

## **Regular services and activities**

### **Sunday**

8 am: Said Eucharist in Church (Book of Common Prayer service on the first Sunday of each month)

10 am: Parish Eucharist with hymns in Church  
(Family service on the first Sunday of each month)

### **Monday**

10 am: Coffee morning in the Church centre lounge

10 am: Parent and Toddlers in the Church centre hall

7.15 pm Bible study in the Church centre lounge

7.30 pm: Mothers' Union on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, in the Church centre hall

### **Wednesday**

9.30 am: Holy Communion service in the Church centre chapel, followed by coffee

### **Thursday**

10 am: Needles and Natter in the Church centre lounge

10 am: Flower arrangers in the Church

7.30 pm: Bell ringing practice in the Church tower

# **St. George's Church Brockworth**

Parish Magazine

**November 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  
**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9.30am - 11.30am  
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**Email:** churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk

**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 December/January issue is 15/11/19.**  
Please email [stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com](mailto: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: Poppies for remembrance.**



**STEVE PLANT  
& SONS**

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 : 07833 402016

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## Parish notes for November 2019

Our All Souls service, remembering those who have died, will be held on Sunday, 3rd November at 4pm in Church and everyone is very welcome.

The following Sunday is Remembrance Sunday when the Parish Eucharist in Church, starts at 9.45 am and is followed by an act of remembrance at the churchyard war memorial.

This year's Christmas Fair will be held in the Church centre from 2—4pm on Saturday 23rd November . Fun for all the family, and a very special visitor for the children to meet!

Don't forget our ever-popular Christmas Tree Festival. It's not too late to pick up an application form if you want to have a go at decorating a tree for display in Church from 6th –8th December.

## My Mobility Scooter

I love my little scooter  
It helps me get about  
It has a little hooter  
So I don't need to shout;  
Though neither help the shocking  
State of paths, worse ev'ry day!  
And neither help unblocking  
The cars parked in my way.

*By Nigel Beeton*

*(This would really have made my  
Dad chuckle! Ed.)*



## Vacancy update Good News!

We had a very successful interview day on Tuesday 8th October. I'd like to thank everyone involved who worked so hard to make sure all went well, and our candidates and visitors felt welcomed and well fed.

Our new vicar will be Rev. Mike Smith. We expect his licensing to take place early in the new year.

Mike says:  
"Thank you for the opportunity to serve and lead within the community at St. George's. It is our pleasure and we are excited at what God has in store for this next chapter in the life of St. George's and the wider community.

Sarah, and our boys, Ben, Tim and Sam, are all really excited to be joining you too. We had a wonderful day looking around the parish and meeting some of the amazing characters in the church.

We were so touched with how wonderfully kind and hospitable the team was who welcomed us on Tuesday for the interview. We are looking forward to meeting all involved with the life of the church and getting to know you all.

We are very much looking forward to life in Brockworth!

Thank you for having us!!  
Mike and the family.

*Pat Hartwell. Lay Chair*

# From the Registers— September 2019

## A Prayer for us all during the vacancy

Lord Jesus, Faithful and Good Shepherd to us all, during our Vacancy, please walk alongside to guide, encourage and protect us and those who have the responsibility of leadership and Ministry at this time..

We look forward to welcoming Mike as our new priest to St George's, so that together we may serve the people of our parish, building on the work and witness of all those who served in this parish before. We pray for Mike and his family as they prepare to move to Brockworth.

May we journey in faith and share God's love in trust and faith, to the glory of your Holy Name. Amen

## A Prayer from St. Teresa of Avila

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself  
To be guided by You,  
Always follow Your plans,  
And perfectly accomplish Your Holy will.  
Grant that in all things, great and small,  
Today and all the days of my life,  
I may do whatever You require of me.  
Help me to respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace,  
So that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honour.  
May Your will be done in time  
and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen



## Baptisms

Sunday 1st September  
Sunday 22nd September

Bonnie Leigh Bowen  
Archie John Morgan

*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 7th September

Emma Walden & Tim Preece

*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

Tuesday 17th September  
Wednesday 25th September  
Thursday 26th September

Royston Smith  
Margaret Sestanovich  
David Walden

*"I am the resurrection and the life" says the Lord. "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Amen*

