I am to have known you all; thank
 you.
 As for John's whisky, well, what more could he want, his model
 railway and his favourite whisky!
 We do hope that if you are in Minchinhampton for ice cream or a
 walk, that you will call and say hello and maybe even have a cuppa
 with us.

Our Love to you all,

Jane



Series Three: BIBLICAL CITIES NINEVAH

Dear Readers, having completed my series on Church Architecture it is now time to embark on a new theme. Editor Pat is in full agreement with my suggestion of a series on Biblical Cities. I thought that I would start with Ninevah.

My earliest recollection of Ninevah goes back to my Junior School weekly lesson on Poetry, my favourite lesson. Sadly, not on junior schools' curricula these days. We were studying the Ledbury current Poet Laureate, John Masefield, and his love of ships and the sea. He was the Poet Laureate from 1930 to 1967. Having learnt "Sea Fever" we moved on to "Cargoes", the first two lines I quote:

Quinquireme of Nineveh from distant Ophir,
Rowing home to haven in sunny Palestine.

To a nine-year old what does that mean? Well, I had to search and discovered a Quinquireme (Latin five oars) is an ancient Roman Galley with five banks of oars on each side which people like the ancient Phoenicians employed to trade across the Mediterranean. Masefield's ship is being rowed from "distant Ophir," a region in

Arabia at the southern end of the Red Sea to the northern end of that sea. (Masefield must have intended the term "Palestine" to apply to the land at the farthest reach of the present Gulf of Aqaba). So, where did Masefield get his information? The Bible of course. Masefield found many of his details in the Old Testament. Nineveh, an important Assyrian city, is often mentioned there. Many of the details of this poem are mentioned in 1 Kings, Chapter 10 eg ivory, apes, peacocks, and cedars.

This Chapter in Kings talks of Hiram's ships bringing gold from Ophir; and from there they brought great cargoes of almug wood and precious stones. King Solomon used the almug wood (sandal wood) to make supports for the temple of the LORD and for the royal palace, and to make harps and lyres for the musicians. King Solomon gave the Queen of Sheba much of the bounty.

But this was not the earliest mention of Ninevah in the Bible; that belongs to Genesis 10:11 quote: "Ashur left that land, and built Nineveh". "Ashur" is the Hebrew name for the country "Assyria" rather than it being a person, Nimrod, the hunter rather than Ashur is the person. Chapter 3, set in the days of the Assyrian empire, describes it as an "exceedingly great city of three days' journey in breadth", whose population at that time is given as "more than 120,000".

friend", said I. "Why outside this house?" said he. "I live here". And went on to try and explain my situation. They were about to arrest me for loitering when I saw my friend and sister strolling along in no hurry at all. One officer took me aside while he questioned my sister. "This lad says you're his sister. Is that correct?" "I've never seen him before in my life" says she. "And what about this other fellow?" "He's been following me." says she. "Then why were you holding hands?" There followed a telling off for wasting police time whilst I said to my friend, "We've missed the last tube and we shall be AWOL (absent without leave) in the

morning. The policeman told us to get in the back of the car and keep absolutely quiet. They then drove us quite quickly to Kings Cross, just in time to catch our train to Lincolnshire. My friend had one final lecture about time-keeping and we were sent on our way with astonished looks from other passengers. Two other friends came to see the sights of London, but my sister stayed well clear! A few months later, my parents split up and the visits had to stop. R.A.F Binbrook closed and I went to R.A.F. Wyton, near Huntingdon, but that's another story

Keith Stacey



AIR FORCE ANECDOTES - ALL TRUE!

By mid-1957 I had finished my 18 months boy entrant service and passed my exams to become a senior aircraftsman – not as grand as the title appears! I now had six weeks leave before I was sent to R.A.F. Binbrook on the wolds of Lincolnshire. One of my friends asked if he could come and stay with me at my parents' house which was now in Mill Hill, NW7. He came for the weekend from his home in Widnes as he had never been to London and wanted to see the sights. He duly arrived and my sixteen-year-old sister was smitten! He was quite short, only 5'5" and she even shorter at 5'3". On the Saturday, whilst my sister was working, he and I took the tube to Westminster and did all the usual sights – Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, St. Pauls, Tower of London, Piccadilly and on into Soho.

