

SIGNPOST
the weekly newsletter of
St George's, Tuffley
with **St Margaret's, Whaddon**

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'



Sunday worship
29 January 2023

**CANDLEMAS/
PRESENTATION of CHRIST
in the TEMPLE**

Welcome

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to our Vicar Rachel or one of our Church Wardens, (Mike or Sylvia at St George's) (Jonathan or Hans at St Margaret's) or the door steward. If visiting St George's, please join us for tea/coffee after the 10.30am service. Both churches are fitted with an inductive loop; to hear the service better those with hearing aids should switch them to the appropriate setting.

If you are feeling unwell, please could you stay at home.

Thank you.

For your own comfort...

Please feel free to sit at any time during the service.

APCMs...

It was agreed at the joint PCC meeting APCMs will be held at both St George's and St Margaret's on the **21st May 2023**. Please ensure reports are with Glenda as soon as possible.

Open the Book

Would you like to be part of an Open the Book team going into schools (whether or not you were part of one before the pandemic)? With all three local schools (Grange Primary, Harewood Infant and Harewood Junior) asking about Open the Book, this feels like a good time to re-launch! We are going to do this by creating a new Church in Tuffley Team, which is open to all. **Please let Rachel know if you are interested in being part of the team**, or if you would like more information about Open the Book.

(info also available here: www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book)

Order of Service

Jesus Christ – the favour of God

The hymns listed below are for the service at St George's



Processional Hymn 438 Make way, make way

Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God. Amen

Readings

Malachi 3 The Coming Messenger

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Psalms 24

- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, **the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.**
- 2 For he has founded it upon the seas **and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.**
- 3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, **or who can rise up in his holy place?**'
- 4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, **who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor sworn an oath to a lie;**
- 5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, **a just reward from the God of their salvation.'**
- 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, **of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

Hebrews 2

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Luke 2

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' ³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Sermon - Rev'd Rachel

Declaration of Faith

Intercessions

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Angela, Susan, Laura, Lynne, Angela, Margaret & Mark, Helen, David, Carol and Family.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Margaret Whittle 5th.

In Memoriam:

Mike Mumby, Ivor Panting, Rob Taylor, Daphne Reeves RIP

Anniversaries of Death:

David Dyer, David Wilkins, Philip Jordan, Ronald Jones, Sonny Fairclough, Gladys Jones, Leslie Stevens, William Morgan, Gill Kocerhan, Julie Hands, Albert Gardiner, Richard Russell, Martyn Gabb, Constance Jones.

If you would like your birthday or anniversary mentioned in Signpost, please let Glenda know.

Offertory Hymn 375 King of glory, King of peace

Communion Hymn 574 Purify my heart

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes
to bring us to eternal life;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Final Hymn 582 Restore, O Lord

News & Diary Dates – 29 Jan – 5 Feb

MESSY CHURCH: Have you got neighbours with young children? Let them know the Church in Tuffley plan to run 'Mussy Church' sessions each month. **Due to Covid some sessions may be cancelled so we advise the relevant Church Website is checked.**

St Barnabas on the 1st Friday of the month.

Next meeting is on 3rd February from 3.30pm until 4.45pm

Grange Baptist Church is on the last Sunday of the month. So next meeting is **TODAY at 10.30am.**

ONLINE: Morning Prayer on Wednesday at 8.15am will continue to be online on Zoom. If you have a computer (with a camera and microphone), an iPad, or an iPhone we can send an invite to your email address. If you have no devices to connect to the internet, but have a landline telephone you can still join in. You would be provided with a telephone number. Additional information allowing you to join the meeting would be given you. Interested? Let Rachel know and you will be welcomed to join any of the above meetings.

FUN & FREE TUESDAY: Fun and Free Tuesdays is a drop-in for toddlers, pre-school, school aged children, and their families from 1.30-4.30pm in the Main Hall at St G. Please do let your families, friends and neighbours know about this; there are leaflets at the back of St G Church that you are welcome to take. Thank you so much to all those who were able to help with this drop-in time last year, your time and energy are much appreciated! New helpers are always very welcome, please see Rachel or Susan.

FAYRES: Thank you to all those who gave us feedback, we have taken on board much of what was brought to our attention. So, with the PCC's approval we propose to hold another Christmas Fayre on Saturday 8th December from 11.00am until 3.00pm and hope that you will offer your help to donate, run a stall and generally help on the day and perhaps even join our little group. We will also propose holding a Summer Fayre on Saturday 15th July from 12.00noon until 4.00pm based on having fun and games and food.

			Readers: Sylvia C / Paul Intercessions: Derek Coffee: Kath / Stella
	5.00pm	St M's	Evensong

**St G's = St George's, St M's = St Margaret's,
MH = Main Hall of Centre, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, GB = Grange Baptist,
St B's = St Barnabas,**

St George's Church Centre Management... are looking for new recruits. A couple of places on the committee need to be filled if we are to maintain a working quorum, we meet on a Tuesday or Wednesday in the Softley Lounge every other month. Our next meeting is on 14th February at 7.00pm, which will also be our AGM when elections to the committee need to be made. Currently meetings last about an hour. If you are interested and would like some more information or have questions, please speak to me as soon as it's convenient for you. Many thanks, Darrell

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OUTREACH CONVERSATION: Thanks so much to everyone who came along to the open conversation in May about our children and families, outreach. Arising from that conversation, and since then, we have seen many exciting developments across the benefice; Fun and Free Tuesdays, the teddy bear zip-wire event, Messy Christingle, Nativity Fun etc. Now feels like a good time to have another open conversation, to review and reflect, and to think about future possibilities.

In particular it would be good to reflect on the following questions: What is working well, especially on a Tuesday, and what might we want to further develop/change? Families have generally said Saturday mornings are a good time; what do we have the vision, energy and capacity to offer on a Saturday morning and how regularly? We have a small group of secondary school students (Y7s) regularly coming along on a Tuesday, is there anything else we might do to engage with this age group?

Everyone is very welcome to come along on Tuesday 31st January at 7.00pm for this conversation in St George's Lady Chapel. If you are unable to come, but have thoughts on the questions above, please do let Rachel or Laine know.

FOODBANK: Keep bringing items for the Foodbank on a Sunday. Collection point is the tray at the back of the Church.
The Foodbank are in **URGENT NEED OF LONG LIFE MILK, (Not Chilled) LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, (Not Chilled) TINNED SPAGHETTI, TINNED MEAT, (E.G. Corned Beef, Ham) TINNED FRUIT, TINNED RICE PUDDING,**

Sun 29	CANDLEMAS / PRESENTATION of CHRIST in the TEMPLE		
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion followed by coffee Crucifer: Roger Readers: Jonathan T / David Intercessions: Linda Coffee: Dianne / Erna
	10.30am	GB	Messy Church
	4.30pm	SH	Private let
Mon 30	10.30am	SH	Aphasia-Now
	5.00pm	MH	Brownies
	6.00pm	SH	Rainbows
	7.15pm	MH	Guides
Tue 31	9.30am	SH	Coffee Pot
	10.00am	St G's	Parish Communion
	1.30pm	St G's	Fun & Free Tuesday
	6.30pm	MH	Cubs & Beavers
	8.00pm	MH	Karate
Wed 1	8.15am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm
Thu 2	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	SH/SL	Day Centre
	6.30pm	MH	Clubbercise Zumba
	7.30pm	SH	Charter Band
Fri 3	3.30pm	St B	Messy Church
	7.30pm	MH	Entertainers
Sat 4	10.00am	MH	Karate
	10.00am	St G's	Church cleaning
Sun 5	3 before LENT		
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion followed by coffee Crucifer: Jayne

**TINNED CUSTARD,
PACKET INSTANT MASH,
PACKETS OF BISCUITS,
SMALL JARS COFFEE,
SHOWER GEL,
DEODORANT,
TOOTHPASTE
SINGLE TOOTHBRUSHES,
NAPPIES SIZEs 5 AND 6 AND BABY WIPES.**

Thank you!

Know someone who:

- ❖ is without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!



CONTACTING US:

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Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

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Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456
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The Administration office is open on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).



WEEKLY SERVICES

Every week on a Tuesday

10.00am Said Holy Communion at St George's

Every week on a Wednesday

8.15am Morning Prayer on ZOOM

Every week on a Thursday

10.30am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

all are welcome

COFFEE POT this Tuesday

in George's Centre

from 9.30am



FUN AND FREE TUESDAY's

at St George's

from 1.30pm until 4.30pm



10.00am SATURDAY 4th FEBRUARY

**Come along and join
our merry band of duster flickers
No experience needed
On the job training available**



Saturday 4th FEBRUARY

CiT Environmental Group

Litter Pick

**meet at Holmleigh Park School
at 10.00am**