**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*

## November 2019

### Daily Bible Readings:



Friday 1st November	Daniel 7:1-3,15-18; Luke 6:20-31
Saturday 2nd November	Romans 11:1-2,11-12,25-29; Luke 14:1,7-11
Monday 4th November	Romans 11:29-end; Luke 14:12-14
Tuesday 5th November	Romans 12:5-16; Luke 14:15-24
Wednesday 6th November	Romans 13:8-10; Luke 14:25-33
Thursday 7th November	Romans 14:7-12; Luke 15:1-10
Friday 8th November	Romans 15:14-21; Luke 16:1-8
Saturday 9th November	Romans 16:3-9,16,22-end; Luke 16:9-15
Monday 11th November	Wisdom 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday 12th November	Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10
Wednesday 13th November	Wisdom 6:1-11; Luke 17:11-19
Thursday 14th November	Wisdom 7:22-81; Luke 17:20-25
Friday 15th November	Wisdom 13:1-9; Luke 17:26-end
Saturday 16th November	Wisdom 18:14-16;19:6-9; Luke 18:1-8
Monday 18th November	1 Maccabees 1:10-15,41-43,54-57; Luke 18:35-end
Tuesday 19th November	2 Maccabees 6:18-end; Luke 19:1-10
Wednesday 20th November	2 Maccabees 7:1,20-31; Luke 19:11-28
Thursday 21st November	1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Luke 19:41-44
Friday 22nd November	1 Maccabees 4:36-37,52-59; Luke 19:45-end
Saturday 23rd November	1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Luke 20:27-40
Monday 25th November	Daniel 1:1-6,8-20; Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday 26th November	Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday 27th November	Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28; Luke 21:12-19
Thursday 28th November	Daniel 6:12-end; Luke 21:20-28
Friday 29th November	Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33
Saturday 30th November	Isaiah 52:7-10; Matthew 4:18-22

## Open Doors

– serving persecuted Christians around the world.

### Hope for the Middle East.

The war in Syria caused much material damage as well as human losses. Many houses, even entire neighbourhoods or villages were destroyed. Pray for **Open Doors'** local partners helping people to return and rebuild their homes in relatively peaceful parts of their country.

Many Syrians lost their work during the war. With your support, **Open Doors** is providing income generating projects to help people earn an income so they can support their families. Please pray for wisdom for **Open Doors** staff co-ordinating these projects as they decide where to invest their time and resources most effectively

Last year, over 1000 Christian families were able to return and rebuild their homes in the Nineveh plains. Praise God for their courage and determination to preserve the important Christian presence in this country. Pray that the church will not just survive, but will thrive as a witness to Christ

Many Christians who return to the Nineveh plains struggle to find jobs. Schooling and other public services are also not yet back to the same levels as when so-called Islamic State took over.

**Ask the Lord to give His people power to endure patiently and pray for Open Doors partners helping people with training, income generating loans and spiritual support.**

Taken from Open Doors prayer diary, Sept/Oct

## **Tearfund a Christian charity empowering people to end poverty.**

*Harvest is the perfect time to reflect  
on what we are gathering in our lives*

“No-one can serve two masters, either you will hate one and love the other, or you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. He said to them, “You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight.” *Luke 16, v13-15*

Harvest is the perfect time to reflect on what we are “gathering” in our lives. Perhaps we have things “stored away in barns” that we’d be better off letting go of. This could be anger, unforgiveness, bad habits, or perhaps literal objects cluttering our lives.

A Trappist monk said that “people may spend their whole lives climbing the ladder of success only to find, once they reach the top, that the ladder is leaning against the wrong wall”.

The gospel implores us to take our ladder off the wall of consumerism. When we decide to live with less, we may find that we have more time and space to focus more on what truly matters.

Pray – Loving God, thank you that you have already given us so much: our lives, your beautiful creation, liberation from sin and death. We could never thank you enough for what we have received. Help us to see through our culture’s message of “more”, and instead, cultivate lives where we focus on what we already have, and what we have to give. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Taken from Tearfund’s prayer diary.

**Conscience** – (as defined by a small boy):

Something that makes me tell my mother before my sister does!