Across the road from us was a woman standing on a corner. She was tall, peroxide blonde, wearing a pale pink skirt and a blouse that was revealing a lot of cleavage. She had a long cigarette

holder, a gold chain on her left ankle and a little poodle with a diamante collar and lead. My friend was captivated, especially when I announced that she was probably "on the game". He said, "I'm going to ask, "how much". Not heeding my warning, he brazenly walked across and started to proposition the lady. She looked down at him with considerable disdain, pulled her skirt up a couple of inches, bent her leg slightly and said, "I got this crease in my knee for little boys". He could have crawled under a snake back across the road!

Three weeks later he turned up again at the invitation of my sister. By now I was working at Binbrook and he was at R.A.F. Manby near Maplethorpe. We both had to catch a train at Kings Cross at 11 pm. This meant we had to catch the last tube from Burnt Oak at 10 pm. Burnt Oak is about 1½ miles from Mill Hill. Sister and friend had gone out for the evening, with a warning from me to be back by 9.30 or we would miss the last tube. By 9.45 they had not arrived, and I went out onto the pavement to look for them. Almost immediately a police car pulled up and asked what I was doing. "Waiting for a

The minor Prophet described Ninevah as a city of vast extent and it was then the centre of the civilization and commerce of the world, but to Nahum it was also a "bloody city all full of lies and robbery" (Nahum 3:1).

So where was Ninevah? It was an ancient Assyrian city of Upper Mesopotamia, located on the outskirts of Mosul in modern-day northern Iraq. It was located on the eastern bank of the Tigris River, and was the capital of the Neo-Assyrian Empire.

Ninevah was an important commercial trading route between the Mediterranean and Indian oceans. Hence Masefield's poem. It was the largest city in the world for some fifty years until the year 612 BC when, after a bitter period of

civil war in Assyria, it was sacked by a coalition of its former subject peoples, the Babylonians and others.

Finally, what is left of Ninevah? The answer is mostly ruins, many destroyed in the last few years by IS. The ruins of Nineveh are surrounded by the remains of a massive stone and mudbrick wall dating from about 700 BC. About 12 km in length, the wall system consisted of an ashlar stone retaining wall about 6 metres (20 ft) high surmounted by a mudbrick wall about 10 metres (33 ft) high and 15 metres (49 ft) thick.

Some parts of the city, eg the Gates, have recently been re-constructed. So that, dear readers, concludes my very short synopsis on Ninevah. Now I will start on Babylon.



Nineveh: Mashki Gate

Robinson Crusoe

Did you know that last month was the 300th anniversary of the publication of Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe or to give it its full title, The Life and Strange Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe of York, Mariner; who lived Eight and Twenty Years all alone in an un-inhabited Island on the Coast of America, near the Mouth of the Great River of Oroonoke; Having been cast on Shore by Shipwreck wherein all the Men perished but himself. With an account of how he was at last as strangely deliver'd by Pyrates.

Taken from the April edition of the Saga magazine.

Can you help?

To keep the brass gleaming in Church we have three teams of two or three. The brass is cleaned every three weeks, so it only comes around every nine weeks. With just one more volunteer, you would only be called on once in twelve weeks.

There is also a team who clean the church each week. Pat and Sue do it once a month, but Jan and Heather do it every other week, with Valda helping whenever she can get there. We need one or even two more pairs who would do it just once a month, to take the pressure off Jan, Heather and Valda.

If anyone else feels that they could spare a little time and elbow grease to help with either of these unseen but necessary jobs, please could you let me or the office know. Thank you.

