



**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 23rd February 2025
Second Sunday before Lent**

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Genesis 2: 4b-9; 15-end
Revelation 4
Luke 8: 22-25

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

ST CHAD'S

9:30am

Holy Communion

4.00pm

Licensing Rev Jacqueline Shalloe

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am

Morning Worship

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am

Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am

Morning Worship

Requests for Prayer:

- let's pray that Jacqueline's first day in post, and then first week, first month, ..., are fruitful for the Lord, a blessing to her and John, and a blessing to the parish.
- and for Tim Williams as he is licensed in Ombersley on 9th March



Midweek Services

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



Bible Reading Group

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 6th March, 11:00am

at the Rectory. We will be reading Mark Chapter 12. Refreshments served from 10:45am. Open to all but please let me know you are coming, either directly or via the parish office, thank you. Hilary Hildred.

Parish Prayerlink

Our praying friends across the whole parish are happy to pray for you. Requests for prayer for specific people/situations can be emailed to prayerlink@kidderminstereast.org.uk Or you can phone requests to Anne and Glenn on 01562 822690



Knit & Natter
at St George's Church.
Every Wednesday
2 - 4pm.



Café Chad

Every Monday and Wednesday

9:15am - 12:30pm at St Chad's Church
Including:

Knit & Natter/Crafts Mon 10am - 12noon.

Art Group Mon & Wed 10am - 12noon

Come to meet friends, new and old, for a chat and quality refreshments.

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer with daily readings at 8:00am: David (DH) or Jacqueline (JS) will be leading Morning Prayer via Zoom through the week. Please check the tables below for who is leading, so that you use the correct link to get into the meeting. The tables also give one of the daily readings. Please join us for a great way to start the day. All welcome.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 24th February

Date	Bible passage & Notes	Zoom
Mon 24 th	John 19:1 - 16	JS
Tue 25 th	John 19:17 - 30	JS
Wed 26 th	John 19:31 - end	JS
Thu 27 th	John 20:1 - 10	JS
Fri 28 th	John 20:11 - 18	--
Sat 1 st Mar	John 20:19 - end	JS

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 3rd March

Date	Bible passage & Notes	Zoom
Mon 3 rd	John 3:1 - 21	DH
Tue 4 th	John 3:22 - end	DH
Wed 5 th	John 8:1 - 11 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	DH
Thu 6 th	John 4:1 - 26	DH
Fri 7 th	John 4:27 - 42	--
Sat 8 th	John 4:43 - end	JS

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 12th 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 requesting a copy of the link & password **by 6:00pm on the day before the meeting**.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Andy Piggott for Friday 21st February

As we continue to read through John's gospel, you may be becoming increasingly aware of how different it sometimes is from Matthew, Mark and Luke. John seems to go into a lot of detail in many of the accounts he writes and has clearly thought deeply. Mark in particular seems to include many more episodes in the life of Jesus, but his record of them is often more superficial.

We know from the other gospels that Jesus often took time out to pray – there are lots of examples – but other than his teaching on prayer, we find out little about the things he prays for.

This week we've had a glimpse into the praying heart of Jesus. Chapter 17 consists pretty much entirely of teaching about prayer and his prayers themselves.

I sometimes come across people who say they find prayer or praying difficult. If you ever feel that way – perhaps you could try either of these two suggestions:

- Pray the Lord's Prayer – this was how Jesus taught his friends to pray
 - Pray as Jesus prayed in chapter 17 – for himself, for his friends, for all believers ...
- ... and if finding the right words doesn't come easily, simply use the words of Jesus. If that was OK for him, I can think we can safely assume they'll be OK for us!

Men's Breakfast

The next date for our meeting is Saturday 15th March at 9.30am at St Cecilia's Church as usual. We look forward to seeing you all for a time of fellowship and good food.

Roger and Ron



Ladies, we shall be meeting at The Eazy Lounge Cafe from 10.00am.

Hope to see you. Lyn and Cynthia

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 24th February, 2:00pm - 4:00pm** at **St Cecilia's**, Hoo Road. For more information email Carol, Freda or Alison on lifeafterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office on 01562 822131.

Family Activity Afternoons @StCecilia's

On the first Sunday of every month

Next Meeting: Sunday 2nd 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.