## **A Christian response to Brexit A message from Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert**

Our Diocesan LIFE vision through its ‘Engagement’ strand commits us to being advocates for human flourishing, but there can be no doubt that amid the ongoing turbulence and uncertainty regarding the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union, many faced with such great challenges and seemingly impossible questions, are struggling to know what they can do.

Yet as followers of Christ we are not helpless and we want to thank you for the different ways in which you are living out Christ’s love and hope during these days of extraordinary political unknowns, not least amid people’s anxiety and frustration. Thank you for praying and living ‘good neighbourliness’.

Jesus told his disciples a parable: *“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”* (Matthew 13:31-32)

Jesus speaks of something good and small being planted which grows into something life-giving, generous and hospitable. It is a beautiful picture of the inclusive Kingdom of God. We are all invited to join in and we each have small seeds to plant.

We want to encourage you not only to be planting and tending in the

relationships of everyday life, but also to consider if there are ways you can bring diverse people together in your local contexts to identify shared hopes about the sort of communities we want to be.

First there are all the opportunities we have as individual members of the body of Christ to be good neighbours amid the people and places of our everyday lives. The recent letter from the Diocese of Oxford is extremely helpful in offering some practical pointers and directing people to further resources. We commend the letter to you here.

Second our worshipping communities can be key in creating spaces for conversation, not least because we often have suitable buildings where people can gather, but also because we host many community events and activities which can be used to shape specific conversations. There are resources including conversation starters such as ‘what are the three main things we have in common that we can build on for a better future as a community?’ available at [www.churchofengland.org/together\\_](http://www.churchofengland.org/together_). Such conversations are not about apportioning blame or directing shoulds and oughts at decision-makers, but rather firing imaginations to look at common ground and what people might like to participate in together.

As was said when we wrote in January ‘Wishing that things had been lived differently will not change where we are, but we can be involved in shaping the present and future.’ This comes with our ongoing thanks and prayers

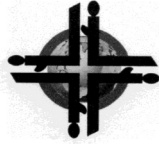


# WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



## Press Release



### Rise, take your mat and walk

Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Rise, take your mat and walk' to join this day of prayer.\* Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future. They encourage us to **'Rise, take your mat and walk'** with them as they continue their often turbulent journey towards full reconciliation.

World Day of Prayer is an international inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on Friday 6 March 2020, people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Zimbabwe.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world — through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas - before finishing in American Samoa more than 36 hours later.

\* For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area see the WDP website: [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Next year's World Day of Prayer service in Brockworth, (which used to be known as the Women's World Day of Prayer,) will be held at 10am on Friday 6th March, hosted by the United Reformed Church in Moorfield Road. The service, which was written by women of Zimbabwe, will be put together with members from St George's, St Patrick's and the Salvation Army. If anyone would like to become more involved, by reading one of the various parts written into the service, please do get in touch with me. However, whether or not you wish to take a part, we hope you will join us as we learn more about, (and join in prayer for,) the people of Zimbabwe on 6th March.

Liz Ashenden

## It's up to you ....

If you think you've nothing of real value to offer others, consider the words of an unknown poet:

One song can spark a moment  
One flower can wake a dream  
One tree can start a forest  
One bird can herald spring

One smile begins a friendship  
One hand-clasp lifts a soul  
One star guides a ship at sea  
One word can frame a goal

One vote can change a nation  
One sunbeam lights the room  
One candle wipes out darkness  
One laugh can conquer gloom

One step must start each journey  
One word must start each prayer  
One hope will raise your spirits  
One touch can show your care

One voice can speak with wisdom  
One heart can know what's true  
One life can make a difference  
You see, it's up to you

Taken from "Word for Today" from Christine Minchin



## Biblical cities – Chapter 6, Antioch (Antakya)

Dear Readers, you will recall my past series on Biblical Cities. Sadly, those I chose were war torn cities in the Middle East. I promised you for Chapter six a more stable city, why not Antioch (historically Antakya)? This city was located about 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea, in what today is Turkey, just north of Syria. Antioch on the Orontes was an ancient Greek city on the eastern side of the Orontes River. Its ruins lie near the modern city of Antakya. Antioch is so important to Christians because it became home to the first Christian church outside of the land of Israel and was the first place in which followers of Jesus were referred to as Christians. The population was composed of Greeks from Athens and Macedonia and a sizeable Jewish population. You ask, “Is it safe?” Yes, it is very safe; not a single tourist has ever been a victim of a terrorist attack in spite of its proximity to the Syrian border.

Unlike Damascus, which, you will remember, has 58 references in the Bible. Antioch has only 14 in the New Testament and none in the Old Testament - 13 in the Acts of the Apostles and one in Galatians.

But let us go to the most important Chapter, that is Acts Chapter 11. When Stephen was killed and martyred in Jerusalem, Christian believers were scattered because of persecution to many cities, among them Antioch. Here, believers proclaimed the Good News about the Lord to Gentiles. During this time the Jews were regarded as a favoured people and many thought that salvation was only meant for them. It was an uphill struggle for Gentiles, however news reached the church in Jerusalem and it was here that Barnabas decided to go to Antioch. Here he urged the people to be faithful and turn to the Lord. And he got many converts. Then he went to Tarsus to look for Saul (his Jewish name) who became Paul and Barnabas took him to Antioch for a whole year and it was here that believers were first called Christians as they severed themselves from the synagogue some 20 years after Christ's death. The city then became the headquarters of the missionary Paul about 47-55CE It is interesting to record that in Paul's travels to different countries he wrote letters which comprise a large part of the New Testament, to the Corinthians, to the Hebrews and the Ephesians etc but not to his own city where he spent much of his life. Could letters have been lost? No-one knows.

### Can you help!

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](mailto:stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com)

**The DEADLINE  
for the double December/January  
issue  
is 15th November**

**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!



## 100 Club WINNERS

October

1st — Karen Whitfield (64)  
2nd — Ann Dunn (4)  
3rd — Gill Dugdale (6)





OVER 90% OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTED BY FOOD-BANKS IN THE TRUSSELL TRUST NETWORK IS DONATED BY THE PUBLIC – THAT’S WHY YOUR FOOD DONATIONS ARE ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO OUR ABILITY TO GIVE EVERYONE REFERRED TO US A BALANCED AND NUTRITIOUS THREE DAY SUPPLY OF FOOD.

More and more people on benefits are moving onto Universal Credit. None of them should need a food bank. But from the very start, everyone who applies has to wait at least five weeks for a first payment – some people are left waiting longer. This is leaving many without enough money to cover the basics.

The Trust is campaigning for the five week wait to end. They have wide support in this, including from The Childrens’ Society who say “We know that problems with the benefit system, including the five-week wait, is one of the main reasons that families fall into financial crisis. The long wait for an initial Universal Credit payment can leave families without enough money to pay bills or to provide food for their children. We support the #5WeeksTooLong campaign because Universal Credit should support families instead of pushing them towards a financial crisis.”

Returning to the bible, most of the references to Antioch concern Paul and Barnabas, their travels to various countries and their return to Antioch. Acts 14 records that they preached in Derbe and won many disciples and then returned to Antioch via Lystra and Iconium.

Allow me to conclude with the lone reference outside Acts, that of Galatians Chapter two.

This chapter contains a summary of the confrontation between Paul and Peter and later involves, Barnabas and Christians in Jerusalem. Peter says that he came to Antioch to confront Paul because he felt that he was clearly in the wrong. It is considered "one of the most momentous events in the earliest Christianity". Paul details the theological reasons of his dispute with Peter. In verse 17 Paul uses the word 'we'/'our'

to show that both he and Peter actually agreed about the justification by faith only, and based on this mutual conviction Paul confronted Peter when Peter became inconsistent.

So what of Antioch today? There have been many archeological excavations exposing mosaic floors. Private and public dwellings remain. These are typical of the Roman period and can be seen in the local museum. The area around Antioch is based mainly on agriculture. The chief crops are wheat, cotton, rice, grapes, olives and fruit. The population is just over 200,000.

For the next issue, how about Rome, for which there are 28 references in the Bible?

