



**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 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024  
Third Sunday of Lent**

*A Warm Welcome to All our Services*

COLLECT	SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> MARCH	
Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.	<b>ST CHAD'S</b>	
	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship for All
	<b>ST CECILIA'S</b>	
	<b>9:45am</b>	Holy Communion
<b>READINGS</b>	<b>ST GEORGE'S</b>	
	<b>11:00am</b>	Morning Worship
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Evening Worship
	<b>ST MARY'S, STONE</b>	
Exodus 20:1 - 17 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 25 John 2:13 - 22	<b>11:00am</b>	Holy Communion



## **Family Activity Afternoons @StCecilia's**

On the first Sunday of every month

**Next Meeting: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 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](mailto:office@kidderminstereast.org.uk).



## **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 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 5:30 - 6:30pm,**  
straight after the Family Fun 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)

## 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](mailto: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):

<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March,</b>	5:00pm - 7:30pm	All meetings are at <b>St Chad's Church,</b> <b>Burcher Green,</b> <b>Kidderminster, DY10 3AY</b>
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April,</b>	9:30am - 1:30pm	
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April,</b>	9:30am - 1:30pm	
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April,</b>	5:00pm - 7:30pm	

## 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 <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Bible passage</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 47:1 – 27	DH
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 47:28 – end of 48	DH
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 49:1 – 32	DH
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 49:33 – end of 50	DH
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 7:11 – end	--
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 8:1 - end	--

Daily Readings for week beginning <b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Bible passage</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 9:1 – 14	DH
Tue 12 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 9:15 – end	DH
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 10:1 – 18	DH
Thu 14 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 10:19 – 25	DH
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 10:26 – end	--
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 11:1 - 16	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 13<sup>th</sup> March** for the usual monthly 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise for the parish and the wider world **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](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> March**, covering **Sundays 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March**. Items for publication should be sent to [news@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:news@kidderminstereast.org.uk) to reach the office by **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**.

## Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

*Genesis 45.* The transformations we read about in earlier chapters are now seen to be in evidence amongst the wider family, not just in Joseph. They no longer have a cavalier attitude towards losing one of their brothers. They know they deserve judgement, but instead receive mercy, as again the story points us forward to how we receive the same through the cross of Jesus. Verse 5 shows how much Joseph has grown in his spiritual journey, and it has taken quite a number of years. We may pray for similar transformation, mercy and growth in our lives.

### Children's Club Prayer Partners

The Kidderminster East Children's Club recently restarted for 2024 (see separate notice). We have a core group of children aged 6-11 years who really enjoy the activities, and a committed group of leaders and helpers. We believe God is at the centre of this work, but we want to do even better by reaching more children and improving our offer. To help us, we'd love to have a **dedicated prayer group** partnering the work – prayers generally for the children, families and volunteers, plus prayers for our themes and activities. If you could commit to organising or joining such a group, please contact Jen Tompkin (07775 623691) or Mary Griffiths (07966 265471).

### 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 6<sup>th</sup> March** Archdeacon Mark Badger Holy Innocent's, Foley Park, DY11 6LA

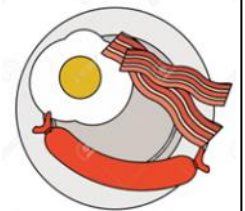
**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> March** Revd Canon Wyn Beynon Holy Innocent's, Foley Park, DY11 6LA

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March** Revd Shaun Armstrong St Michael's, Stourport, DY13 9DD

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

### Parish Breakfast

The **Men's breakfast** on 17<sup>th</sup> February was attended by 18 men including a couple of new attendees, one of whom was not a church member. A good time was had by all. The date for the next breakfast will be on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April** at 9:30am at St Cecilia's. We are hoping to have a representative from **Night Stop** to talk to us about their work



*Ron & Roger*

The **ladies** will also be meeting at **The Eazy Lounge** at 10.00am on the same day.

### Knit & Natter and Craft Group at Café Chad on Mondays

10:00am - 12:00noon. Come and meet like-minded people in an informal setting with quality refreshments. Contact Joy on 07742 949156.



### 'Meet and Eat'

Come and join us every **Friday at 12.00 noon**  
at **Morrison Café**

Green St, Kidderminster DY10 1AZ



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# Mothering Sunday

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

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

## COLLECT

Merciful Lord,  
you know our struggle to serve  
you: when sin spoils our lives  
and overshadows our hearts,  
come to our aid  
and turn us back to you again;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## READINGS

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

## SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH

### ST CHAD'S

9:30am Morning Worship

### ST CECILIA'S

9:45am Café Church

### 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**

## Mothering Sunday

This is a celebration that easily gets mixed up with Mothers' Day. For the Church, **Mothering Sunday** is a festival that includes everyone, not just women. It arises from the time when girls 'in service' were allowed a weekend off before Easter in order to visit their families, which of course included their mothers, but most importantly gave them an opportunity to visit their '*mother church*' where they had been brought up in the faith. So, today, our celebration of **Mothering Sunday** can include all of us thanking God for our '*mother church*' where we have been nurtured, mothered, in the faith, and is a reminder for us to go on growing in our walk with Jesus. *David*



at **St Cecilia's Church**,  
Hoo Road, DY10 1LP  
**every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> March**

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.**





## Spring Tale Top Sale

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April

St George's, Radford Ave.

10:00am - 1:00pm

£10:00 per table.

Craft & cake stalls, raffle, refreshments  
(Sausage or Bacon rolls; tea/coffee).

To book a table or for further information  
please contact Jan (01562 630431) or  
Chris (07919 178236).

Proceeds to the church **Roof Access** fund.



## Good Friday Services

This year there will be two services on Good Friday in the parish. In the morning at **10:30am at St Cecilia's** we will be holding a short service of stillness and reflection **suitable for all ages**. Before that, from 10:00am do come and join us for coffee and hot cross buns.

In the afternoon at **2:00pm at St Chad's** there will be the "*Hour at the Cross*" service of hymns, readings and reflections.

Discussion is taking place with other churches about what sort of **Procession of Witness** is possible in the town; watch out for details later on.



## Bible Reading group

There will be **no meeting** this month so that we can all concentrate on the Lent

Groups. Due to other factors there will be no meeting in April either. Therefore the next meeting will be on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**. Thank you.

Hilary Hildred.

## Parish Coach Trip

to **Bristol** on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April** leaving **St George's** at 9:00am returning back around 5.30pm.

**Cost £20.**

To book please speak to Jan on 01562 630431.



## 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 **6<sup>th</sup> March**  
**All welcome**



## 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!



## Young at Heart

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

**6<sup>th</sup> March** *Arranging Flowers*

with Mike Towler

**13<sup>th</sup> March** *Feasts & Festivals*

with Bidy Goodyear

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

## Chrism Eucharist - the Cathedral

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 11.00 am

This is especially relevant to all clergy who will renew their ministerial vows. Bishop John will bless oils for use in ordination, initiation and healing over the coming year. The service is open to everyone and is an opportunity for all those in parish leadership to express our support for those who have a vocation to ministry.

## St George's Coffee Shop



Open every **Friday morning**

**10:00am - 12:00noon**

at St George's Church, Radford Avenue.

**PLEASE NOTE:** we will be **closed** on **Good Friday** but will reopen as normal on **5<sup>th</sup> April**. Thank you

## Team Vicar Vacancy

We are, of course, disappointed that there were no applications received by the deadline last week and so there will be no opportunity to interview anyone before Easter. We plan to advertise once again, knowing full well that there are lots of vacancies out there and fewer clergy to fill them. Please keep praying: what a lesson in patience this is!



## An Invitation to An Evening With The Stars

Richard Campbell from Droitwich Salvation Army (cousin of a church member here) tells us of a concert in **Dudley Town Hall** on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June** at **7:00pm**, which includes Vocal Soloist **Charlie Green** and the world famous **Cory Brass band**. Charlie has toured America with the Osmond brothers, and has toured Canada, the Philippines and across the UK. The Cory Band are based in Wales and are the premier brass band in the UK and Europe plus touring the world, winning many contests. Richard's invitation says: Please do join us in **An Evening With The Stars**. Tickets are £21 each (Children £10). Group bookings available.



Contact: **Richard Campbell** 07387 308718 [richardcampbellforward24@yahoo.com](mailto:richardcampbellforward24@yahoo.com)

## Friends of the Holy Land - Take action over Lent

It is with sad hearts that we report on the worsening situation in Gaza and the West Bank. The Prime Minister of Israel has vowed to press on with military action until "total victory". For the 820 members of the Christian community trapped inside Gaza's two churches, this means enduring more fear, hunger and grief as they struggle to survive. Christians in the West Bank have also suffered, losing their jobs and businesses due to the lack of tourists and border closures.