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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 2nd March 2025

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

Exodus 34: 29-end
2 Corinthians 3: 12-4: 2
Luke 9: 28-36

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH

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

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Holy Communion

Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

KEYouth is a parish wide young people's discipleship group. We meet fortnightly in St Cecilia's Church. We play games, eat food, go climbing or bowling, read the bible and pray together. We regularly meet with other church youth groups through our links with Wyre Forest Youth For Christ. Ages range from 9-18 (school years 5-13). If you, or a young person you know, would like to know more contact the Youth Team via email at Keyouth@kidderminstereast.org.uk or through the parish office on 01562 822131.



Lent & Holy Week 2025

Our Lent study sessions begin on Tuesday 11th March at St Cecilia's, 7:00pm (refreshments) for 7:30pm start (close at 9:00pm). We will be using these sessions to help us prepare to celebrate the Christian Passover Meal on Maundy Thursday. You are welcome to come to the sessions even if you aren't able to come to the meal. If you have booked in for the meal we strongly recommend you to commit to coming to the preparation sessions so that we get the most out of this meal that we can.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Andy Piggott for Friday 28th February

For the last week and a bit, we've come to the climax of the whole story in our readings. After Jesus had finished praying towards the end of his final evening with his friends, they leave together before eventually Judas betrays him and he's arrested.

We read the sad story of Peter's denial, Jesus's appearance before the authorities and Pilate ... and then after his sentencing, his awful crucifixion.

It's all very familiar - and maybe feels a bit strange to be reading at this time of the year when Holy Week and Easter still seem a long way off.

And yet, it's good to be reminded of all that happened. *It was for us he hung and suffered there ...*

Perhaps the verse that struck me most as I looked at the readings this week was 18:4. *Jesus knowing all that was going to happen to him.*

Here we see again the extent of Christ's love for his people. He knew it all ... and still saw it through, to the bitter end. Such love!

Perhaps now is the time to pause, to remember and to praise God. What love!

Lent Lunches at St George's

We shall be serving a simple soup, bread and cheese lunch at St George's on Wednesdays throughout Lent 12 till 2. No charge, but donations welcome. To avoid any confusion, Pop up Cafe on March 5th and April 2nd will operate as normal. Everyone is very welcome.



Young at Heart

Open on **Wednesdays** at St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road. Starting with tea/coffee from **1:00pm**. Meeting time **2:00pm - 4:00pm**.

For more information or if you wish to join this group please contact the parish office.

New young person's discussion group at St Chad's

For young people in **school year 7** and upwards. Please join us at St Chad's during the regular Sunday morning service **every Sunday** except the first Sunday of the month (when there is Worship for All). It is an



opportunity to meet with people your own age and discuss topics that are important to you (relationships, family, trust, mental health, etc) and to see what the Bible has to say about them. Drinks and continental style breakfast are also available (and popular!). Anyone who would like to know more about the group can contact Jen Tompkin on 07775 623691.



World Day of Prayer - Friday 7th March

This year's theme is "*I made you wonderful*" and has been prepared by people from the Cook Islands. In Kidderminster we will celebrate together at the [Elim Church](#), 61 Hoo Road, DY10 1NB. The service is at **10:30am**. For more information on the theme please visit:

<https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>

*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 weeks of the month, usually on a Tuesday

Regular 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	Mondays & Weds	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Young at Heart	Wednesdays	1:00pm - 4:00pm	St Cecilia's
Knit & Natter	Wednesdays	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St George'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 24 th Feb	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
Tue 25 th Feb	7:00pm	Deanery Synod	Astley
Wed 26 th Feb	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Fri 28 th Feb	5:30pm	Children's Club	St Chad's
Sun 2 nd Mar	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
	3.30pm	Family Fun Afternoon	St Cecilia's
Wed 5 th Mar	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	7:30pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's
Thurs 6 th Mar	11.00am	Bible Reading Group	Rectory
Sunday 9 th Mar	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chads
	9:45am	Café Church	St Cecilia's
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	11:00am	Baptism	St Mary's Stone

The full parish diary can be accessed through the online [Year Plan for 2025](#).

Please send updates to the parish office.

Online resources: See our [YouTube channel](#), [Facebook page](#) and [parish website](#).

The next parish newsletter will be published on **Friday 7th March**, covering **Sundays 9th and 16th March**. Items for inclusion should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk by **Tuesday 4th March** at the latest. Thank you.

SUNDAY 9th MARCH

READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

SUNDAY 16th MARCH

READINGS: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4.1; Luke 13:31-end

CONTACT US

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WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

website@kidderminstereast.org.uk