**Allan Delves**



**All Souls Service in St George's  
November 3rd, 4pm**

A chance to remember loved ones who have gone on before us.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY November 2019

2nd	10.00am-12.00pm	Coffee Morning: Church Centre
3rd	8.00am	<b>Said Eucharist: Church</b>
	10.00am	<b>Family Service: Church</b>
	4.00pm	<b>All Souls' Service: Church</b>
4th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
6th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
	7.00pm	C/Centre Comm meeting: Lounge, Church Centre
7th	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church
9th	3.00pm-4.30pm	Glos Branch bell ringing: Church
<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>		
10th	8.00am	<b>Said Eucharist: Church</b>
	9.45am	<b>Parish Eucharist followed by short service at churchyard War Memorial: Church</b>
11th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
13th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
	7.00pm	PCC meeting: Hall, Church Centre
14th	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church

### Center Parcs experiences.

I thought you might like to hear about 2 outstanding moments when I went to Center Parcs at Longleat. My son & I joined with my daughter & family & went mid-September for a weekend break. The first occasion happened when Paul & I stayed in our lodge as we had had a very long day, but I heard about it when the others returned. Kirstie said, I have just had a "magical moment". They were all in the outdoor pool at 8pm & she was supporting Sam, my 3year old grandson floating in the pool. He looked up & started singing Twinkle, Twinkle, little star. When he had finished everyone around them said "Ahhhhhhhhh"

The 2<sup>nd</sup> occasion, not so magical. Against my better judgement I was persuaded to go on the Typhoon water ride. You'll be fine, my daughter said. We had to sit one behind each other in a figure of 8 rubber ring. Kirstie behind me & legs hanging over the side. We set off

down this tunnel of water, not unlike a skeleton bob sleigh run. I thought we were going to overturn. We eventually got to the finish, probably 2 minutes later, but it felt like an hour. Kirstie said, I'll get out first mum, then you get out. Well, I was wedged with my nether regions down this hole & had to wriggle to get out & immediately fell under water. I got to my feet & was like a drunken sailor or all disorientated. When I eventually managed to get on the steps to climb out, I realized that my swimming costume was well wedged up my bottom. I quickly pulled it down with an audience watching my every move. I hope you have had a laugh at my expense.

Jenny Farmer



## Listens, Observes and Acts.

If you haven't paid the balance of monies and given me your menu choice

for our 'Festive lunch' please do so ASAP.

(No later than November 4<sup>th</sup>.)

Our Branch meeting this month is on

Monday November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in St. George's Church Centre Hall.

This will take the form of

'A Christmas Quiz'

Everyone is welcome to come along and have some fun.

Also November 25<sup>th</sup> is the Start date of

**'16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence'**

Starting with Midday (12noon) Prayers

at Gloucester Cathedral.

Lord of the loving heart, may ours be loving too;

Lord of the gentle hands, may ours be gentle too;

Lord of the willing feet, may ours be willing too;

So may we grow more like you in all we say and do.

Amen.

Many blessings, Rona.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY November 2019 (cont'd)

17th	8.00am	<b>Said Eucharist: Church</b>
	10.00am	<b>Parish Eucharist: Church</b>
	11.45am	<b>Baptism: Church</b>
18th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
20th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
21st	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church
23rd	12.00pm	Wedding: Church
	2.00—4.00pm	Christmas Fair: Church Centre
24th	8.00am	<b>Said Eucharist: Church</b>
	10.00am	<b>Parish Eucharist: Church</b>
	11.45am	<b>Baptism: Church</b>
25th	10.00am	Parent and Toddlers: Hall, Church Centre
	10.00am	Coffee Morning: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.15pm	Bible Study: Lounge, Church Centre
	7.30pm	Mothers' Union meeting: Hall, Church Centre
27th	9.30am	Holy Communion: Chapel, Church Centre
28th	10.00am	Needles and Natter: Lounge, Church Centre
	10.00am	Flower Arrangers: Church
	7.30pm	Bell ringing: Church

ST. GEORGES CHURCH

# Christmas Fair

SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER

CHURCH CENTRE \* COURT ROAD

2-4pm



## In Flanders Fields

BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.



## Christmas Tree Festival 2019

This is the 6th year of our festival, now a tradition at St George's.

Do bring family and friends to see the church transformation, for this weekend, into a sparkly wonderland!

