



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 March 2025
Third Sunday of Lent

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

ST CHAD'S, Burcher Green, Kidderminster, DY10 3AY

10:30am

UNITED PARISH SERVICE

Holy Communion

There are no other services in the parish today (see below)*

COLLECT

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.

READINGS

Isaiah 55:1 - 9

Luke 13:1 - 9

* **Sunday 23rd March:** Please note there is only a service at St Chad's (at the bottom of Somerleyton Avenue). It's the **United Parish Service**, at 10:30am – please come along and show Jacqueline how, now and then, we worship together as four different congregations. There are no services in our other churches. *David*

Parish Electoral Roll

This year the Parish Electoral Roll is being completely renewed. **No names on the current roll will be carried forward.** All who wish to, and qualify, may join the new roll by completing an application form, including your current GDPR preferences, prior to the annual church meetings (AGMs) coming up in May.

Entry onto the roll enables you to vote at the AGMs. It signals that you belong to this part of God's family and ensures that you are prayed for regularly throughout the year.

Forms are available in church, from the Electoral Roll Officer and the Parish Office.

Please complete and return them by **Monday 28th April 2025.**

Hilary Hildred (Electoral Roll Officer)

Café Chad Special

Monday 24th March 9:15am - 12:15pm



Cake and Table Top Stalls,
Tombola, Refreshments.
Proceeds to **Maggs** - a
Worcestershire charity
supporting homeless and other
vulnerable people through housing, day care
and other projects

Parish Coach Trip

to Cirencester & Broadway
on Thursday 3rd April

leaving **St George's** at
9:15am and returning
around **6:00pm**.

Cost £18.

To book please speak to
Jan on 01562 630431.



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 31st March, 2:00pm - 4:00pm** at
St Cecilia's, Hoo Road. For more information email Carol, Freda or Alison
on lifefterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office on 01562 822131.

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer with Daily readings at 8:00am: David (DH) or Jacqueline (JS) will
lead 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. Join us for a great way to start the day. All welcome.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 24 th March			Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 31 st March		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom	Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 24 th	John 7:37 – 52	DH	Mon 31 st	John 9:18 – end	DH
Tue 25 th	Luke 1:26 – 38 <i>Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	JS	Tue 1 st Apr	John 10:1 – 10	DH
Wed 26 th	John 8:12 – 30	JS	Wed 2 nd	John 10:11 – 21	DH
Thu 27 th	John 8:31 – 47	JS	Thu 3 rd	John 10:22 – end	DH
Fri 28 th	John 8:48 – end	--	Fri 4 th	John 11:1 – 16	--
Sat 29 th	John 9:1 - 17	JS	Sat 5 th	John 11:17 - 27	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 9th April**
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 David Hildred for Friday 21st March

John 7. This week's readings hold a lot of rejection for Jesus. The Jewish leaders reject his teaching, maybe deliberately taking it too literally ('eat my flesh') to avoid having to think about it (N.B. this is probably a couple of years in advance of the Last Supper when Jesus said 'This is my body' so it would need some thinking about!). Many disciples turn back from following him. Amongst the Twelve Jesus indicates there is a betrayer. His brothers don't understand his publicity strategy. The Jews refuse to be swayed by reference to their Scriptures and logical reasoning. In all of this rejection his time had not yet come; there was more that the people needed to hear and see before the journey to the climax of his ministry would make sense. Praise God we have the full story and can make our response to his offer of life.

KEP Parish Children's Club - Easter Special

The **Easter Special** event of the **Children's Club** will take place on **Thursday 24th and Friday 25th April** (9:30am – 1:30pm). A place for each child **MUST** be booked by emailing Karen on ChurchClub@kidderminstereast.org.uk by midday **Thursday 17th April**, at the very latest. Places need to be secured, as spaces are limited, and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis so, no guarantee can be given even if your booking is received in time. This is because we need to ensure that we have food and materials available for each child.

In addition, if we haven't already received one for this year, an enrolment / consent form must be completed for each child. The form is available to [download here](#) from the [parish website](#). Alternatively, you can request a form from Karen by emailing her on ChurchClub@kidderminstereast.org.uk.

The **Children's Club** is a fun and friendly club for children aged 6 to 11 years (we can be slightly flexible on ages - please enquire). Children enjoy games, music, craft, stories, drama plus a meal & refreshments at every session, and all in a safe and friendly environment. All events are provided **free of charge**. Staff are fully safeguarding trained and have DBS clearance.