**Take action over Lent** to support our friends in the Holy Land - they need us more than ever. Write to your MP asking them to support a ceasefire or, if you can afford it, make a donation to the **Hope and Healing Fund** that offers urgent relief to the most vulnerable people. The need is great and more people are waiting for help. To find out ways you can help or to make a donation please visit the [FHL website](#).

*Brendan Metcalfe*, CEO, Friends of the Holy Land

**Bishop John's Lent Appeal** this year is for the **Friends of the Holy Land**. He says: "Lent is a time for us to take stock of our lives; to do a spiritual reset and to focus again on the love of God and love of neighbour. Traditionally, Christians during Lent have engaged in prayer and fasting and almsgiving, and I hope that all of us will rededicate ourselves to prayer during this Lent. When it comes to almsgiving, I want to encourage you to make a donation to the wonderful charity **Friends of the Holy Land**." Read more and watch a short video at <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/lent-appeal-2024>



The Wyre Forest Hospice

## 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. References, driving licence and DBS checks are required. For more info or to offer your help please contact Sachia 01562 756000/email [sanchia.evans@kemphospice.org.uk](mailto:sanchia.evans@kemphospice.org.uk) or you can visit [www.kemphospice.org.uk/befriending-service](http://www.kemphospice.org.uk/befriending-service).

## Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Guy Hewlett for Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

*Hebrews 7*. Sometimes grace is described as **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**. Grace is the undeserved gift or favour of God. The theme of this letter is the absolute supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ as revealer and as mediator of God's grace. Jesus has done it all; for us. In this chapter Jesus is described as a priest for ever. Jesus is Holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners. Unlike any other priest Jesus sacrificed himself for our sins once for all. God's riches are for you.



### Easter Hunt Trail - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March

You are invited to Brinton Park for an **Easter Hunt Trail** on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March** at 10:30am - 12:00noon. As well as the Hunt there will be other attractions such as face painting, crazy golf and circus skills. The event is aimed at children up to 11 years. There is no booking required and the event is FREE. Children must be accompanied by an adult. In case of bad weather the Hunt will move to Holy Innocents Church. This event is organised by Churches Together. For more information please go to <https://ctik.info/> or see our poster in your church.

We are still open to offers of help on the day. **Can you help** to make this 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. Please contact Jane Pollard on 07949 968276 or email [pollardjane@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pollardjane@yahoo.co.uk). Thank you

### Diocesan News

**A Pilgrimage of Prayer with the Archbishop of Canterbury:** We had a fantastic day on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February as Archbishop Justin visited the Diocese for a day of focussed prayer for our parishes, schools and communities as well as the many issues facing our world at the moment. You can watch a short video by clicking on the following link: <https://vimeo.com/910460990> or typing it into your browser.

An award-winning documentary '**Life Over Death**' based on a book written by Bishop John's late wife Denise gets a special screening premier at **Worcester Cathedral** on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm** to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death. Denise located the Charnel House (a crypt full of human bones) under a trapdoor in the cellar of their house. Her book, '**A Tour of Bones**', published posthumously, covers themes of mortality, preparing for death and embracing life. [Learn more and book...](#)

### Requests for Prayer

- Please continue to pray about the ongoing Team Vicar vacancy as recruiting efforts continue, 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.
- That the Lord may pour out his blessings on our Lent Groups, so that they will bear fruits for all those taking part and the parish in general.

*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

Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> March	7:30pm	Lent Course	St Cecilia's
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> March	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Pop-up Café	St George's
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> March	7:00pm	Deanery Synod	St George's
	7:30pm	St Chad's DCC	St Chad's
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> March	7:30pm	Lent Course	St Cecilia's
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Lent Lunch	St George's
	2:00pm	Stone Corner Café	St Mary's Stone
	7:30pm	Parish Prayer	Online via Zoom
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	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](#).

## SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH - Passion Sunday

**READINGS:** Jeremiah 31:31 - 34      Hebrews 5:5 - 10      John 12:20 - 33

## SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH - Palm Sunday

**READINGS:** Isaiah 50:4 - 9a      Philippians 2:5 - 11      Mark 14:1 - end

## CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE [office@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:office@kidderminstereast.org.uk) 01562 822131

NEWSLETTER [news@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:news@kidderminstereast.org.uk)

TEAM RECTOR – David Hildred 01562 743895 / 07906 156239

TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

WEBSITE: [www.kidderminstereast.org.uk](http://www.kidderminstereast.org.uk)

FACEBOOK: Parish of Kidderminster East  
[d.hildred@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:d.hildred@kidderminstereast.org.uk)

[website@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:website@kidderminstereast.org.uk)