



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

CLAINES & ST GEORGE'S



Sunday 17th August 2025

**10.30am - Holy Communion –
St George's Church**

**10.30am – Café Church –
Claines Church (in Claines Parish Hall)**

**4.30pm – Devotions or Celtic–
Claines Church**

**Zoom Sunday Morning Prayer
- with Rev Sarah Carwardine**

9.15am - 9.45am

Readings: Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

& Luke 12: 49-56

Meeting ID: 840 7348 8247

Passcode: 392973

**VJ Day Service: 80 years since the end of WWII
16th August - Claines Church**

**10:50am start at the war memorial, followed by service in church
Refreshments at the British Legion afterwards**

'Perfect' - Rev Peter Davies

'Perfect'. It's not always a good word. Nice, if it's said about oneself. But is it helpful? I have my doubts. Yes, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean's twelve 6.0 scores at the Sarajevo 1984 Winter Olympics were the 'perfect' score; but when it comes to matters of faith, trying to be perfect is altogether different because, and apologies for the dreadful wordplay, we begin to skate on very thin ice.

Trying to be perfect leads all too easily to perfectionism, and that is not good. Before moving to Worcester and visiting a bishop to discuss vocation, I said that I had given up striving for perfection. The bishop paused, prayerfully placed his hands together with his fingertips to his chin, looked heavenward and slowly uttered, 'Thank God!'

But, 'Hang on,' you say, 'Doesn't Jesus say in the Sermon on the Mount, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."?' Yes, he does! But are we talking about the same thing? Folks, it's an understatement to say that there's a world of difference between our idea of 'perfect' and God's!

St Matthew frames Jesus' words by placing them after the Beatitudes, about us being salt and light, seeking righteous faithfulness, seeking reconciliation, being faithful in marriage, keeping our word, not retaliating ... and ... loving our enemies.

But what about St Paul's idea of being perfect? He observed the Jewish Law to the letter, so he was 'perfect' in the eyes of the Law, yet he regarded that as 'rubbish'. And after St Paul pleaded with God for healing, God said, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.'

Are we getting there? I think so. Perfection comes only by receiving God's free gift of grace, and the evidence is the outworking of the Holy Spirit in our lives. And what might that look like? Again, St Paul guides us. He tells the Colossian church, 'Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.'

Remember that love removes fear, and therefore the fear of not being perfect. God loves us as we are. However hard we try, we know that we can't get straight 6.0 scores by our own merits in the sinless stakes. But Jesus, 'the pioneer and perfecter of our faith', has removed any barrier between us and God, and therefore, has already restored our relationship with him.

If you've never made a mistake, you've never done anything! So, Godly perfection is not our elimination of imperfection. The perfection that God calls us to seek is to imitate him in love.

Enough said!

St George's – Claines – St Stephens

PICNIC IN THE PARK

SATURDAY 16th August

At Gheluvelt Park

11am start

Bring a picnic, and enjoy a day of outdoor fun. Find us between the war memorial and the duck pond!

St George's – Claines – St Stephens

FAMILY GAMES CAFÉ!

WEDNESDAY 20th August

At St George's Church

10am – 12noon

St George's Church, St George's Square,
Barbourne, WR1 1HX

Photography Competition – Out & About in Claines Calendar 2026

We would like YOUR photographs to be part of our 2026 calendar celebrating the community of Claines.

Grab your phone or camera and start snapping! We're looking for fun, quirky, beautiful and inspiring photos of Claines – whether this is buildings, our animals or wildlife, the gardens, the countryside or even our fabulous views.

We want to celebrate Claines at it's finest.

The 12 best entries will feature in our 2026 Claines Calendar, winners will receive one free copy of the calendar

St George's – Claines – St Stephens

FAMILY FILM NIGHT!

INSIDE OUT 2

Thursday 21st August

At St Stephen's Church

10am – 12noon

St Stephen's Church, St Stephen's Street,
Worcester, WR3 7HS

Vision Sunday - What's our Story & Where are we going?

We've now held our Vision Sunday's at both St George's and at Claines, and vision questionnaires were distributed. Thankyou to everyone who came and engaged!

Please return any questionnaires to either the church office, or to Rev Sarah or a Church Warden by Sunday 17th August.

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

Children: Ivy-Rose

Saint George's Adults: Rev David & Alex New, Olive Barnes, Carolyn Corfield, Rosie Davies, Mavis Firkins, Les Gardner, Daphne Greenwood, Carol Humphries, Virginia Moran, Heather Nethercoat, Neville Roberts, Kelly Simpson, Wendy Vaughan, Elisabeth Witter, Esther.

Claines Adults: Canon Claire, Rev Alan Brooksbank, Rev Maureen Dew, Rev David New & Alex New, Val Adams, Graham Ashcroft, Joscelyn Balchin, Tom Buck, Rose Danks, Rosie Davies, Dorothy Evans, Lou Ferris, Lorraine Humphries, Angela Lanyon, Jane Elizabeth Owen, Julie Oliver, Denise McKechnie, Ross Murray, Izzie Newport, Mary Skelton, Maisie, Kerry, Mark, Pip & Benny, Debbie, Mike & Judy, Pat and Helen & Mick.

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

Simon Prior
Jim Walker

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

Forthcoming Services

Claines Church:

August:

Sun 24th - **10.30am** - Holy Communion

Thu 28th - **10.30am** - BCP Service

Sun 31st - **10.30am** - JOINT 'CHURCHES TOGETHER' HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

St George's Church:

Sun 24th - **10.30am** - Morning Praise

Wed 27th - **10.30am** - Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 31st - **10.30am** - No Service at St George's Church

**The Parish Office will be open on
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**

Booking a Wedding or Baptism

If you want to book a wedding at either Claines or Saint George's Churches, please attend a church service and ask for a Wedding Pack.

If you want to book a Baptism, please attend 3 services at church, Café Church or Little Fish/Friends. Introduce yourself and let the team know you are interested in booking a Baptism. Once you have attended several times you will be given a Baptism Pack.

Return the form to the Parish Office to get the process started.

Dates will not be discussed until a form has been returned.

Priest in charge of Claines & Saint George's Churches -

Rev Sarah Carwardine: revsarahcarwardine@gmail.com or call [07895599216](tel:07895599216)

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

For Weddings, Burials of ashes, Churchyard queries, & Funerals please contact the Parish Administrator Tammara Adams in the Office on 01905 759702. (Mon, Weds and Friday 9am - 1pm)



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER