



**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 18th February 2024
First Sunday of Lent**

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

COLLECT	SUNDAY 18 th FEBRUARY	
Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.	ST CHAD'S	
	9:30am	Morning Worship
	ST CECILIA'S	
	9:45am	Holy Communion
	ST GEORGE'S	
	11:00am	Morning Worship
6:30pm	Evening Worship	
ST MARY'S, STONE		
11:00am	Holy Communion	
READINGS		
Genesis 9:8 - 17 1 Peter 3:18 - end Mark 1:9 - 15		

Lent Course 2024 - Volunteers, Bibles and pens needed - read on...

The Lent course starts on **Tuesday 20th February**. We will meet together **each week** at **St Cecilia's** starting at **7:30pm**. Refreshments will be served from 7:00pm. It is encouraging to have so many signed up for this event which is based on "**The Romans Course**" from the [The Bible Society](#). Your Participants' Booklet will be waiting for you to collect at the first session. It would be helpful if you could also bring a **Bible** with you and a **pen**. We would also welcome **volunteers** from 7:00pm to help put out chairs. Thank you, and looking forward to seeing you there.

David

Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

For children and young adults in school years **5 - 13** (ages **9 - 18 yrs**)
 All meetings are at **St Cecilia's Church**, Hoo Road, DY10 1LP

Next meeting is on **Sunday 18th February, 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)



Children's Club

The **Children's Club** is a fun and friendly club for school years 2 to 5 (some flexibility - please enquire). Children enjoy games, music, craft, stories, drama plus a meal & refreshments at every session, in a safe and friendly environment. All events are **free**.



Staff are safeguarding trained and DBS checked. **In order to attend**, children must be registered. A form is available to download from the [parish website](#). Alternatively, please email Katyc34@btinternet.com to request a form or to book a place. Please ensure that places are booked **no later than** seven days before each event. Spaces are limited and we need to ensure that we have food and materials available for each child. Dates of **upcoming events** are (please see [parish website](#) for later dates):

Friday 23rd February, 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Friday 22nd March, 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Thursday 4th April, 9:30am - 1:30pm

Friday 5th April, 9:30am - 1:30pm

All meetings are at
St Chad's Church,
Burcher Green,
Kidderminster, DY10 3AY

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 19th February		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 19 th	Genesis 41:25 – 45	DH
Tue 20 th	Genesis 41:46 – 42:5	DH
Wed 21 st	Genesis 42:6 – 17	DH
Thu 22 nd	Genesis 42:18 – 28	DH
Fri 23 rd	Genesis 42:29 – end	--
Sat 24 th	Genesis 43:1 - 15	DH

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 26th February		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 26 th	Genesis 43:16 – end	--
Tue 27 th	Genesis 44:1 – 17	DH
Wed 28 th	Genesis 44:18 – end	DH
Thu 29 th	Genesis 45:1 – 15	DH
Fri 1 st	Genesis 45:16 – end	--
Sat 2 nd	Genesis 46:1 – 7, 28 - 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 join us on **Wednesday 21st February** for the usual monthly 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise **online via Zoom**. Login from 7:20pm for a **7:30pm** start. Just request a link from the address below. All welcome.



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**.

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 1st March**, covering **Sundays 3rd and 10th March**. Items for publication should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk to reach the office by **Wednesday 28th February**.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 16th February
Genesis 40. Further accounts of the family of Jacob and its disfunction and deception, through which, once again, God is able to weave his purposes. Joseph is portrayed at the beginning as an arrogant and presumptuous member of the family, but over the years of these chapters he exchanges these for more Godly attitudes, when we would have perhaps expected him to harbour bitterness and revenge. Transformation is going on here. Could this help us look back and note the Spirit's work in our life – it doesn't have to be through adverse situations?



Desert Island Lent

The season of Lent calls us to spend time in the desert or wilderness. But what would we take with us to sustain us and to help us use our time well? Come and find out what some of our Deanery clergy would take with them - and why.

Wed 21st Feb	Revd Carey Saleh	Holy Innocent's, Foley Park, DY11 6LA
Wed 28th Feb	Revd Julia Curtis	St Michael's, Stourport, DY13 9DD
Wed 6th March	Archdeacon Mark Badger	Holy Innocent's, Foley Park, DY11 6LA
Wed 13th March	Revd Canon Wyn Beynon	Holy Innocent's, Foley Park, DY11 6LA
Wed 20th March	Revd Shaun Armstrong	St Michael's, Stourport, DY13 9DD

All sessions are 7:00pm for 7:30pm. Everyone is very welcome.

Friends of the Holy Land - directly helping those in need

Our friends report that there are still about 820 adults and children sheltering in Gaza's two main Christian churches. Every day involves fear, prayers, and one piece of bread to eat. International aid can't reach them, so we are directly helping with financial support for their basic provisions - we *must* keep it up until there's a ceasefire. You can find news, prayer resources and ways to help or donate to the *Hope & Healing fund* on the [FHL website](#).



Wyre Forest Youth for Christ - 5 Year Celebration

To celebrate the 5 years of youth ministry in Kidderminster there will be a desserts and drinks party at:

Kidderminster Elim Church

Hoo Road, DY10 1NB (Next door to Harriers stadium)

Saturday 2nd March

Arrive from 6:30pm for a **7:00pm start**. All done by 8:30pm.

Honouring good friends and marking a commitment to young people. **Anyone** who has an interest in youth ministry, has contributed over this time or is interested in getting involved is **very welcome** to attend. The event is totally free to attend and you don't even need to bring your wallet on the night.

So that we have some idea of numbers please go to wyreforest.yfc.co.uk/5yearparty to register or contact barry@wyreforest.yfc.co.uk or Tel: 07767 715466.



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Second Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday 25th February 2024

COLLECT

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of
Lent may we enter into the
mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Genesis 17:1 - 7, 15 - 16
Romans 4:13 - end
Mark 8:31 - end

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Holy Communion

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am Morning Worship

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Morning Worship

Midweek Services

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



Young at Heart

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

21st Feb *The Edwardian* John Billington
Age

28th Feb Bring your Favourite Poem

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

Lent lunches at St George's

Every **Wednesday** 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

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. We are not a counselling service but provide a listening ear
over a cup of tea/coffee & cake in a warm & friendly atmosphere.



Next meeting **Monday 26th February, 2:00pm - 4:00pm** at **St Cecilia's**, Hoo Road.
For more info email Carol, Freda or Alison on lifefterlosskep@gmail.com or call the
parish office on 01562 822131.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 23rd February
Genesis 42. This is presented as a story about being rescued from famine and hunger, and therefore the salvation, the securing, of the people of God, because of God's intricate planning with Joseph being in God's place at God's time. When we read this with our Christian spectacles on, are there pointers here for the greater work of rescue that Jesus will achieve? For instance, what do you make of the requirement that Benjamin is summonsed in order to set Simeon free, or how Reuben offers the lives of his sons as payment should Benjamin lose his life?



Easter Hunt Trail - Saturday 30th March - Can You Help?

Churches Together are running this trail entirely on our own this year, with no input from the local Council. **Can 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. See the **poster** in our churches for further details or ask if you need to know more before responding.



Befriending Could you volunteer for a brand new community service?

Kemp are looking for volunteers to visit people living with life limiting illness, in their homes to offer companionship & emotional support. Full training given. For more info contact Sachia 01562 756000/email sanchia.evans@kemphospice.org.uk



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. 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

Diocesan News

The Cathedral Eco Group is delighted to invite you to join '**Living Gently on the Earth**', a series of community events, talks and workshops on caring for our planet. There's a fascinating programme between now and June to enable greener and more generous living. You can learn more and see the full programme on the [Diocesan website](#). Please click on this link for the full Diocesan Spring [Training and Events programme](#).

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 ongoing conflicts in the Gaza Strip, Ukraine, Sudan and other parts of the world where families are displaced, frightened & bereaved.
- For the family and friends of Mavis Mullard, a long standing and well known St George's parishioner, who died recently.

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

Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

DIARY

Homegroups are suspended so that people may attend the weekly **Lent Group**.

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 19 th Feb	7:00pm	PCC Meeting	online via Zoom
Tues 20 th Feb	7:30pm	Lent Course	St Cecilia's
Wed 21 st Feb	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Lent Lunch	St George's
	7:30pm	Parish Prayer	online via Zoom
Fri 23 rd Feb	5:00pm	Children's Club	St Chad's
Sunday 25 th Feb	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
Mon 26 th Feb	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
Tues 27 th Feb	7:30pm	Lent Course	St Cecilia's
Wed 28 th Feb	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Lent Lunch	St George's
Sunday 3 rd Mar	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 Fun afternoon	St Cecilia's
	5:30pm	KE Youth Group	St Cecilia's
	6:30pm	Evening Worship	St George's

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 3rd MARCH

READINGS: Exodus 20:1 - 17 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 25 John 2:13 - 22

SUNDAY 10th MARCH - Mothering Sunday

READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:20 - end Colossians 3:12 - 17 John 19:25b - 27

CONTACT US

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TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

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