### Friday 6th December

Switch on at 7pm  
(door open 6.45pm)

### Saturday 7th December

Church open 11am-4pm

### Sunday 8th December

Do join us for our 10am service  
Church open 2pm-4pm

### The place:

**St George's Church**, Court  
Road, Brockworth, GL3 4QU

To decorate your own  
tree, a form can be  
collected or emailed  
from the

Church Office.

*Any queries, please contact the Church  
Office on 01452 550554 or email :  
[churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@st-george-brockworth.org.uk)*



## Joy to the World!

Come and sing!!

## Carols for Christmas.

This year we are going to do something different for our Christmas carol concert. We are going to create a small community choir, singing some of the less well known, but wonderful, Christmas carols. There will be readings, but not all of them from the bible, and a chance for the congregation to sing along as well. We are even going to sing Away in a Manger, but not as you know it! As with the best community choirs there will be no accompaniment as the words of the songs and the people in the choir will take the lead in this act of worship. Any are welcome to join us, you don't need to read music, or have sung with a choir before; but if you like to sing we would like you to be with us.

We will practice on Fridays in the church centre at 5 pm and we will have great fun together. See you then.



## Amazon Rainforest Fires

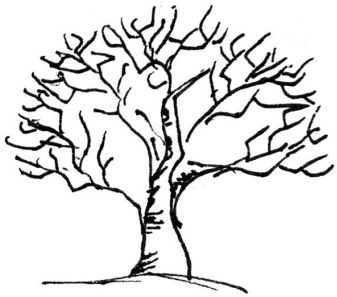
Recently responding to the fires in the Amazon Rainforest, the Church of England's lead Bishop for Environmental Affairs, the Bishop of Salisbury, Nick Holtham, has said:

"This is a climate emergency which does not know international boundaries. The Amazon is a global resource as well as a national one.

I have been asked to sign a variety of climate-related petitions and letters. People are concerned. So our politicians should be talking about it and finding ways to act collectively.

The economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the environment. At the moment there are so many initiatives to plant trees to help carbon capture. It is appalling to see such large areas of rainforest burn.

They destroy more than trees. They destroy hope."



## I love to Wander

I love to wander the woodlands hoary,  
In the soft light of an autumnal day,  
When summer gathers up her robes of glory,  
And, like a dream of beauty, glides away.

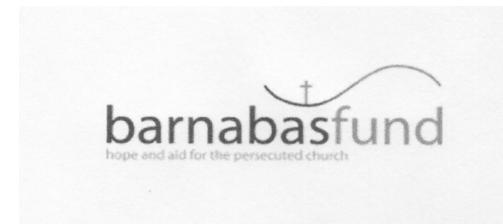
*By Sarah Helen Whitman*

## We can always rely on Jesus.

Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and **forever**.

Jesus is the Cornerstone of our lives. Jesus is the One who will always be with us, whether the storm roars around us, whether the snow falls, or the sun shines. We can always rely on Him to direct us.

There is a phrase which occurs many times in the Bible. This is it: - "And it came to pass" The horrible things which beset all of us at one time or another do pass. When we are in the storm we so often think that Jesus has deserted us. But He hasn't. Jesus supports us, Jesus walks with us, and Jesus reminds us of this when He says, "I am with you always". How often have you said, "I never thought I would manage to come through that storm which really knocked me sideways". And yet you did, and it was Jesus who helped you.



## "My Lord has sent me good news through Barnabas Fund"

Amanat worked seven days a week in a brick-kiln. Every day he made 1,000 bricks, which earned him 800 rupees (approximately £4.20; US\$5.30; €4.70). But he never took any money home because every rupee went straight back to the brick-kiln owner to pay interest on a loan Amanat had taken. His situation was so bad that he had to borrow money to buy food for his children.

When Barnabas Fund's partners told Amanat that his debt would be paid, his eyes filled with tears of joy. The impossible had happened. Now his eldest daughter Rebecca is learning tailoring and his younger children are at school. Barnabas supports the school and the tailoring skills' training project.

"My Lord has sent me good news through Barnabas Fund. Now I enjoy freedom from debt!" exclaimed Amanat.