Liz Ashenden 862515

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY May 2019 (cont'd)

19th	8.00am	Said Eucharist: Church
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist: Church
20th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
22nd	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
23rd	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church
26th	8.00am	Said Eucharist: Church
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist: Church
27th	7.30pm	Mothers' Union meeting: Hall, Church Centre
29th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
Ascension Day		
30th	7.00am	Short act of worship at the top of Cooper's Hill
	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.00pm	Ascension Day Eucharist: Church

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 2019

1st	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
2nd	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church
4th	10.00am-12.00pm	Plant Sale: Church Centre
	11.00am	Wedding: Church
5th	8.00am	Said Eucharist: Church
	10.00am	Family Service: Church
8th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
	7.30pm	Vacancy PCC meeting: Hall, Church Centre
9th	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church
12th	8.00am	Said Eucharist: Church
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist: Church
	11.30am	Baptism: Church
13th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
15th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
16th	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS ON MODERN LIFE

You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

You can't teach an old dog new tricks or a new dog much of anything at all.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so they can tell when they're really in trouble.

Gambling is stealing by mutual consent.

Fruit is evidence of the root.

The quickest generosity is the best.

Talk to a man about himself and he will listen for hours—Benjamin Disraeli.

People who are out to find fault seldom find anything else.

The road to success is always under construction.

He that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping—Isaac Walton.

Silence and modesty are very valuable qualities in the art of conversation—Montaigne.

Driving

You know, someone actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen which read: "Parking Fine". Wasn't that nice?

Listens, Observes and Acts

On Monday May 20th at 7.30pm in the Church Centre Hall
we have Rev'd Steve Morris who is the
Chaplain Among Deaf and Hard of Hearing People
for the Gloucester Diocese
coming to talk to us about his work over many years in the
Diocese.

As is our custom, everyone is welcome to come along
to hear what Steve has to tell us.

.....

On Monday June 3rd we have a visit to look around National Star at
Ullenwood Manor Road GL53 9QU
(the centre for specialist further education for young adults with
disabilities)
and afternoon tea in the Star centre Bistro (£18.00 per person)
Contact Jean if you would like to join us.

.....

Enid is being commissioned as Severnvale Deanery Leader
(our deanery)
at the Deanery Quiet day on Thursday June 6th at Maisemore
by our Area Dean Rev'd Simon Mason.
It will be good if a few of us could attend to support Enid.
(she will inform us of more details nearer the time.)

Many blessings, Rona.

The Bishop's Visit

A bishop was visiting a small church in his diocese for Easter.
He wanted the young people to understand what he had to say
about the Good Shepherd, so he dressed up in his bishop's long,
flowing robes and carried his crook. "Now," beamed the bishop,
"do you know who I am?"
After a moment's silence, one child ventured "Little Bo Peep?"

Don't be shy!

This is *your* magazine. We need your
interesting stories, facts, jokes, poems,
quotes, recipes, brain teasers, photos,
notices or anything else that others would
enjoy reading.

All contributions will be gratefully
received by the church office or,
preferably, please email:

stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com

**The DEADLINE
for the
June issue
is 15th May**

Thank you!

Help Guide Dogs for the Blind

Please save your plastic
milk bottle tops
(they can be any colour,
but **only milk bottle tops**)
and pass them to
Jenny Farmer or into the Church office
to help
raise money for
Guide Dogs for the Blind

Thank you!



May 2019 Daily Bible Readings



Wednesday 1st May	Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21
Thursday 2nd May	Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-end
Friday 3rd May	Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15
Saturday 4th May	Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21
Monday 6th May	Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29
Tuesday 7th May	Acts 7:51-8:1a; John 6:30-35
Wednesday 8th May	Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40
Thursday 9th May	Acts 8:26-end; John 6:44-51
Friday 10th May	Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59
Saturday 11th May	Acts 9:31-42; John 6:60-69
Monday 13th May	Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10
Tuesday 14th May	Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30
Wednesday 15th May	Acts 12:24-13:5; John 12:44-end
Thursday 16th May	Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20
Friday 17th May	Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6
Saturday 18th May	Acts 13:44-end; John 14:7-14
Monday 20th May	Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26
Tuesday 21st May	Acts 14:19-end; John 14:27-end
Wednesday 22nd May	Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8
Thursday 23rd May	Acts 15:17-21; John 15:9-11
Friday 24th May	Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17
Saturday 25th May	Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21
Monday 27th May	Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26-16:4
Tuesday 28th May	Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11
Wednesday 29th May	Acts 17:15,22-18:1; John 16:12-15
Thursday 30th May	Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-end
Friday 31st May	Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23

Many of you, like our regular contributor, Allan Delves, will remember this hymn from Junior School days, on leaving to go to secondary school. He feels these verses are appropriate for this time of change.

