



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

CLAINES & ST GEORGE'S



Palm Sunday - 24th March 2024

Mark 11:1-11
Philippians 2:5-11

10.30am - Holy Communion - Claines Church
with Bishop Martin

10.30am - Holy Communion - St. George's Church
with Rev Doug Chaplin

Reflection by LLM Jan Kear

Last Saturday I celebrated my Christmas present given to me by my daughter. It has become an annual event, when the "girls" in the family go to the Bristol Hippodrome to see a show. This year it was a revival of Jesus Christ Superstar, I had seen it many years ago, the ending being quite stark with Jesus on the cross. In this production the ending was very different, in that Jesus came down from the cross and knelt with Judas - a light shone between them, just theatrical effect you might think and yet the auditorium fell silent. For a brief moment nobody seemed to breathe, one word came into my head - FORGIVENESS – a willingness to forgive.

In today's society when retribution and revenge is the thing should a willingness to forgive become central to our lives? As Christians we believe that we get it wrong, we sin. We may neglect to help someone, stop listening, and ignore their need. Sometimes our sin is what we fail to do, for example keeping quiet when we should speak out.

For Jesus, forgiveness was and is so important. Love comes first, Jesus wants us to love one another as he has loved us, but our love is imperfect, we sin and we damage our relationship with God and our neighbour, forgiveness then is the way back to love.

Jesus often spoke about forgiveness, forgave those who sinned against others, and against him and asked the disciples (the Church) to continue his ministry – Peter asked Jesus how often it was necessary to forgive and Jesus said to him "*not seven times but, I tell you seventy seven times*" (Matthew 18 v 22). A number meaning the never ending ways that we ought to forgive.

Jesus uses parables to illustrate various aspects of forgiveness, the prodigal son being the most illuminating. And on the cross Jesus intentionally forgives the Roman soldiers, who had scourged and nailed him, praying "*Father forgive them*" (Luke 23 v 34).

When we have been hurt by another it can be difficult to come to terms with how wounded we feel, but by accepting and embracing our wounds we can open a door to forgiveness and new life. Forgiveness helps us to move on, whereas revenge creates bitterness. Forgiving helps us to heal our wounds – it sets us free from what weighs us down inside.

When we change our hearts and forgive, we change ourselves and change our world for the better. This is how we translate the life and message of Jesus into our lives. Jesus asks us to be courageous and to break down the walls that hinder us to forgive ourselves and others. Then will grow close to the one true source of forgiveness – our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Claines Church Electoral Roll

Claines Church electoral roll is being revised between 24th March – 14th April. If you would like to be added to the roll or if your personal details have changed since the last revision please complete an application form which can be found in church. Details of eligibility for inclusion on the roll can be found on the application form.

Easter Flowers for Claines Church

If you would like to donate towards the Lilly's and Easter flowers we have in church, please donate to Pat Harris.

The flowers in church always look wonderful and often receive many compliments from visitors..

If you want the names of your loved ones remembered in the Easter Book, then please get this over to Pat by March 24th

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.