The cut-off date for the March event has already past but dates of the next few events, after the Easter event, for 2025 are:

Friday 23rd May (5.00 – 7.30pm) - *bookings by midday Friday 16th May.*

Friday 27th June (5.00 – 7.30pm) - *bookings by midday Friday 20th June.*

Friday 18th July (5.00 – 7.30pm) - *bookings by midday Friday 11th July.*

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

Please see the flyer in church for further dates.

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 4th April**, covering **Sundays 6th and 13th April**. Items for inclusion should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk by **Tuesday 1st April** at the latest. Thank you.

Churches Together in Kidderminster – Praise Service

Would you like to worship with other Christians from the town? Would you like to support **Jacqueline** as she speaks at this next Praise Service? Then feel free to join in on **Sunday 30th March, 6:30pm** at **Trinity Methodist Church, 3 Churchfields, Kidderminster DY10 2JL**



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**. Upcoming meetings:

26th March Mike Towler Flowers for Mothering Sunday

2nd April Lunch Out Contact organiser for details and to book

For more information or if you wish to join this group please contact the parish office 01562 822131 or email: office@kidderminstereast.org.uk

St George's Coffee Shop

(Including Art Table)

Every Friday

10:00am - 12:00noon.

No need to book,
just turn up!



Advance Notice: There will be **NO** coffee shop on **Good Friday 18th April**.

We will be open again at our regular time, on **Friday 25th April**. *Thank you*

Bishop Martin's Lent Message

Bishop Martin encourages us to use Lent as a time to reset and refocus on God through prayer, fasting, and acts of kindness. He suggests taking time to pray using the Daily Prayer app or Lectio 365, fasting by giving something up or taking a digital detox, and showing kindness by supporting our Lent Appeal. Use this link to see his [2 minute video message](#)

Lent and Holy Week 2025

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Our Lent study sessions are already in full swing at St Cecilia's, 7:00pm (refreshments) for 7:30pm start (close at 9:00pm). There is still time to join us if you haven't been able to attend so far. These sessions will 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.

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.





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Fourth Sunday of Lent : Mothering Sunday

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

Sunday 30th March 2025 (British Summer Time begins)

COLLECT (Mothering Sunday)

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Exodus 2:1 - 10
Colossians 3:12 - 17
John 19:25b - 27

SUNDAY 30th MARCH

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Morning Worship

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am Morning Worship

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Morning Worship



Mothering Sunday

Arising from the days when 'girls in service' would return home for a weekend off before Easter, to join with their families and attend their home, or 'mother', church, this is a celebration to remember how we have been 'mothered' in the faith. Perhaps it will be a mother, or 'mother figure', parent, grandparent, godparent, homegroup, particular church or community that you will be remembering which has helped you grow in the faith and be nurtured as a disciple of Jesus.



Family Activity Afternoons @StCecilia's

On the first Sunday of every month

Next Meeting: Sunday 6th April, 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.



Midweek Services

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

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 28th March

John 8. Jesus is the Light of the World. Have you noticed how in a room at night you can either have the light on or off? OK, it might be a dim bulb, but there is either light in the room or there isn't. The actions and words of Jesus in this week's readings are pushing people to choose or reject the Light that he is. We read that 'many put their faith in him', whilst also reading of those who refused the truth he was bringing. They even reached the desperate stage of fake news to avoid taking him seriously: "Aren't you a demon-possessed Samaritan?" What is the aspect of his Light that you enjoy the most from these readings? As we step into *chapter 9* tomorrow may we find resonances with our own journey of our eyes being opened to see the Light.

National Day of Prayer against the Assisted Suicide Bill Tuesday 25th March

Are you concerned about how this legislation is being shaped in preparation for it to become law? You can find how and what to pray for via **The Christian Institute**, and see a 3 minute YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYX513joYok> Or, there is similar helpful suggestions via **Evangelical Alliance**. You can go to <https://www.eauk.org> and search for "Assisted Suicide".

