



TRULY, TRULY, I SAY TO
YOU, YOU SHALL SEE
HEAVEN OPENED AND
THE ANGELS OF GOD
ASCENDING AND
DESCENDING ON THE
SON OF MAN.

- JOHN 1:51



Parish of Christchurch

We welcome you to St George's Church
this Sunday 14th January,
the Second Sunday of Epiphany
and our All-Age Service.

We welcome our President for today's service,
Rev Richard Partridge.

A COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY:

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole
creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in
Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

READINGS SET FOR TODAY:

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 3; 1-10 (11-20)

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 5; 12-20 or Revelation 5; 1-10

Gospel: John 1; 43-51

All-Age Gospel: John 17; 11b, 20-23

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Christ is the King! O friends, rejoice
As we are gathered, Jesus is here
O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
Just as I am, without one plea
Son of God, eternal Saviour

Yesterday the Church celebrated the life and work of George Fox, founder of the 'Society of Friends' or Quakers. Fox was born at Fenny Drayton in Leicestershire in 1624, the son of a weaver, and was himself apprenticed to a shoe-maker. He became something of a wayfarer from 1643 for about three years, loosening all ties with his family and friends. The 'Inner Light of the Living Christ' became his watchword in 1646 and he began to preach that the truth could only be found through the Inner Voice speaking directly to each soul. His society of 'The Friends of Truth' was formed at about this time, clearly a protest against the authoritarianism of the Presbyterian system, and many believers joined. Because of welcoming God into the soul often within a state of trance, which called much body movement, Grevasse Bennett nicknamed them the Quakers in 1650; although meant as a term of abuse, it quickly became a name they themselves adopted. Fox spent several spells in gaol because of his determination to preach wherever he would and whatever he willed; he also made many missionary journeys around England, on the continent and to North America and the West Indies. He had a charismatic personality combined with excellent organisational abilities, which proved a solid foundation for ensuring the continuance of his beliefs and practices. He died on 13th January in 1691.

Virginia and Lyn will be running an Easter Workshop for local children on Palm Sunday. The idea is to try to interest children in the Gospel Story and encourage them into St George's. Rather than ask the Priory for money to get this off the ground, they are asking you, the congregation, to 'own the event' by making a small (or large, if you wish) contribution to the cost of the event, a sentiment that I heartily agree with; we should do all we can to encourage youngsters into the church. Please see Virginia or Lyn if you would like to contribute. There are forms at the back of the church if you would like to give some to your neighbours and friends who have children above the age of four years.

PLEASE support this event; we need children AND THEIR PARENTS in the church if St George's is to survive, and that is something we all want.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, JUMPERS ROAD, CHRISTCHURCH

EASTER WORKSHOP



***St. George's Church Hall, Jumpers Road, Christchurch
Sunday 25th March, 2018,
("Palm Sunday") - 2.00pm to 5.00pm***

***Easter Crafts, cooking some "yummy" Easter Treats,
Easter Egg Hunt and much more***

***All children welcome from the age of 4 years upwards.
Drinks will be provided.
Cost - £5.00 per child.***

Come and join in the Easter fun and make new friends.

***To book your place, please ring:
Virginia Boakes – (07778 856172)
or
Lyn Ellis – (07734 204478)***



Pat and Gill would like to say, "THANK YOU" to all the members and friends who supported the Coffee Mornings during 2017. The total amount raised was £357.10. They are willing to continue with the Coffee Mornings unless anybody would like to change!!

Farewell, Pat Willitts

A number of St George's 'regulars' gathered with family and friends to say a final 'farewell' (in this life, anyway) to our dear friend Patricia Violet (Pat) Willitts on Friday, with tea and coffee served in the church after the service.. Pat was well into her nineties, although you would never think it to look at her.

She was very active until shortly before her hospitalisation and she still drove herself about. The service was conducted by Rev Richard Partridge with David Lund reading the tribute. Hilary was a great friend of Pat's, and she penned the following words as part of that tribute:

Pat attended St George's for some 40 years – (Eileen and Jean remember her from the 1970s).

She was a stalwart member of the choir rarely missing a Sunday or a choir practice, and quietly helping everyone along. She was one of the original Minstrels, playing her recorder for Festivals, Taize services and at the memorable concert in 2016. Her other musical talent was teaching dance to the children at summer workshops!

Pat prepared the list of names for Remembrance and Easter Lilies in her beautiful calligraphy. She was a much-valued flower-arranger, always willing to help others. She manned various stalls at summer and Christmas fetes year by year and did repairs to altar linen.

Her lovely handiwork is everywhere in the Church. She organised, designed, and bound all the kneelers, including the splendid altar kneeler, with pictures for every month of the year, which she worked herself, with others completing the background. Later, when the kneelers from St Mary's appeared, she carefully made selected ones into tapestries which now hang on the walls.