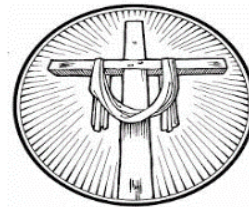
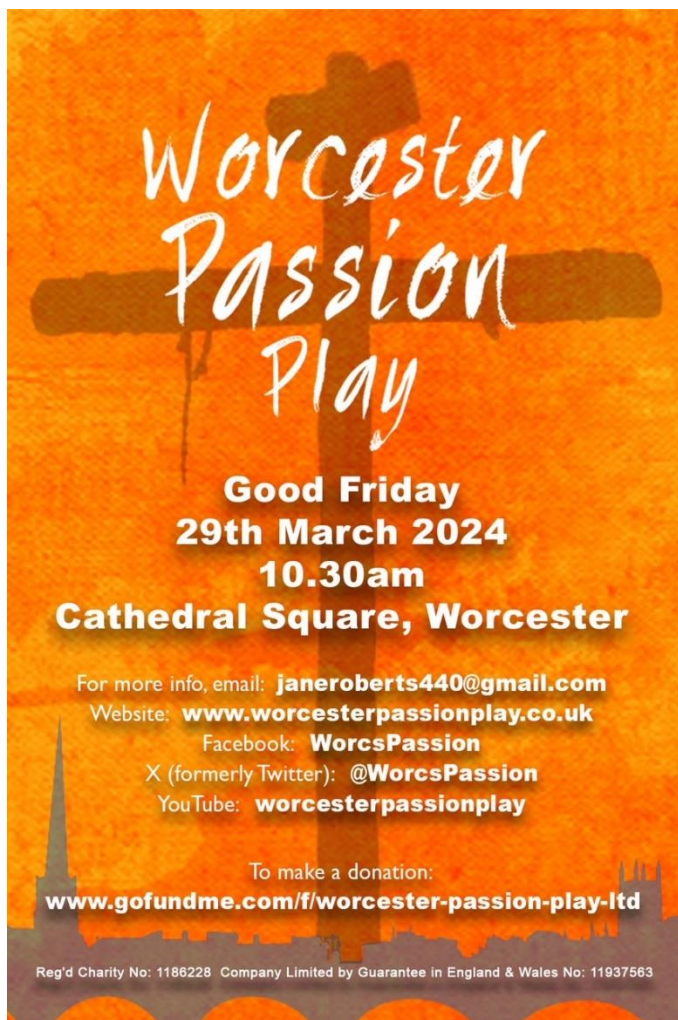
St George's Church Spring Clean Tuesday March 26th -10.00am start

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

RIP Jean Gardiner

We are all invited to bid farewell to our sister-in-Christ,
Jean Gardiner, whose Funeral will take place at
**St George's Church on Wednesday 3rd of April at 11.30am,
and afterwards in the Magdalene Room.**

Could you please let Trish Greenwood or Tammara Adams know if you are attending, as we need to know numbers for catering.



**North Worcester Group of
Churches
Good Friday Walk of Witness
29th March 2024**

Join us as we journey together to
Cathedral Square for the **Worcester Passion Play**

8.20am	St John Baptist Church Claines
8.50am	St. Stephen's Church
9.00am	Ombersley Road Methodist Church
9.10am	Saint George's Church (Refreshment Break)
9.30am	Continue into town
10.10am	Arrival at Cathedral Square

Prayers for the week

Monday: We pray for our Ministry Team as they gather in Worcester Cathedral for the traditional Chrism Eucharist. We thank you for their devotion to your church in Claines and St George's. We thank you for the blessed oil they will receive and pray for those who will be anointed in your name in the coming year.

Tuesday: Give us time today Lord to pause and enjoy the signs of Spring all around us. We thank you for all you have given us and pray that we will always be guardians of the world you created and also your Kingdom on earth.

Wednesday: We pray for all those who mourn the recent loss of a loved one; who will attend funerals during this week. Immerse them in your love and lead them through their darkness to know the grace of Jesus Christ, whose own suffering brought us life here on earth and for eternity.

Thursday: We pray for all those receiving Maundy Money from Her Majesty the Queen in Worcester Cathedral today. We thank you for the service they have given to their local communities and ask God's blessing on their future work. Help us never to take those who serve us in this world for granted.

Friday: We pray for all who will take part in the Walk of Witness this morning. Ease the burden of the wooden cross they will carry. We pray for the performers taking part in the Passion Play in the City and all those who will gather to share their faith.

Saturday: Help us to spend this Silent Saturday in quiet reflection as we await the resurrection of our Redeemer.

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, Judy Hooper, Lorraine Humphries, Jane Elizabeth Owen, Ross Murray, Izzie Newport, Bernard Small, Jean Smallwood, Steve Taylor, Maisie, Kerry and Jean.

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**

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 **

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**