

Open for personal prayer during the week...

St George's Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am - 2.00pm (Access only via the door on tower side.) **PLEASE NOTE we can no longer open on Saturdays due to the need to set up for Sunday.**

St John's Church on Wednesdays 11.00am - 1.00pm and Saturdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm (Access via the rear Vestry door.)

Other news...

Food Bank—new list of items is on our website.

Wash Commoner—July/August edition is on the website. We are hoping to print again in September.

St George's Pilgrimage—just to confirm that this is not going ahead this year.

School term finishes at the end of this week - we pray for children and young people, for staff and school governors, and we give thanks for all across the benefice who have supported children and young people at this difficult time.

Key contacts

Vicar of Benefice

Revd Becky Bevan 01635 524994
bbevan.vicar@stg-stj.org.uk *day off Monday*

Associate Vicar

Revd Gary Collins 07986 901879
gary@st-john-newbury.org.uk *day off Monday*

Associate Priest—St George's

Revd Terry Winrow 01635 45380
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Curate

Revd Julie Howell
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Benefice Office Manager

Alex Brown 01635 41249
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Churchwardens

St John's David Oats, Alison Foulkes
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St George's Simon Pook, Rita Gardner
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Website www.stg-stj.org.uk

Facebook facebook.com/stjohnnewbury
facebook.com/StGeorgesNewbury



Newbury, St George & St John

12th July 2020
Fifth Sunday after Trinity

The world continues to face huge suffering caused by the pandemic, with the poor, as ever, worst affected. The focus of our prayers and actions is to work together to build a fairer world. One practical response is to keep supporting our local food bank. A new list of the most needed items is on our website.

It was with great joy (and a degree of stress) that we opened again for public worship last Sunday. Of course with all the restrictions and requirements for Covid safety it would have been easier not to bother, but we strongly believe that parish churches should be open, and the eucharist celebrated publicly in the heart of the community, if at all possible. You can see photos of the Benefice Holy Communion on our website [here](#). Or under 'Staying Connected/Galleries'

Joining Sunday Worship online **NEW TIME**

Benefice Service, Sunday at 11.00am

A few teething problems last week... and lots of work since trying to rectify the issues. Tune in again and hopefully it will be improved. Bear with us!

Benefice Service of Holy Communion

<http://tiny.cc/stg-stj>

Or go to the new benefice website and click the link www.stg-stj.org.uk

Sunday Worship in Church

Holy Communion at 9am at St George's

Holy Communion at 9.30am at St John's

Benefice Holy Communion at 11am at St George's and live-streamed for the congregation at home.

Sunday Club will run at St George's at 11am in the same way as last Sunday.

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU PLAN TO COME.

Zoom Coffee and Chat. 12noon, usual details.

Readings for Sunday, 12th July 2020

The Collect

Almighty God,
send down upon your Church
the riches of your Spirit,
and kindle in all who minister the gospel
your countless gifts of grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 55. 10-13

For as the rain and the snow come down from
heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered
the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Gospel: Matthew 13. 1-9

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat
beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around
him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the
whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them
many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower
went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell
on the path, and the birds came and ate them
up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did
not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since
they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose,
they were scorched; and since they had no root, they
withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and
the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds
fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a
hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone
with ears listen!'

Post Communion

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be
so peaceably ordered by your governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve you
in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the week

Prayer is at the heart of everything we do.
The Weekly Prayer Diary that is sent out by email
with this newsletter includes prayers for named indi-
viduals, together with prayer intentions for the week
for our benefice, the local community and the wider
world.

*The full monthly cycle of prayer can be found on
the website.*

In need of help?

If you need a listening ear, or a have a prayer request
contact the clergy on the numbers overleaf.

Upcoming services

Wednesday Worship	Zoom	15 th July 7.30pm
Sunday Worship, 19 July	9am	St George
	9.30am	St John
	11.00am	St George

All our services (except Zoom) remain available on
the Benefice Website and on YouTube.

Significant News for the Benefice and St John's

It is with warmth and thankfulness that we confirm
Fr. Trevor has decided to 'fully retire' and will no
longer be involved in public worship. For the last 11
years (despite being retired?!) Trevor has supported -
and at times sustained - the congregation of St John's.
We are deeply thankful for all he has given, to both
congregation and clergy. He will be greatly missed,
and he and Olive will remain valued members of the
congregation.

Benefice Eucharist service available via Phone

Given the changes to our services 'Telephone Church'
is raising new technical challenges. Sadly we couldn't
make it work last week, but we are still working to
release this service, albeit with a possible delay.
The website will give details once this is established.
If you know anyone who cannot access the Internet
and would like to listen in to the Sunday service,
simply dial this number 01635 959050 which is
charged at local rate.