One more step along the world I go,

One more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me traveling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.

Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see,
you'll be looking at along with me:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me traveling the way I should;
Where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way I know:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me traveling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the
new;
keep me traveling along with you.
You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me traveling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.



BY SYDNEY CARTER

Cobalt

THANK YOU to everyone who collects and donates their cards (Christmas, birthday, Easter, Anniversaries etc.) for us to take to Cobalt.

The money to purchase this machine and others like it is helped by the volunteers recycling your cards for sale.

It is wonderful to think that we all played our part!

SO, KEEP THE CARDS COMING by bringing them to Church or to the office or by giving them to us. Rona and Gordon.



We did it - thanks to our wonderful supporters this new equipment is on its way!

We are now able to purchase new equipment for the Thirlestaine Breast Centre which will help us to detect breast cancer more accurately at an earlier stage. It will help make treatment more effective. The total cost of this equipment is £338,000 and we have been so touched by the amazing things our supporters have done to raise money for this appeal. **Thank you.**

Thursday May 23rd at 10.30am
Castle Hill School will attend St Patrick's Church, take part in both the service led by Reverend David and help when their usual 'Open the Book' team dramatise the new play.

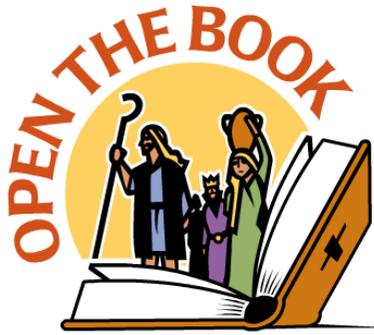
Anyone is welcome to attend to see and learn how the Open the Book teams tell stories from the bible to both local primary schools in our parish. The Castle Hill School Open the Book Team celebrates 10 years of bible story-telling this year.

Thank you in advance to Fr Chris for allowing us to use St Patrick's Church, to Reverend David for leading the two services and for the two ecumenical Open the Book Teams who will read and dramatise the new Bob Hartman bible story.

Gordon & Rona

Sides Persons Volunteers Required

It would be helpful if at least two more members of the congregation could volunteer for the Sides persons rota. The duties are not onerous and involve getting to the Church at 0915, updating the hymn boards, welcoming (and counting) the congregation as they arrive, handing out hymnbooks, taking the collection and directing people to take communion. They are responsible for nominating two people to bring the bread and wine to the altar and finally for collecting and tidying up the books at the end of the service. This duty should only come around once in five or six weeks, (or of course less frequently should more people volunteer.) If you feel you could help with this valuable service, please contact Richard Ashenden.



EXPERIENCE CHURCH / OPEN the BOOK 20TH ANNIVERSARY

As most of you are probably aware, St George's Church hosts an EXPERIENCE DAY to both the primary schools in our parish once every academic year, and 2019 is no exception.

This academic year we are having EXPERIENCE CHURCH (with a difference). Previously, St. George's Flower Team have produced displays around our church where we explain to the pupils of both Brockworth Primary Academy and Castle Hill Schools various parts of our church and church services with readings from the bible. There is normally an activity for them at each station.

Volunteers from St George's Church, St Patrick's Church and The United Reform Church help to take five or six children to each of the various displays and this works well.

Over the last 10 years we have held Experience Days for Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Church spread over two weeks (10 sessions) with a class of around 30 pupils each morning attending, which equates to around 300 children plus school staff and parents.

OPEN the BOOK' is celebrating 20 years since it started in 1999 and became part of The Bible Society around two years ago, Bob Hartman who wrote the Lion Storyteller Bible for sharing with children and which our two teams use to dramatise a bible story each time they visit both primary schools in our parish, has written a new play for this occasion. It is suggested that it is performed to the whole school with a special service beforehand.

As St George's Church is not big enough to accommodate 200 children plus helpers in one attendance, Fr Chris Hickey has kindly offered for us to use St Patrick's Church on the two days following SATS (Exams) and before half term commences.

The details and dates are as follows:-

Tuesday May 21st at 10.30am Brockworth Primary Academy will attend St Patrick's Church, take part in both the service led by Reverend David and help when their usual 'Open the Book' team dramatise the new play.



URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS IN ORDER OF SCARCITY

- **Long Life Fruit Juice (not chilled)**
- **Long Life Milk (not chilled)**
- **Instant Mash Potato**
- **Tinned Ready Meals**
- **Tinned Rice Pudding**
- **Packet Noodles**
- **Tinned Fish**
- **Tinned Potatoes**
- **Deodorant**
- **Shampoo**

Exercise

With summer coming, I had to face the fact that my body was totally out of shape. So, I joined a fitness club and signed up for the aerobics class. I got to the club, and there I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But my the time I got my clothes off and my exercise kit on, the class was over.

BRING AND BUY Plant Sale

Church Centre
Court Road

SATURDAY 4TH MAY
10am -12pm

Bring some buy some

Bedding plants
Vegetable plants
Shrubs
And more

Tea and Coffee
Raffle



Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Faith in the Arts showcase

Sunday 12 May, 3pm to 6pm
Discover Decrypt, Southgate Street,
Gloucester GL1 1TP

Designed to bring together artists and church communities, this will be an opportunity to share experience and learn from each other. Talks, discussion and interactive arts sessions. Free—book at christianartsfestival.org

Catalyst: Your Voice

Sunday 12 May, 7-8.30pm
St Laurence Church, High Street,
Stroud, GL5 1AP

Christian? Aged between 11 – 18? Come and tell us about what could help you in your faith journey? Do you talk about your faith with your friends? What could help your confidence in talking about those things that really matter? Contact barrie@thedoors.org.uk to find out more.

Ascension day hilltop service

Thursday 30 May, 7am at the top of Cooper's Hill
St George's Church, Brockworth will mark Ascension Day with a short act of worship at 7am at the top of

Have your say

Visit Facebook [f/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on YouTube [▶ Diocese of Gloucester](https://www.youtube.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester) or visit our website gloucester.anglican.org

Coopers Hill, Gloucester. All are welcome to join in this special service. For more information contact churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk

Michael Perham Cathedral Lecture

Monday 3 June, 7pm, University Chapel,
Francis Close Hall, Swindon Road GL50
4AZ

Lecture by Canon Lucy Winkett, Rector of St James' Church, Piccadilly. The lecture is called 'The silence of the damned?' - is there space for public and shared silence in contemporary multi-faith Britain? Tickets event-brite.co.uk/e/the-2019-michael-perham-university-cathedral-lecture-tickets-58636944680

Cheltenham Science Festival

Tuesday 4 June to Sunday 9 June
Montpelier Gardens, Cheltenham
Learn about your body from the inside out with the diocesan team at the Cheltenham Science Festival. You can try out our lung capacity experiment, make a your own DNA into a bracelet, look through our microscope and enter into conversations about science and faith. If you're interested in volunteering to help, contact Emma on eanderson@glosdioc.org.uk For more information on the festivals visit www.cheltenhamfestivals.com

 DIOCESE OF
GLOUCESTER

the
messenger

May 2019

Thy Kingdom Come

Thursday 30 May to Sunday 9 June

faith



There's a huge global wave of prayer planned from Ascension (30 May) to Pentecost (9 June). Christians from across the world are praying the line in the Lord's Prayer that asks "Thy Kingdom Come".

What does that actually mean when we pray that line? We're praying for the world to be healed, for relationships to flourish, for an end to war and hatred and for God to rule over the world with justice, peace and love.

We're praying for the people that we know and love to come to know Jesus Christ and for their lives to be completely transformed by his joy and truth. What a mind-blowing prospect. If you're excited by the thought of the power of prayers from across the globe joining and Christians standing together for love, you can be part of it.

