



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

CLAINES & ST GEORGE'S



Fifth Sunday of Lent - 17th March 2024

10.30am - Holy Communion - St. George's Church

with Rev Peter Davies

10.30am - Cafe Church - Claines Church - Parish Hall

with Cafe Church Team & Spark to a Flame

4.30pm - Devotions at Dusk - Claines Church

with LLM Rachel Cramp

Passiontide by Rev Peter Davies

What does 'Passiontide' mean? It's the period starting this weekend that journeys towards Holy Week, to Jesus' betrayal, crucifixion, and his glorious resurrection that we will celebrate on Easter Day.

'Passiontide' derives from the word 'Passion', but the way 'passion' is more familiarly used in everyday life is a distant stretch from our Lord's Passion.

'Passion' is THE concept for successful marketing. If you want to sell your product, your advertising must portray the product with passion and emotion. Believe me, it's the subject of academic theses! And the interruptions to your TV viewing that pay for the programme you want to watch uninterrupted are rooted in passion and emotion! To sell your product, advertising researchers identify what are called 'passion points'. Here's an example I've made up: you manufacture electric vehicles (EVs), and your advertising agency discovers that 40% of people who aspire to own an EV are men who like hang-gliding and have a family that loves dogs. The advert will feature father descending from a hang-glider into an EV and speeding off into majestic mountain scenery with a beautiful partner beside him and 2.4 children in the back with a spaniel and Labrador wagging their tails! You think I joke? Watch the TV adverts tonight!

But that sort of passion denies the deep root of the word. Its root is from the Latin 'to suffer'. So, not much suffering for our hang-gliding dad unless he's forgotten to super-charge his EV and there's no mobile signal to get the AA to rescue him from the majestic mountain scenery!

Without Jesus' Passion, our Lord's suffering, he would not be glorified. That is the whole, jagged direction of this Sunday's gospel reading from St John's gospel, chapter 12.20-33. We hear this gospel passage in the full knowledge of the glorious outcome of Jesus' Passion and Good Friday: Easter resurrection! But that was not so on that day for Jesus' followers. They heard Jesus' words presaging his death, and by implication, possibly their own. As his followers, they were to enter his service with no less a commitment than Jesus', and that is still reality today.

This Passiontide, pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ in those parts of the world where their blood crying out from the ground witnesses to their faith and trust in Jesus.

**Cafe Church - Sunday 17th March,
10.30am
Claines Parish Hall, Cornmeadow Lane**

Come along to this relaxed cafe style service. Our theme this month is St Patrick's Day.
Everyone welcome, please wear something 'green'.

**Lunchtime Concert Series - St.
George's Church
Wednesday 20th March - 1pm
*Robin Walker - Organ***

Robin has worked as an accompanist to choirs and choral societies for rehearsals and performances and has accompanied church choirs on their visits to several of the country's cathedrals. Currently he is accompanist to the Worcester Cathedral Chamber Choir.



Easter Flowers for St Georges Church

If you would like to donate towards the flowers we have in church at Easter please donate to Trish Greenwood (treasurer).
Jan Tovey does an amazing job with the flowers all year round and especially at Christmas and Easter. This could be your way of giving in memory of a loved one and showing how much you appreciate the flowers.

**St George's Church Spring Clean
Tuesday March 26th -10.00am start**

We can find something to do for everyone!
Please come and help brighten our church for Easter.

Changes to Parish Office opening times next week:

Monday 18th March - 10am - 1pm
Wednesday 20th March - 10am - 1pm
Friday 22nd - 10am - 1pm

Prayers for the week

Monday: During Lent we pray especially for Christians across the world. Support us all as we take time to renew and restore our faith and what it means in our lives. Pray for our growth strategy.

Tuesday: Father God, we pray for all those who care for and support the sick. We pray for those working in cancer care, especially Macmillan and Marie Curie. Thank you for their dedication and willingness to serve. We pray for all who are undergoing treatment.

Wednesday: Father God, we pray for all those in education, especially for our local schools and colleges and for their pupils. Pray for those who are revising for upcoming exams. We pray for those who have no access to education.

Thursday: Father God we pray for those who are struggling to make ends meet. We give thanks for the Trussell trust and their volunteers at the foodbank, and the many aid agencies who are supporting those in need. We pray fervently for an end to poverty in our City.

Friday: Father God, we pray for those who are supporting us all through their ministry in our churches. We pray for our LLM's, ALMs and visiting clergy, and our Café church organisers.

Saturday: Father God we pray that we will take time this week to enjoy your world around us. Pray for using time each day to remember you. We give thanks for the signs of growth and new life in our gardens and surroundings.

We pray for those who are sick and those who care for them:

Children: Baby Ellis Old, Ivy-Rose, George & Jax Bownes

Saint George's Adults: Rev David & Alex New, Olive Barnes, Geoff Cottam, Daphne Greenwood, Virginia Moran, Heather Nethercoat, Kelly Simpson, Pat Smallcombe, Wendy Vaughan, David, Emma and her Mother, Lynne & family, Esther

Claines Adults: Rev Alan Brooksbank, Rev David New, Graham Ashcroft, Dave Barnacle, Tom Buck, Rose Danks, Richard Davies, Lou Ferris, Tom Galassini, Miriam Haywood, Judy Hooper, Lorraine Humphries, Jane Elizabeth Owen, Ross Murray, Izzie Newport, Bernard Small, Jean Smallwood, Steve Taylor, Maisie, and Kerry.

For those who have recently died, may they rest in peace & rise in glory:

Rita Nancy Harle
Joan Florence Hunt
Jean Gardiner
Joan Iris Owens

Our prayers and heartfelt sympathies go out to all of their loved ones.

Forthcoming Services to March 2024

**** Please be aware that services are still being confirmed, there may be additional services added, or changes made to the services that are listed each week****

Saint George's Church

** All 10.30am Sun services are followed by refreshments in the Magdalene Room**

Sun 24th - **10.30am** - Palm Sunday Service - *Rev Doug Chaplin*
Wed 27th - **2.30pm** - Stations of the Cross - *LLM Rachel Cramp*
Thu 28th - **7.30pm** - Maundy Thursday - *Archdeacon Nikki*
Fri 29th - **2.00pm** - Joint Good Friday Service - *Rev John Wright*
Sun 31st - **10.30am** - Easter Sunday - *Archdeacon Mark Badger*

Claines Church

** 10.30am services on 1st and 4th Sundays are followed by refreshments **

Sun 24th - **10.30am** - Traditional Communion for Palm Sunday - *Bishop Martin*
Tue 26th - **6.30pm** - Night Prayer & Devotion for Holy Week - *Rev Jennie*
Wed 27th - **11.00am** - All Age Stations of the Cross - *LLM Rachel Cramp*
Thu 28th - **6.30pm** - Short Service of Readings & Prayers - *The Team*
Sun 31st - **10.30am** - Communion for Easter Sunday - *Rev Peter Davies*

General enquiries:

For Claines call Annette Summers 01905 453954 or Phil Kear 01905 451099

For Saint George's call Trish Greenwood 01905 28580 or Lyn Crowther 01905 452483

Hall Bookings

Claines - Katrina email bookings@clainesfriends.org.uk

St George's - Barbara email stgbookingsec@gmail.com



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
**DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER**