



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 4th February 2024
Second Sunday before Lent

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

COLLECT	SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY	
Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.	ST CHAD'S	
	9:30am	Worship for All
	ST CECILIA'S	
	9:45am	Holy Communion
	ST GEORGE'S	
	11:00am	Morning Worship
6:30pm	Evening Worship	
READINGS	ST MARY'S, STONE	
Proverbs 8:1, 22 - 31	11:00am	Holy Communion
Colossians 1:15 - 20		
John 1:1 - 14		

Lent 2024

We now have over 70 people signed up for "The Romans Course" that we shall be tackling during Lent this year. There is **still time** for others to join us - sign-up sheets are in our churches. We will meet together **each week** on **Tuesday evening** at **St Cecilia's, 7:30pm** start (refreshments beforehand), beginning on **20th February**. We will also be offering a **daytime session** at **The Rectory** but because of the limited space this needs to be kept **STRICTLY** for those for whom the evening is not an **option**. If you fall into this category and wish to come on a **Thursday at 11:00am** (starting **15th February**) please email/message David or Hilary by **Sunday 11th Feb**. The material for this is being provided by **The Bible Society**, and is based around a video which is then discussed in groups. There is a Participants' Booklet for the course. Please pay £2.50 when you sign up to cover the cost of the booklet. 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 **5 - 13** (ages **9 - 18 yrs**)

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

Our **next meeting** is on **Sunday 4th February, 5:30 - 6:30pm**, after the family activity afternoon.



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)

Family Activity Afternoons @StCecilia's

On the first Sunday of every month

Next Meeting: Sunday 4th February, 3:30pm - 5:30pm.

Crafts, games, refreshments & more, for all the family

@StCecilia's Church, 164 Hoo Road. Kidderminster, DY10 1LP

For more information contact the parish office on 01562 822131
or email office@kidderminstereast.org.uk.



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 5th February		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 5 th	Genesis 29:31 – 30:24	--
Tue 6 th	Genesis 31:1 – 24	--
Wed 7 th	Genesis 31:25 – 32:2	--
Thu 8 th	Genesis 32:3 – 30	--
Fri 9 th	Genesis 33:1 – 17	--
Sat 10 th	Genesis 35:1 - end	--

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 12th February		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 12 th	Genesis 37:1 – 11	DH
Tue 13 th	Genesis 37:12 – end	DH
Wed 14 th	Psalm 51:1 – 18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	DH
Thu 15 th	Genesis 39:1 – end	DH
Fri 16 th	Genesis 40:1 - end	--
Sat 17 th	Genesis 41:1 - 24	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: this would normally be held on **14th February**, but because of the **Ash Wednesday** evening service we will **transfer it to Wednesday 21st February** for the usual 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise **online via Zoom at 7:30pm**. *Please join us.*



PLEASE NOTE: this information **corrects** what was announced in the last newsletter.

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 2nd February

Matthew 28. In the opening chapters of the gospel Matthew is keen to show us how the birth of Jesus fits with the earlier word of God proclaimed by the prophets. In the climax of his gospel here in the last two chapters we hear people mockingly quote words from the ministry of Jesus and we have the distinctive words of the crucified Jesus and the resurrected Jesus, culminating in “All authority” resting in Jesus. He fulfils and supersedes all that was spoken before; let us be those with ears who hear.



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

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

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.



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. **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. See the **poster** in our churches for further details or ask if you need to know more before responding.

Wyre Forest Refugee Support Group

is looking for new volunteers to support/befriend some refugee families who are living in Kidderminster. You will be part of a small team supporting/befriending each family. The role involves helping individuals make appointments on the phone or in person, escorting them to appointments, helping them use public transport, practising English through conversation and providing local knowledge and friendship. To discuss further what the role involves, please contact Clare Cassidy at clarecassidy15@gmail.com.

Parish Breakfast - Saturday 17th February

The next **Men's Breakfast** is on **17th February** at St Cecilia's Church, 9:30am. If you are hoping to come please *text* or *WhatsApp* Roger on 07711 732120 or email the parish office office@kidderminstereast.org.uk so that we have some idea of numbers. *Ron & Roger*



Ladies Get Together: we will meet on the **same day** at **The Eazy Lounge**, Vicar Street from 10:00am. Hope to see you; no booking required. *Lyn & Cynthia*

Racial Justice Sunday - Sunday 11th February



This year's theme is EXODUS exploring the movement of people from their homelands to the places they now call home, and examining the motivations behind this movement – the journeys made, and the reception or welcome received on arrival. To read more about these important matters you can visit the Churches Together in Britain & Ireland website: <https://ctbi.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday-2024/>



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: 07767715466.

Friends of the Holy Land - Thank You!

