

Open for personal prayer during the week...

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

Other news...

Revd Julie's Priesting—please hold Julie in your prayers as she prepares for her ordination as priest on September 19th. Sadly, attendance at the service will be strictly limited, but we hope and trust it will be live-streamed.

Food Bank—we received news from West Berks Foodbank that the St Gs collection point had **614kg of food donations** during lockdown—that's 1280 meals! Thank you everyone. Keep up the good work!

Finding the live-streamed service on YouTube—it seems that the live-streamed service can be ironically slower to appear on YouTube than pre-recorded services. We are trying to resolve this. Please try refreshing the page, or using a second device. If we have further info, it will be on the website front page.

Key contacts

Vicar of Benefice

Revd Becky Bevan

off this week

Associate Vicar

Revd Gary Collins
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07986 901879
day off Monday

Associate Priest—St George's

Revd Terry Winrow
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Curate

Revd Julie Howell
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day off Monday

Benefice Office Manager

Alex Brown
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01635 41249
day off Monday

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

2nd August 2020
Eighth Sunday after Trinity

A glorious sun-baked Friday as I write... I wonder what plans you have for the weekend? And I wonder too how many of our plans have changed, been re-written or freshly improvised during lockdown? Our gospel reading this week is the famous account of Jesus feeding a multitude of gathered followers, men women, children. It wasn't in the plan, the disciples were stressed, it could have all gone horribly wrong. But Jesus improvises and wonders emerge. With limited resources available, something happens which speaks of sharing, community and the divine priority for feeding of the hungry. In our time of improvisation and change, I wonder what wonders and opportunities might emerge as we discover our priorities?

Joining Sunday Worship online **NEW TIME**

Benefice Service, Sunday at 11.00am

Benefice Service of Holy Communion

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

Or go to the benefice website and click the link

www.stg-stj.org.uk

'Virtual Coffee and Chat' at **12.00pm**. **NEW TIME.**

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.

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU PLAN TO COME ON SUNDAY.

Zoom Coffee and Chat at 12noon, usual details.

In need of help?

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

Readings for Sunday, 2nd August 2020

The Collect

Lord God,
your son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 55. 1-5

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not
bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

The Gospel: Matthew 14. 13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there
in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the
crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the
towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd;
and he had compassion for them and cured their
sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him
and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now
late; send the crowds away so that they may go into
the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said
to them, 'They need not go away; you give them
something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing
here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring
them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit
down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two
fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke
the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the
disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and
were filled; and they took up what was left over of the
broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate
were about five thousand men, besides women
and children.

Post Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise
be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your
love shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed
with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

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.*

Upcoming services

Wednesday Worship	Zoom	5 th August 7.30pm
Sunday Worship, 9th August	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.

During August...

You'll be pleased to hear that clergy are taking the
opportunity to have some time away. We're very
blessed to have a large enough clergy team to cover
services across the two churches even during the
holiday season.
It's been an exhausting 4 months for the team and on
your behalf I thank my colleagues for the resilience,
resourcefulness and mutual support they have shown
through this extraordinary time. We pray for an
uneventful August!
Becky

Benefice Eucharist service available via Phone

'Telephone Church' is available for those not on the
internet. **Dial this number 01635 959050** which is
charged at local rate to hear the 11am benefice
service from St Georges.

**Please note this cannot become available on the
phone until Tuesday, we are sorry for the
unavoidable delay.**