Her talents, welcoming smile and reassuring presence will be sorely missed.

Ash Wednesday this year falls on 14th February, St Valentine's Day. I have asked for suggestions for the Lent Charity this year, but nobody has come forward with any suggestions, so I have made a selection of five overseas charities, and will ask you to vote NEXT WEEK for your favourite. The charity with the most votes will be our Lent Charity for 2018.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND - With the support of people like us, STCF change the world for children through innovative work on the ground and campaigning for change on key issues. In 2016 STCF helped 22 MILLION children.

WATER AID - Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene are basic human rights. They should be a normal part of daily life for everyone, everywhere – but they aren't. That's why we're here. In 2016 WA supplied 956,000 with clean water, 1.1 million people with decent toilets & 1.6 million people with good hygiene

CHRISTIAN AID - We have more than 70 years' experience of working in partnership to support communities to thrive. We tackle the root causes of poverty so that women, men and children the world over are strengthened against future knocks. And if disasters happen, we get people the help they want straight away.

UNICEF – With Your help we supply: Education, life-saving food and nutrition, clean water, vaccines, relief in emergencies, protection from violence, etc., etc. We work in 190 countries including Myanmar and Bangladesh, Syria and its neighbours, East Africa, Yemen, Iraq, throughout Europe and here in the UK.

THE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE - The DEC brings together 13 leading UK aid agencies to raise money at times of humanitarian crisis in poorer countries. By working together we can raise more money to save lives and rebuild shattered communities.

St George's, Jumpers

Why not come and help us celebrate the

90th

Anniversary of the dedication of the church
building on

SUNDAY 21ST JANUARY

with services at 08.00 and 09.30 plus
an exhibition of church history dating
back to the 1920s
and before!!

Admission FREE

THE CHRISTCHURCH FOOD BANK

At the PCC on Thursday, we were asked to take a leaflet detailing some of the work of the FOOD BANK over the past year. In fact, the name is now FOOD BANK PLUS, because they have now taken over the work of the furniture bank as well as offering cooking courses for those wanting to know how to cook on a tight budget, and they also offer budget coaching.

The food bank is situated in the old building of St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Purewell; the Chairman is Peter Kegg and the Manager is Tracy Blick. During 2017, 779 food parcels were handed out, helping 959 adults and 685 children. Five cookery courses were held, Eighteen people were assisted with budget coaching and debt advice, 172 'Hunger Holiday Vouchers' were honoured, affecting 82 families (102 adults and children) consisting of 5,000 food items. The furniture bank (and other essential equipment) helped 60 adults and 58 children. One person who was helped by the furniture bank wrote, *'I never thought things would ever get better, wow how wrong was I. Within a week my family had a new safe home filled with furniture and food. Thank you so much. My little boy will be so shocked when he comes home from school. He left sleeping on the floor and came home to a bed, toys and even a TV. Means more than you will ever know. Thank you for making me so welcome at the food bank and not judging me. My view of those who use the food bank has changed, I never thought I would be here, but so glad the food bank is there for us.'*

So, you see, when you are putting your cash in the 'Red Beaker', you are not just helping someone out with food, you are helping to turn their lives around, giving them the self-respect that everyone is entitled to. PLEASE give generously.

There are FOUR ways to support the food bank:

VOLUNTEER

DONATE GOODS

GIVE CASH

PRAY

Maybe we can't all afford to give much, but we can ALL pray!!!

A SUNDAY SMILE:

A rather 'cheeky' little poem today, given to me by John Priest (with thanks to Meryl):

A lady in the parish once decided to ensure
That the Church's ritual colours matched the underclothes she wore.
And so, for Christmas, Easter and the Saints' Day pure and bright,
The Priest and congregation knew her lingerie was white.

For all the Holy Martyr band whose precious blood was shed,
And for the Feast of Pentecost, she wore the colour red.
In Advent and in Lent the lady completely strove
To choose the penitential shades of purple or of mauve.

Good Friday was a special day, and so upon her back
She wore with pride – and some panache – a set of smalls in black.
At other times throughout the year her underwear was seen
To complement the natural world in various shades of green.

At last on Maundy Thursday (your indulgence I entreat)
They stripped the church of colours – so this line remains discreet.

Besotted by her underwear the Vicar always knew
The colours of the Church's Year – he'd seen them through and through.
They brought a sparkle to his eye, excitement to his life,
But judge him not too harshly, friends, the lady was his wife.

Anon

DON'T FORGET that the 'Red Beaker' is at the back of the church for contributions to the Christchurch Food Bank. If you would like to know more about this, please see Bob after the service. Thank you!

**Any articles for inclusion in next week's St George's News must be in by Friday evening please to Bob Savage at: Breezy Corner,
1 Hampshire Close, Fairmile, Christchurch, BH23 2TH.
Telephone 01202 255431 or 07902 469745
Email: StGeorgesNews@christchurchpriory.org**