Like thousands of Pakistani Christian brick-kiln workers, Amanat and his wife Rehana had borrowed money from their employer for essential needs at a time of family crisis. The debts keep each family bonded to their brick-kiln, unable to leave and get another job, with money deducted from their wages to pay the interest. It is impossible, out of their poverty, to pay off the debts. Despised, despairing and trapped, the bonded brick-kiln workers feel like slaves. But Barnabas Fund supporters have donated to set free hundreds of families by paying off their debts.

## "I rejoice for this miracle in our lives"

"My mouth just does not stop praising God for the blessings and freedom from debt He has given us," says Irfan, another Christian brick-kiln worker whose debt was paid by Barnabas Fund. "We are now hopeful for our future. Now we are working with respect and without fear."

With nothing being deducted from his wages any more, Irfan can set aside money every month to pay for his children's schooling. "God sent you people for our help. We are deeply grateful. I now rejoice for this miracle in our lives."

## Events and training

More details for all these events at [gloucester.anglican.org/events](http://gloucester.anglican.org/events)

### Autumn Craft Fayre

Saturday 2 November, 10.30am to 3pm at St Catharine's Church, London Road, Gloucester

Handmade crafts and art. Refreshments available all day. Find @stcatsglos on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for more details.

### Environment and Eco Church Workshop

Thursday 7 November, 7.30pm to 9pm at St John the Evangelist Church, Elkstone, GL53 9PD

Practical workshop on environmental concerns, with a focus on the EcoChurch awards, for churches who want to get started or are already engaged and want to explore the next step. Booking at <https://cutt.ly/nw778Xr>

### LIFE vision party

Saturday 9 November, 2pm to 5pm, All Saints Academy, Cheltenham  
See page 1 for full details and enter our bake off competition.

### Have your say

Visit Facebook **f/Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at [kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk), follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website [gloucester.anglican.org](http://gloucester.anglican.org)

### Embrace: Women's Day 2019

Saturday 9 November, 9.30am to 5pm at St Andrew's Churchdown, GL3 2JT  
Speaker, Christy Wimber, worship, Rhiannon Davies. Tickets available from the office (£10, and £7 for students) [admin@stastb.church](mailto:admin@stastb.church) / 01452 712154. Refreshments all day. Please bring your own lunch.

### Gloucestershire Churches Environmental Justice Network (GCEJN).

Tuesday 19 November, 12.15—1.30pm in the Jerusalem Room, 4 College Green, Gloucester  
Reconciliation of land and neighbour  
The Revd Joe Knight will speak about various eco-projects in and around Newnham-on-Severn. Joe is passionate about sustainability in farming and he's involved with the local school strike movement. Water, tea and coffee are provided. Please feel free to bring a sandwich.

### Brunch and Bounce

Saturday 30 November, 9.30am to 11.30am in the Chapter House at Gloucester Cathedral  
Fun and relaxed get together, open to all with a bouncy castle and crafts for the children. Good coffee, pastries and the weekend papers.

engagement

Being advocates for flourishing, through initiatives which combat injustice, environmental destruction, exclusion and isolation.

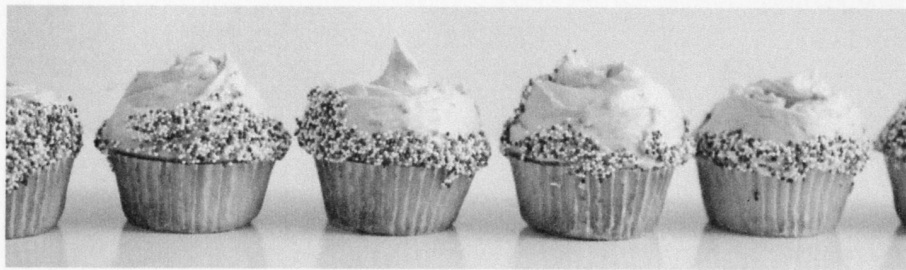
## It's time to celebrate

It's been two years since the launch of the Life vision for the Diocese of Gloucester. The vision brought together prayer and shared conversations which took place in 2016 and involved 6,000 people. At that time we celebrated with a party to introduce the vision and in the two years since, you have done some amazing things.

