



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## CLAINES & ST GEORGE'S



### **Fourth Sunday of Lent - 10th March 2024**

Ephesians 2: 1-10

John 3: 14-21

#### **10.30am - Holy Communion - Claines Church**

*with Rev Doug Chaplin*

#### **10.30am - Cafe Church - St. George's Church - Magdalene Room**

*with Cafe Church Team*

#### **4.30pm - Celtic Service - St. George's Church**

*with Rev Peter Davies*

### **A reflection for Mothering Sunday by LLM Rachel Cramp**

There are many ways to be a mother to others...

This Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday, and much as businesses and card shops want us to adopt the American 'Mothers' Day' – to us it is Mothering Sunday!

We probably know the suggested history and tradition of the day, that children, especially daughters who had become domestic servants, who had probably left home as young as aged 10, were given a day off to return home and visit their mothers and family, probably gathering wildflowers from the hedgerows as they walked. And centuries ago, it was also the day that families visited their 'mother' church, the main church or cathedral in the area.

But it was the ever popular 'Call the Midwife' last Sunday, that made such a wonderful point, that there are many ways to be a mother to others. The programme showed how we should value women in all our diversity and complexity, for showing that mother love can be spiritual, adoptive and releasing as well as biological, and indeed Sister Julianne became their 'mother of the year'! Also in the programme we see Shelagh mothering her step-son, her natural son and her foster daughter and adoptive daughter; Nurse Nancy Corrigan who has been reunited with her daughter after years of pretending she was her 'sister' and Violet and Fred Buckle who care for Reggie, a young man with 'Downs syndrome', who came to them when his mother Ivy, a cousin of Fred's died; Violet showed such delight in the programme when Reggie called her 'Mum'.

In Isaiah 66 the Lord acknowledges the comfort given by those who mother others, and that he offers the same comfort: "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem," and Jesus on the cross needed to ensure his mother would be cared for after his death. In John 19 we read "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son!' 27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold, your mother!' And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home" and so it was that Mary was cared for by John as if she was his mother, and Mary cared for John as if he was her son.

**Lent Groups 2024**  
**The Return of the Prodigal Son**  
**A Story of Homecoming - by Henri J. M Nouwen**  
A series of face to face sessions meeting Tuesday  
evenings from **7.00-8.00pm**

in partnership with our neighbours  
**12th March** – Claines Church  
**19th March** – St. Stephen's Church

*'But we had to celebrate and rejoice,  
for this brother of yours was dead and is alive again,  
he was lost but has been found.'* (Luke 15:32)

**Cafe Church - Sunday 10th March, 10.30am**  
**St Georges, Magdalene Room**

Come along to this relaxed cafe style service.  
Our theme this month is Mothering Sunday  
and ways we can love each other.  
How many words can you make from the  
words Mothering Sunday?



### **Kingdom Arts**

The next gathering of **Kingdom Arts** is on **Tuesday March 12th** in **St George's Church**. We begin with coffee at **10.00am** and worship at 10.15 This is followed by a time of getting creative using a great variety of art expressions, music, creative writing, painting, needlework as well as lots of chatting and laughter!

A Simple soup Lunch follows in the Magdalene room.  
This year we are exploring "Songs of Faith," the stories behind some of the hymns and songs we love to sing. This month will be a good preparation for Holy week and Easter.

**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, Jean Gardiner, Daphne Greenwood, Virginia Moran, Heather Nethercoat, Kelly Simpson, 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:**

Joan Iris Owens  
Michael Robinson

**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 17th - **10.30am** - Holy Communion - *Rev Peter Davies*  
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 \**

Wed 14th - **10.30am** - Morning Prayer - *LLM Jan Kear*  
Sun 17th - **10.30am** - Cafe Church - *The Team*  
**4.30pm** - Devotions at Dusk - *LLM Rachel Cramp*  
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*

## Prayers for the week

**Monday:** Today we pray for all who need your guidance, give them strength, protection and comfort. Amen

**Tuesday:** God of goodness and mercy, let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turn away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love. Amen

**Wednesday:** Remember, O Lord, all those in need; People with no good food or proper clothes; No home of their own or no work to do; No family or friends, or no knowledge of your love. Supply their needs; bless those who try to help them; and bring them all to trust in you. Amen

**Thursday:** Lord, we pray for the churches and church leaders around the world who face discrimination. Pray that everyone feels able to worship freely in their own mind, and find peace and salvation in your words. Amen

**Friday:** God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace. Amen

**Saturday:** Lord, we pray for peace in war zones, for food to be given to the hungry, for water to be given to those who thirst, for aid to be provided to those who are hurt, and for love to be more powerful than hate. Amen

**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](mailto:bookings@clainesfriends.org.uk)

St George's - Barbara email [stgbookingsec@gmail.com](mailto:stgbookingsec@gmail.com)



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
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