

### 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.)

St John's Church is open on Wednesdays from 11.00am - 1.00pm. With Midday Prayer said.  
(Access via the rear Vestry door.)

### Notices

**Harvest boxes** have been arriving at church—thank you! Please bring offerings on Sunday if you can attend worship in church, or simply just keep up your wonderful ongoing support of the Foodbank.

**Benefice Day of Pilgrimage and Prayer NEXT Saturday 10 October** - the outline for the Day will be sent with this Newsletter and can be found on the website. Please look at what is offered and see how you can be involved.

**Our Annual Church Meetings** are coming soon—St George's is on 20 October at 7.30 and thanks to an extension in the deadline from the for APCM's from the Diocese, St John's will now be in November—date to be confirmed next week.

### 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  
terry-winrow@st-george-newbury.org.uk

#### Curate

Revd Julie Howell  
jhowell.curate@stg-stj.org.uk *Day off Monday*

#### Benefice Office Manager

Alex Brown 01635 41249  
alex.brown@stg-stj.org.uk *day off Monday*

#### Churchwardens

**St John's** David Oats, Alison Foulkes  
churchwarden@st-john-newbury.org.uk

**St George's** Simon Pook, Rita Gardner  
churchwardens@st-george-newbury.org.uk

**Website** [www.stg-stj.org.uk](http://www.stg-stj.org.uk)

**Facebook** [facebook.com/stjohnnewbury](https://facebook.com/stjohnnewbury)  
[facebook.com/StGeorgesNewbury](https://facebook.com/StGeorgesNewbury)



Creation-tide draws to a close with the celebration of Harvest festival and the feast day of St Francis of Assisi.

Themes of reverence, respect, awe and thankfulness come together as we celebrate God's provision and reflect on our response to the gift of life.

In this particular year where the virus has caused us to re-evaluate our priorities and values, the life and teaching of St Francis feels especially relevant as we reflect together on what must be left behind if we are to live at one with God, each other, and all creation. Francis' famous 'Canticle of the Sun' (which can be found on our website), reveals a thankfulness for the diversity of life, including the harder aspects. Such thankfulness appears to be enriched by a holy reverent love; it helps us to see others and this earth with a new found openness and respect. It is this love which casts out fear.

### Sunday Worship online Benefice Service, 11.00am

Service of Holy Communion

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

Or go to the benefice website and click the link [www.stg-stj.org.uk](http://www.stg-stj.org.uk)

**'Virtual Coffee and Chat' at 12.00pm. Please join us!**

### Sunday Worship in Church

- Holy Communion at 9am at St George's
  - Holy Communion at 9.30am at St John's
  - Holy Communion at 11am at St George's
  - Benefice Communion Service, 11am streamed on YouTube for our congregations at home.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT FACE COVERINGS ARE NOW MANDATORY IN PLACES OF WORSHIP.

### 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, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

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### The Collect

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### First Reading: Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

### The Gospel: Luke 12: 16-21

Then Jesus told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

### Post Communion

Lord of the harvest,  
with joy we have offered thanksgiving  
for your love in creation,  
and have shared in the bread and  
the wine of the kingdom:  
by your grace plant within us a reverence  
for all that you give us  
and make us generous and wise stewards  
of the good things we enjoy;  
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 individuals, 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.*

### Coming Soon...

**Annual Church Meetings which were deferred from March are now to take place in October.**  
**St George's APCM** is on Tuesday 20 October at 7.30pm,  
Due to a deadline extension from the CofE, given for Coronavirus difficulties, **St John's APCM** has been postponed until November 19th at 7pm.

### Upcoming services

<b>Wednesday Worship</b>	Zoom	7 <sup>th</sup> Oct 7.30pm
<b>Sunday Worship, 11<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	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.

### 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.**