Now we want to invite you back to celebrate everything that you have done to bring that vision to life in our communities. You'll get the chance to hear about the work going on across the Diocese—Joy Ludlow from Thornbury will be sharing about Muddy Church, Will Mansell from the Stroud Grace Network will be sharing about how they are transforming their community. Janice Hamilton will share about Sedbury Space and the community building work going on there. Dermot McNiffe, headteacher at All Saints' Academy will talk about body image and the #liedentity campaign and Rich Witham from Script Union will inspire you with his talk about Sports and the OneLife project.



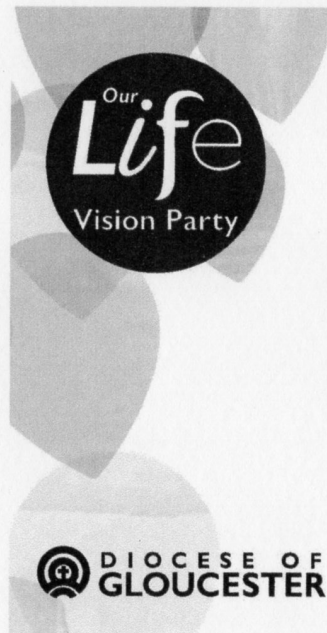
There will be performances from the Spring Dance Company, All Saints' Academy Choir, the Royal Agricultural University Choir, the Renewal Choir and an iSingPop Choir. You can take part in Pilates (2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm), circus skills,



badminton, spike-ball and volleyball. There's a creative prayer space, arts and crafts, face-painting and Taiko drummers. Bring your best questions to put to the Bishops and the Archdeacons and hear Bishop Rachel's speech.

You can enjoy storytelling, loads of free food and of course, the baking competition where everyone can enter their own baked version of the vision and be in with a chance of being crowned Star baker. Children of all ages and adults are invited to bake and decorate a cake or biscuits of their choice. If you're entering the Bake Off, **make sure you register with Emma on 01452 835515, eanderson@glosdioc.org.uk**

You can download a full colour event programme with timings of the day from [www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/life-vision-party](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/life-vision-party)



## Party invitation

*Saturday 9 November, 2-5 pm  
All Saints' Academy, Blaisdon Way, Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire GL51 0WH*

A free party for all in our worshipping communities (schools, families, churches and chaplaincies) to come together and celebrate being part of the Diocese of Gloucester:

Entertainment includes sports games, storytelling, choirs, iSingPop, circus skills, face painting, DNA bracelet making, dancing, creating chatterboxes, Taiko Drummers, arts and crafts and much more...

There is also a chance to grill the Bishops and Archdeacons in a special Question Time session!

Free food will be available including a hog roast, vegan burgers, soup, popcorn and lots of cake.

## Training that could help you save a life



### Domestic abuse training

It is estimated that one in four women and one in seven men will be affected by domestic abuse over their lifetime. Come and learn more about how we can take a positive and proactive approach to prevention and supporting people.

Speakers include the police, GDASS, and a member of senior clergy and the diocesan safeguarding advisors.

- Wednesday 27 November, 7-9.30pm at St James' Church Centre, Bream, GL15 6ES and
- Wednesday 4 December, 10am to 12.30pm in the Laud Room, Church House, Gloucester, GL1 2LY

Booking essential by email on [safeguarding@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@glosdioc.org.uk)

### Suicide prevention training

Would you know what to do if someone told you that they were having suicidal thoughts and feelings? The Zero Suicide Alliance has put together a free 20 minute suicide prevention training. It's an interactive training with three different scenarios which help you to identify the signs when someone is having suicidal thoughts or showing suicidal behaviour. It helps you to speak to them in a supportive way and to feel able to point them to the correct sources of support.

Gloucestershire Suicide Prevention Partnership (GSPP) has launched an incentive to get as many people as possible to complete this free online training that could help prevent a suicide. As long as funding lasts, you can claim a free drink and cake or healthy snack from participating community cafes across Gloucestershire. All you need to do is take a photo on your phone or print off the 'thank you' page upon completing the training and show this to the staff at one of the participating cafes.

For more information, and to access the training visit <http://bit.ly/zsa-training> terms and conditions apply <http://bit.ly/zsa-ts-and-cs>