



**Encountering God
following Jesus
Spirit-transforming lives**

THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

Churches of St Cecilia's, St Chad's,
St George's & St Mary's Stone

**Sunday 21st January 2024
Third Sunday of Epiphany**

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

COLLECT	SUNDAY 21st JANUARY	
God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.	ST CECILIA'S	
	11:00am	Holy Communion
	ST CHAD'S	
	9:30am	Morning Worship
	ST GEORGE'S	
	11:00am	Morning Worship
READINGS Genesis 14:17 - 20 Revelation 19:6 - 10 John 2:1 - 11	6:30pm	Evening Worship
	ST MARY'S, STONE	
	11:00am	Holy Communion

Lent 2024

Many people are signing up for "**The Romans Course**" that we shall be tackling during Lent this year - the sign-up sheets are in our churches. The material for this is being provided by **The Bible Society**, and is based around a video which is then discussed in groups. The main session **each week** is on **Tuesday evening at St Cecilia's, 7:30pm** start (refreshments beforehand), starting on **20th February**, but we will also be offering a **daytime option** for those who can't come out for the evening meeting. This will be at **The Rectory** and because of the limited space needs to be kept for those for whom the evening is not an option. If you'd like to come on a **Thursday at 11:00am** (starting **15th February**) please book a seat with David or Hilary. There is a Participants' Booklet for the course, and so we would encourage people to sign up to take part, so that we know how many booklets to print. Each booklet will cost £2.50: please pay when you sign up. If you wish to have a look at the material in advance the first session is available on the [Bible Society's website](#); search for "*Romans Course*".

David

Midweek Services

Holy Communion Every Wednesday at 10:00am at
St George's Church, Radford Avenue, DY10 2ES

Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

For children and young adults in school years **4 - 13** (ages **9 - 18 yrs**)

All meetings are at **St Cecilia's Church**, Hoo Road, DY10 1LP

Our **next meeting** is on **Sunday 21st January, 6:00 - 7:30pm**,

We meet fortnightly on Sunday evenings.

Please check our [webpage](#) for dates & times.

For further information or if you would like to join KEY please contact :

Grace Kerrigan (07807 647279) or Richard Baker (07843 136785)



World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 1st March

The service will be held at **St. Ambrose's Church**, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, at **10:30am**, followed by refreshments in the Borromeo Hall, behind the Church. Christians all over the world participate in the same service, creating a 24 hour wave of prayer in unity. Each year the service is focused on a different country and this year has been written, appropriately, by the Christian women of Palestine reflecting their culture. For catering purposes it would be useful to know numbers. Please contact Madeleine Roy, WDP Branch Secretary on 07796 671074 or madeleinetom@aol.com, or Canon Lamb on 01562 822839

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer with Daily readings at 8:00am: Join David, and others from the parish, online via Zoom for Morning Prayer. Please see the tables below for daily readings. Where you see David's initials in the Zoom column there will be an online prayer that day. Please join us for a great way to start the day. All welcome.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 22nd January		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 22 nd	Matthew 26:1 – 16	DH
Tue 23 rd	Matthew 26:17 – 35	DH
Wed 24 th	Matthew 26:36 – 46	DH
Thu 25 th	Acts 9:1 – 22 <i>Conversion of Paul</i>	DH
Fri 26 th	Matthew 26:57 - end	--
Sat 27 th	Matthew 27:1 - 10	DH

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 29th January		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 29 th	Matthew 27:11 – 26	DH
Tue 30 th	Matthew 27:27 – 44	DH
Wed 31 st	Matthew 27:45 – 56	DH
Thu 1 st	Matthew 27:57 – end	DH
Fri 2 nd	Matthew 28:1 – 15	--
Sat 3 rd	Matthew 28:16 - end	DH

If you do not automatically receive a Zoom link for Morning Prayer you can ask for one to be sent to you by emailing the address below. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Parish Prayer Meeting: PLEASE NOTE, there will be **NO PARISH PRAYER** in **February** due to the date falling on Ash Wednesday. Our next meeting will therefore be **Wednesday 13th March, online via Zoom** at **7:30pm** for the usual 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise.



To join **any** of the online Prayers please email parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk requesting a copy of the link & password **by 6:00pm on the day before the meeting**.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 19th January

Matthew 25. Even before Jesus has gone to the cross he teaches his disciples that his death and resurrection is not the end; he speaks of the time when he shall return, fully to bring in his everlasting reign. The parables he tells relate to “that time”. We are not to be unprepared; we are not to wait disengaged from the world around us; we are to realise that a reaction to one of his disciples (‘these brothers of mine’ – see also 12:48) is a reaction to him. Let’s be ready; let’s engage; let’s treat each other carefully.

Diocesan News

Prayer Pilgrimage led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Justin Welby will visit the Diocese on **Saturday 3rd February** to bring us together in prayer. The main events of the day will be: 10:00am - An interview with the Archbishop at Top Church, Dudley, followed by worship and prayer; 12.30pm - Prayer lunch at Pershore Abbey. (Bring your own picnic lunch); 2.15pm - An interview with the Archbishop at the Cathedral followed by worship and prayer. Anyone is welcome at these events. More information is available on posters in each of our churches and on the [Diocesan website](#).

Please click on this link for the full Diocesan Spring [Training and Events programme](#).

Bereavement Café - *Life after Loss*

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, our bereavement café ‘*Life after Loss*’ is here for you to meet informally with others in a similar situation, share your experiences and talk about how *life after loss* is affecting you. Next meeting **Monday 29th January, 2:00pm - 4:00pm at St Cecilia’s, Hoo Road**. For more info email Carol, Freda or Alison on lifeafterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office. on 01562 822131



NEW LIFE TOGETHER CHOIR

presents “*Simeon*” by Roger Jones
at Trinity Methodist Church on
Sunday 11th February at 6.30pm.

Everyone welcome.

This event is part of an evening service
so there is **no charge**.

Stone Corner Café

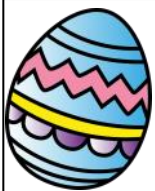
Wednesday 14th February
at **St Mary’s Stone**

Call in any time between

2:00pm - 4:00pm

for a chat, a drink and a slice of cake.

Everyone welcome.



Easter Hunt Trail - Saturday 30th March

The Churches Together are running this trail entirely on our own this year, with no input from the local Council: could you help to make it an event that inspires people to think about the glorious message of Easter? There are various roles to volunteer for according to what you can manage; there is a poster with further details in each of our churches. Do ask if you need to know more before responding.

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 2nd February**, covering **Sundays 4th & 11th February**. Items for publication should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk to reach the office by **Wednesday 31st January**.



Encountering God
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Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Times of Services at the Churches of
St Cecilia's, St Chad's, St George's & St Mary's Stone

Sunday 28th January 2024

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of
Israel: make your home among
us, and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God.

READINGS

Malachi 3:1 - 5
Hebrews 2:14 - end
Luke 2:22 - 40

SUNDAY 28th JANUARY

ST CECILIA'S

11:00am Morning Worship

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Holy Communion

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Morning Worship

Change of Service Time at St Cecilia's

From **Sunday 4th February** the time of
services at St Cecilia's will change to
9:45am to accommodate changes in
the parish and to help David attend both
early and later morning services.
We are grateful for your understanding
in this matter.



Bible Reading group

The group will meet on
Thursday 1st February
from 11:00am at the rectory.

We will be reading from chapters 3 & 4 of
Mark. The group is open to all but please let
me know you are coming either directly or via
the Parish Office. Thank you. *Hilary Hildred.*

Children receiving Communion



It is possible in the Church of England for children to receive Communion
before being confirmed some years later. In order for this to happen there
needs to be agreement from the parents, and a short preparation course.
I will be running such a course in the near future for two children I'm aware of.
If there are others who would like to be considered for this course please get
in touch with me.
David, Team Rector.