Visit www.thykingdomcome.global to

- Get resources and help to focus your prayers
- Share what you are doing on social media—use #Pledge2Pray and #ThyKingdomCome in your posts.
- Add your light to the map of the world.

And if you're not sure about joining in, but would like to be prayed for at this time, please do get in touch (kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk).

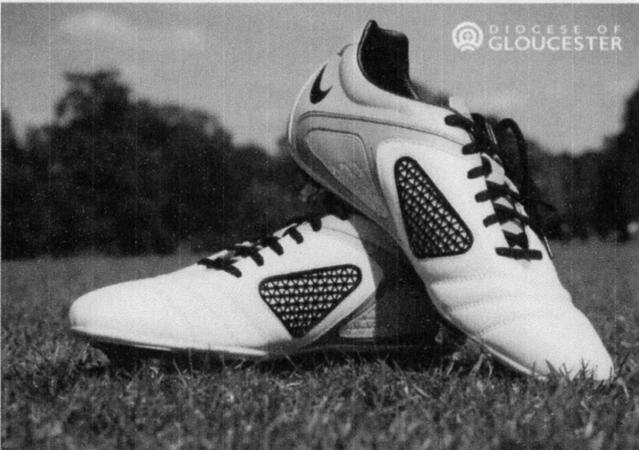
Cheltenham Jazz Festival

Friday 4 to Monday 6 May, 10-6pm, Montpellier Gardens, Cheltenham
Come along and make some music with the diocesan team. Try out our giant windchime, make a drum and find your own rhythm, think about what makes your heart sing and have conversations about the big things in life. If you're interested in volunteering contact Emma, eanderson@glosdioc.org.uk
For more information on the festivals visit www.cheltenhamfestivals.com

25th anniversary celebration of women ordained into priesthood

Monday 20 May, 5.30pm at Gloucester Cathedral

Every is welcome and if you are a member of the clergy attending, you are invited to bring along a girl or young woman who is being encouraged to become who they are called to be. This is about aspiration and not necessarily about a calling to ordained ministry, although it would be wonderful if we could particularly identify young women and girls who might be encouraged to explore ordained vocation whether now or in the future. RSVP to dbest@glosdioc.org.uk or 01452 835 511 by Friday 10 May.



Win £50 for a charity of your choice
gloucester.anglican.org/churchsport
Share your views on sport and community for a chance to win £50
for a charity of your choice

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The Christian Arts Festival is now on



Loads of events are taking place now across the Diocese with a family friendly and fun focus. Comedian Paul Kerensa (writer of *Miranda*, *Not Going Out*, *TFI Friday*) is on stage at St Michael's Whaddon on Friday 3 May, 7.30pm.

There's a folk dancing workshop at Gas Green Church, Cheltenham on Saturday 4 May, 10.30am to 1pm, where there's the chance to explore the UK's country dance heritage and learn some of the Jewish steps Jesus

would have known.

Make a puppet at the Bee Daws Puppet workshop and give them a story plus a heart-warming little piece of theatre on friendship. This is for children 5+ accompanied by an adult on Saturday 11 May, 10am to 12.30pm at Discover DeCrypt, Gloucester.

There's absolutely loads on offer for all different groups of people—have a look at the full programme at christianartsfestival.org Tickets for all events from www.ticketsource.co.uk/christianartsfestival or telephone 03336 663366 (£1.75 for telephone booking).

Bishop's sign language challenge



Bishop Rachel has been learning 50 words in sign language to raise awareness of the work of the Gloucestershire Deaf Association (GDA). It's part of their 100-year anniversary celebrations.

Bishop Rachel said. "I will learn words that I can use in my work and aim to have completed my challenge by the end of May. It's a daunting feeling learning something new from scratch, but I'm committed because the money raised from the campaign will help the charity to continue providing life-changing practical and emotional support to the thousands of children, young people and adults who have been born deaf and are British Sign Language (BSL) users and those who have become deaf through illness or age." **To make a donation visit**

justgiving.com/fundraising/bishoprachelsbslchallenge

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