

## Notices

### Wednesday 15th January - St John's Ladies Fellowship

10th anniversary tea party 2pm in the Parish Room.  
Come along to celebrate!

**Monday 20th January - The Monday Meet** is back with a full programme for the year ahead with an interesting and varied mix of speakers. Peter Wright begins with a look back at the 2024 St George's Church pilgrimage from Stratford Upon Avon to Lichfield in August. The Bowler's Arms at 7.30 for 8.00pm start. All welcome.

**Tuesday 21st January - St George's Friendship Group.**  
2pm for tea, games and chat.

**Sunday 9th February - Forest Church** 4pm at St Michael's.

**Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5th** - services will take place at St George's and St John's: St George's 12noon and 7.30pm; St John's 12noon and 7.30pm.

**Lent Groups begin at St George's from w/b 10 March** - this year in small groups meeting in homes. Look out for more details to follow. All welcome.

**Advance notice - Saturday 28th June** our Curate Leanne's ordination as priest will take place at 11.30am in Reading Minster with a benefice celebration on Sunday 29 June.

## Key contacts

### Benefice Office Manager

Alex Brown 01635 41249 alex.brown@stg-stj.org.uk

### Vicar of Benefice - day off Monday

Revd Becky Bevan 01635 524994  
bbevan.vicar@stg-stj.org.uk

### Associate Vicar - day off Monday

Revd Gary Collins 07986 901879  
gcollins.priest@stg-stj.org.uk

### Curate (part-time)

Revd Leanne Fowler 01635 41249  
lfowler.curate@stg-stj.org.uk

### Churchwardens

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

**St George's:** John Huckle, Linda Ling  
churchwardens@st-george-newbury.org.uk

**St Michael's:** John Bolan, Julian Dickens  
churchwardens.stm@stg-stj.org.uk

For all other contacts please see the website:

**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)



South Newbury - St George, St John, St Michael

## 12th January 2025 The Baptism of Christ

**Everyone is welcome at our churches and all are warmly invited to come along.**  
**We look forward to seeing you.**

## Today's Services

**St George's** at 8.00am - Holy Communion  
9.30am - Parish Communion

**St John's** at 8.30am - Holy Communion  
10.00am - Parish Communion

**St Michael's** at 11.00am - Holy Communion

**Live-streamed worship this week** is from St John's on YouTube from 10.00am - <https://bit.ly/3PMxGPY> or via [www.stg-stj.org.uk](http://www.stg-stj.org.uk)

## Next Sunday, 19th January

**St George's** at 8.00am - Holy Communion  
9.30am - Parish Communion

**St John's** at 8.30am - Holy Communion  
10.00am - Parish Communion

## Weekly Services and Events

### Benefice Office open Tuesday to Friday 9.30-3.00pm

Monday	<b>Warm Welcome Café</b> at G's 9.30am-12.30
Tuesday	<b>Morning Prayer 8.50am</b> at St John's <b>Babies &amp; Toddlers</b> at St J 9.30am-11.15am <b>Eucharist at 12.30pm</b> at St John's
Wednesday	<b>Morning Prayer 8.50am</b> at St John's <b>Morning Prayer 8.45am</b> at St George's <b>Warm Welcome Café</b> at G's 9.30am-12.30 <b>Social &amp; Midday Prayer</b> , St J from 10.30am <b>Tiddlers &amp; Toddlers</b> St G 10am - 11.30am
Thursday	<b>Morning Prayer 8.45am</b> at St George's <b>Café Communion 12 noon</b> at St George's <b>Contemplative Prayer</b> 6pm at St John's
Friday	<b>Morning Prayer 8.45am</b> at St George's <b>'and Breathe' school-run café at St John's</b> 8.45am - 10.30am <b>Warm Welcome Café</b> at G's 2.00-4.30pm <b>Soup Lunch</b> at St John's - 12 noon <b>Evening Prayer</b> St John's 5.00pm

## Readings for Sunday, 12th January 2025

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### The Collect

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen**

### First reading: Isaiah 43.1-7

But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with  
you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm  
you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.  
Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold';  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth -  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.'

### Gospel Reading: Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

### Post Communion

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as  
Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### In need of help?

If you need a listening ear, or have a prayer request contact the clergy on the numbers given on the front of this newsletter. We also have a space to write prayer requests, please ask a steward.

### Prayers for the week

Prayer is at the heart of everything we do. A Weekly Prayer Diary 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. Names can be added by contacting clergy or the Office but please note, only with the permission of the named person.

### Upcoming services at St Michael's Enborne

Sunday, 12th January - 11am Holy Communion  
Sunday 26th January - 11am Matins  
Sunday 9th February - 11am Holy Communion  
Sunday 9th February - 4pm Forest Church

### Open for personal prayer ...

**St George's Church** is open daily (except Monday) from 9.30am - 2.30pm. (Access via the door on tower side.)

**St John's Church** is mainly open Tuesday to Friday from approx. 9-5pm. The red flag flying indicates openness.

**St Michael's Church, Enborne** is open every day in daylight hours.

**Come, sit in peace, and enjoy the quietness of these sacred spaces.**