Parish Breakfast - Change of date

The next **Men's Breakfast** will now be on **Saturday 17th February** at St
Cecilia's Church, 9:30am. We look forward to seeing you there. *Ron & Roger*

Ladies Get Together: please note the **change of date to 17th February**, hope to see
you from 10:00am at **The Eazy Lounge**, Vicar Street. *Lyn and Cynthia*



Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 26th January

Matthew 26. What a lovely conjunction of chapters this week: Matthew 26 and Acts 9. In Matthew we read of the plot of the Jewish authorities to rid themselves and the world of this upstart rebellious teacher of new things. Will the opposition to Jesus succeed? It looks like it, but we know differently, and the power of the cross is such that even the most vociferous opponent, Saul, can be turned around to become that generation's leading proponent. Let's remind ourselves whose plan it is that bears the fruit.

Lent lunches at St George's

Starting on **Wednesday 14th February** and running throughout Lent: a simple soup, bread and cheese lunch. Drop in **12:00noon to 2:00pm**. No charge, but donations are welcome. (Pop-up Cafe will operate as normal on 6th March)

All welcome



Young at Heart

Wednesdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm
at St Cecilia's Church

24th Jan *The Teme Valley Way* Bob Charteris

31st Jan *The name of Bodfish* Mary Bodfish

If you wish to join this group please contact Jean Bailey via the parish office.

Children's Half-Term Activity Morning

Tuesday 13th February,

10:00am to 12:00noon at St George's Church



With crafts, games and activities based on the **Parable of the Sower**. For children up to 11 years (Year 6) accompanied by a parent/carer. Cost £1 per child; under 2s Free. Drinks and cakes will be available.



Come along and have fun. If you require further information please contact Carol Bishton - Tel: 01562 827093.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place each year from the **18th to 25th January**. The theme for 2024 is: *'You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself'* (Lk 10:27). It has come from an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso, facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community (CCN). Each year **Christian Aid** provides the *Go and Do* action points for each of the daily reflections – linking into the important work of Christian Aid in the relief of poverty and advocacy of justice. <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024/>



Requests for Prayer

- Please continue to pray about the ongoing Team Vicar vacancy as recruiting efforts progress, asking that the Holy Spirit will guide us in this process.
- For the conflicts in the Gaza Strip, Ukraine, and other parts of the world where families are displaced, frightened and bereaved. Lord, bring your healing peace.
- For all those in the parish who are sick, or lonely, or in need of our prayers. Lord show them your mercy and love.

Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?

Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

DIARY

Homegroups meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month.

Weekly Events

Café Chad	Mondays & Weds	9:15am - 12:15pm	St Chad's
Knit & Natter/Craft	Mondays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Art Group	Wednesdays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Knit & Natter	Wednesdays	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St George's
Young at Heart	Weds in term time	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St Cecilia's
Coffee Shop/Art table	Fridays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St George's
Meet and Eat	Fridays	from 12:00noon	Morrison's Café

Other events during the next fortnight are listed below

Mon 22nd Jan	7:30pm	St Chad's DCC	St Chad's
Wed 24th Jan	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Sunday 28th Jan	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
Mon 29th Jan	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
	7:30pm	St George's DCC	St George's
Tues 30th Jan	7:00pm	St Cecilia's DCC	St Cecilia's
Wed 31st Jan	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Thurs 1st Feb	11:00am	Bible reading group	The Rectory
Sun 4th Feb	9:30am	Worship for All	St Chad's
	9:45am	Holy Communion	St Cecilia's
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St George's
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Stone
	3:30pm	Family Activity afternoon	St Cecilia's
	5:30pm	KE Youth Group	St Cecilia's
	6:30pm	Evening Worship	St George's
Mon 5th Feb	7:30pm	St Mary's DCC	St Mary's Stone

The full parish diary can be accessed through the online [Year Plan for 2024](#).

Online resources: [Children's corner](#), Messy Church [Facebook group](#), plus many videos on our [YouTube channel](#), posts on our [Facebook page](#) and [parish website](#).

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY

READINGS: Proverbs 8:1, 22 - 31 Colossians 1:15 - 20 John 1:1 - 14

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY

READINGS: 2 Kings 2:1 - 12 2 Corinthians 2:3 - 6 Mark 9:2 - 9

CONTACT US

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TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

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