In addition to praying on our own there will be the opportunity to pray together on **Tuesday 25th March** in **St Chad's** (use the church entrance, rather than the hall) from 2:00-3:00pm. All are welcome to join us in prayer for part or all of that time. *David*

Stone Corner Café

Wednesday 9th April

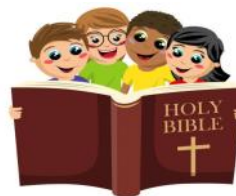
at St Mary's Stone

Call in any time between

2:00pm - 4:00pm

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

Everyone welcome.



Bible Reading Group

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 3rd April**, 11:00am at the Rectory.

We will be reading *Mark*

Chapter 13. 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.*

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 12:00noon till 2:00pm.

No charge, but donations welcome.

PLEASE NOTE : Pop up Cafe on **Wednesday 2nd April** will operate as normal. Everyone is very welcome.



Climate Action

As part of our **care for God's creation** have you considered asking your energy supplier if any of your power comes from green sources? You could also think about possible ways of reducing your personal energy consumption.

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

Joseph Diwakar has been appointed as the new **Director of Mission and Ministry** for the Diocese. Joseph is currently Tutor and Lecturer in Church History at St Mellitus College, London, as well as being a member of the Archbishop's Council. [Read more...](#)

Hope, Holiness and Silence: A Spiritual Path for a Dangerous World. A morning of reflection and sharing with the diocesan **Spirituality Gathering** facilitated by Canon Wyn Beynon - **Thurs 1st May**, 10am to 12.30pm at St George's Church. [Read more...](#)

Prayer Diary: You can use the following link to download the **March - July** diocesan prayer diary from the [diocesan website](#). Hard copies will be available in all our churches very shortly. Please take one.



Easter Hunt Trail 2025

Saturday 19th April

White Wickets Park, Franche Road, DY11 5AL
10:30am - 12:00noon

For children 11 years and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Includes face painting, balloon modelling, crazy golf and eggciting rewards! No booking required. This event is FREE. Please note new venue for this year is **White Wickets Park** (limited parking on site - please walk if possible). In the event of bad weather the Hunt will move to Kidderminster Baptist Church, Franche Road, DY11 5BE

Adults who would like to help with the organising please contact Jane Pollard on 07949 968276 or Email: pollardjane@yahoo.co.uk

Organised by
Churches Together
In Kidderminster

Supported by
 **Wyre Forest**
District Council

Parish Finance Officer

We are advertising again, trying to recruit to this part-time (paid) job as part of the Office staff for the parish. Does it fit you? Or do you know someone you could encourage to consider the role? We need someone with finance and payroll experience (or a fast learner!), who has good IT skills. More details can be requested from the Office on office@kidderminstereast.org.uk or phone 01562 822131



SUNDAY 6th APRIL

READINGS: Isaiah 43:16 - 21 Philippians:3:4b - 14 John 12:1 - 8

SUNDAY 13th APRIL - Palm Sunday

READINGS: Isaiah 50:4 - 9a Philippians 2:5 - 11 Luke 22:14 - end of 23

Requests for Prayer

- That there will be a successful outcome to the peace talks in both Ukraine and Gaza
- For all those in the parish who are in need of healing prayers.

*Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?
Please contact the Parish Office for more details.*

DIARY

Regular Weekly Events

Café Chad	Mondays & Weds	9:15am - 12:15pm	St Chad's
BYO Craft/Knitting	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 24th Mar	9:15am	Table-top sale at Café Chad	St Chad's
	7:30pm	Standing Committee	St Mary's, Stone
Tues 25th Mar	2:00pm	Prayer about Assisted Suicide Bill	St Chad's
	7:30pm	Lent Course 3	St Cecilia's
Wed 26th Mar	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00noon	Lent Lunch	St George's
Fri 28th Mar	7.30pm	Children's Club	St Chad's
Sun 30th Mar	<i>Parish Church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
	6:30pm	Praise Service	Trinity Methodist Church
Mon 31st Mar	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
Tues 1st Apr	7.30pm	Lent Course 4	St Cecilia's
Wed 2nd Apr	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00noon	Pop-up Café/Lent Lunch	St George's
Thurs 3rd Apr	9:15am	Coach Trip: Cirencester/Broadway	St George's
	10:30am	'Home' Group	St Cecilia's
	11:00am	Bible Reading Group	The Rectory
Sunday 6th Apr	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
	6:30pm	Evening Worship	St George's

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](#).

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE office@kidderminstereast.org.uk 01562 822131

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WEBSITE

Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

website@kidderminstereast.org.uk