Following our Christmas Campaign we have been gifted nearly £200,000! We are humbled by your response and are making sure your love and care is going directly where it is needed: £100,000 has already gone directly into Gaza to help those sheltering from the war, we are adding 15 new families to our Family Support Programme, we have expanded our emergency support programme and we are currently developing major projects to improve the water supply, employment and the healing of the most vulnerable, planned for the next three months. We are most grateful for your ongoing support as the conflict deepens and shows little sign of a ceasefire. With your help we will continue to stand by our brothers and sisters directly with our arms around them. You can find news, prayer resources and ways to help or donate on the [FHL website](#).





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Sunday next before Lent

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

Sunday 11th February 2024

COLLECT

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our
sinful lives: set straight our
crooked hearts, and bend our
wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

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

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Holy Communion

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am Café Church

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Morning Worship

Ash Wednesday - 14th February

There will be two services of Holy Communion to mark this day.

10:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer 1662) St George's

7:30pm Holy Communion (Common Worship) St Mary's Stone

At St George's in the morning we will be using the Book of Common Prayer (1662), and at St Mary's in the evening it will be based upon our usual Common Worship service. In both places there will be an opportunity (but not requirement) for ashes to be used to make the sign of the cross on the forehead. The paste will be made of ONLY ashes and oil.



at **St Cecilia's Church**,
Hoo Road, DY10 1LP
**every 2nd Sunday
of the month, 9:45am**

A mix of contemporary and traditional
worship in a relaxed atmosphere.
Discussion, conversation and prayer.

All welcome.

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.



Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 9th February

Genesis 33. What a story of intrigue, deception and danger, as Jacob flees from his family, works for Laban many years, flees from him, and has to face meeting up with his brother once again, whom he had tricked so many years before. And yet through it all there are significant encounters with God (the 'ladder' dream in chapter 28, the wrestling in chapter 32) and the name change in chapters 32 & 35 point to a transforming character. If God can work with and through Jacob, how might we best ensure he can work with and through us?

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

7th Feb *The Severn Wonders of the World*
Alan Bradbury

14th Feb *The Edwardian Age* Paul Timmins

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

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 send me an email by 11th February.**

David, Team Rector.

St George's Pop up Café

Open **Wednesday 7th February**
and the 1st Wednesday of every month

12:00noon - 2:00pm

at St George's Church,
Radford Avenue.

All welcome



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.**



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 and a listening ear. Full training given. Driving license, references and DBS check required. For more information contact Sachia on 01562 756000 or email sanchia.evans@kemphospice.org.uk

Friday morning coffee shop

at St George's, 10:00 -12:00noon
including **Art Table**. All ages
and abilities welcome, materials
provided, minimum charge.
No need to book, just turn up!



Knit & Natter

at **St George's Church every**
Wednesday 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Come for a **knit** or come for a
natter, either or both are fine!



Diocesan News

Prayer Pilgrimage following the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, on **Saturday 3rd February**. If you weren't able to join in person then please be encouraged to join in with the **prayers for growth** in our diocese of healthy and sustainable churches which are resourced and encouraged to worship God, make disciples, share hope, and transform their communities. The hope is to double the number of children and young people in our churches by 2030, to have at least 100 new worshipping communities and for there to be congregations of 150 people in each major area of population.

Rural Mission Area in the Teme Valley: As part of the latest reorganisations in our Deanery the clergy in the Teme Valley are working together across a new wider mission area. David Morris, Julia Curtis and Sallie Butcher will continue to have responsibility for their own areas, but going forward they will be working together more closely, supporting each other and sharing resources across the whole area. You can read more about this story on the Diocesan website at

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/new-rural-mission-area-for-teme-valley.php>

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



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

SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY

READINGS: Genesis 9:8 - 17 1 Peter 3:18 - end Mark 1:9 - 15

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY

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

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, Sudan and other parts of the world where families are displaced, frightened & bereaved. Lord, bring your healing peace.
- For the family of Betty Powell, a long standing and well known St Chad'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 usually meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, however, during Lent these are suspended so that people may attend the weekly **Lent Groups** instead.

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 5th Feb	7:30pm	St Mary's DCC	St Mary's Stone
Wed 7th Feb	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Pop-up Café	St George's
Sunday 11th Feb	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
Tues 13th Feb	10:00am	Children's Half-term activity	St George's
Wed 14th Feb	10:00am	Holy Communion / Ash Wednesday	St George's
	12:00pm	Lent Lunch	St George's
	2:00pm	Stone Corner Café	St Mary's Stone
	7:30pm	Holy Communion / Ash Wednesday	St Mary's Stone
Thurs 15th Feb	11:00am	Lent Course (morning group)	The Rectory
Sat 17th Feb	9:30am	Men's Breakfast	St Cecilia's
	10:00am	Ladies Get-together	The Eazy Lounge
Sunday 18th Feb	9:30am	Morning Worship	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
	6:00pm	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](#).

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 16th February**, covering **Sundays 18th & 25th February**. Items for publication should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk to reach the office by **Wednesday 14st February**.

CONTACT US

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TEAM RECTOR – David Hildred 01562 743895 / 07906 156239

TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

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