

CHURCH ALIVE



St. John the Baptist
Midsomer Norton
March 2023
Price 50p

THE PARISH OF MIDSOMER NORTON WITH CLANDOWN

Vicar

The Revd: Guy Scott

The Vicarage, 42 Priory Close
Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HZ

Tel: 412904

Email: vicarmsnstjohns@gmail.com

Assistant Curate

Revd: Philip Hopper

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Parish Administrator

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Churchwardens

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Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HZ

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Email: emdavies20@btinternet.com

Mrs Hilary Denning

87 Nelson Ward Drive
Radstock, BA3 3FS

Tel: 07828 550006

Email: hilaryjohn87@gmail.com

SERVICES

SUNDAY

8am Said Eucharist

10 a.m. Parish Eucharist

WEEKDAYS

Eucharist is celebrated on a Tuesday at 12 noon.

Baptisms, Weddings etc. by arrangement with the Vicar.

Communion at home for those unable to attend church it is easily arranged with the Vicar.

Safeguarding

Who should you talk to if you observe or are told about Safeguarding concerns?

Ann Munton, Parish Safeguarding Officer Tel: 07895038871

Email: midsomernortonsafeguarding@gmail.com

Diocesan safeguarding manager: Ben Goodhind, Tel: 01749 588917

Email: <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/reporting-concerns-or-abuse>



Church Alive
The Parish Magazine of
Midsomer Norton with Clandown
Volume 807 Number 3

Easter Flowers

In previous years we have received donations towards flowers which adorn the church at Easter but this year, we would like to try something



different. Someone in the congregation suggested this and we agreed that it is a lovely idea for everyone to share in Easter thanksgiving and hope in the Resurrection.

We are asking you if you will bring flowers to church yourselves in remembrance of your loved ones on Maundy Thursday evening to rest near the altar of Repose, or ask someone to bring them for you.

The flower team will arrange them on Easter Saturday for Easter Sunday.

The church will be open from 6pm until 7.15pm on Maundy Thursday and there will be containers left near the altar for this purpose.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 07828 550006.

Hilary

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: From your Social Committee

St George's Day Lunch

Sunday 23rd April at 12:30pm in the Church Hall

Coronation Celebration Meal

Saturday 13th May at 5pm in the Church Hall

REFLECTION FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear Friends,

I write this reflection, a week after the devastating earthquake across Southern Turkey and Northern Syria. Thousands of lives lost, and buildings brought to rubble and dust. Those who survived are grieving the loss of loved ones, of their homes, possessions, and security. They are also having to endure freezing night temperatures in make shift shelters.



Despite the contorted re-enforced concrete there are glimpses of hope. Signs of life hours after the quake. Neighbour looking out for neighbour. Rescue teams from around the world meeting the immediate need. Emergency health care being offered where possible. Millions of pounds being raised within hours. There is some light amid the darkness.

Closer to home, it is wonderful to see people helping each other out, looking after family members, friends and neighbours. It is also good to help within our wider community, so I am delighted that we, as a church community, are able to support our local foodbank. It is good to see a steady flow of food and other items coming in week by week to help those who need support in our local community. May our generous response last as long as the need! It's a good example of how our individual efforts, which wouldn't make much difference on their own, can be joined to something bigger and make a real difference.

By the time you read this, we shall be into Lent, when I hope that some of us will have joined our Lent group. This is an opportunity, alongside whatever else we may offer to God in terms of self-denial or discipline, to take on the chance to meet with other members of our church community to study scripture, pray and talk about the ways our Christian faith can be a source of blessing, not just to us, but to each other, and the wider world. It will provide us with the opportunity to work out together how our faith shapes our decisions and our lives, so that we can allow our faith to determine and dictate our actions.

It may lead us to 'take on' something within the church or our wider community, even something apparently small, which can have a big impact on others. These small acts of kindness can have a huge effect on both giver and receiver, and we should all try hard to encourage one another in all that is good. That is how the kingdom is grown and God is glorified.

This mutual working out of God's purpose in our lives, this grappling with how to be more effective witnesses to God's love in our community and the wider world, this mutual respect and encouragement for each other in our quest to serve God and neighbour better is at the heart of our Christian life together. We have much to learn from each other, and much to offer each other in our Christian discipleship, if we can be encouraged to share. There is much to be gained by being open to other ideas and ways of doing things. We are all pilgrims on the same journey. Let us travel together in love and peace, supporting and encouraging each other along the way as best we can, hearts open to God's Spirit and each other, until we all reach our heavenly Father.

What better way to keep a holy Lent!

Yours in Christ, Guy

Lent Course

Every Thursday in March, Lent Courses are being held at 19:30 in the Choir Vestry.

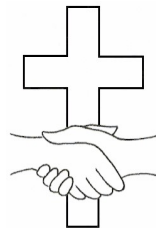


Lent Lunches

Soup & Cheese lunches will be held on Fridays during Lent at 12:30-13:30 in the Church Hall.

FEBRUARY LADIES GROUP MEETING

Hannah from 'Fillerup' in Radstock talked to us about the shop she runs along with her sister, Emily. The shop is located in what was the butcher's shop attached to the Fromeway Inn.



The opening of the shop was delayed because of the pandemic but eventually opened in October 2020.

Their aim is simply to offer the local community an easy and alternative way to buy great quality, everyday kitchen cupboard staples, household cleaners and beauty products but without any single use plastic and other unnecessary (and usually non-recyclable) packaging that is often the only choice in supermarkets.

Their objective was to reduce household waste and to do this by offering all of the everyday food, cleaning and personal care products you use at home by selling them as refills or in plastic free packaging- reducing the amount of rubbish you end up with. Taking your own containers to refill not only is cheaper but it also helps the hard pressed and threatened environment.

You bring your own containers from home, weigh them on their scales, help yourselves to your product of choice and then weigh again. You then pay for what you've weighed. Easy!

In addition to less packaging waste, the other huge benefit to this way of shopping is that you can buy as much or as little as you want so there is less chance of things going stale or taking up unnecessary space in your cupboards.

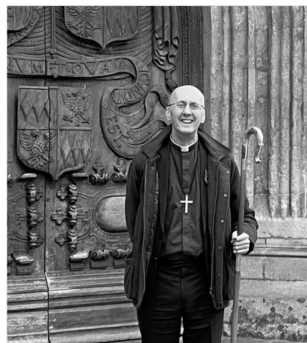
Hannah was able to answer numerous questions raised by those present and was thanked for presenting her illustrated talk giving the reasoning into starting 'Fillerup' and what the shop provides.

Hilary was thanked for hosting the meeting.

Our next meeting is a meal out at La Campagna, on 9th March at 7pm. Please let Ann know if you require a lift there.

‘When we hoe a field’

‘When we hoe a field, we all start in this corner and we go this way’ is my favourite Zambian proverb. I’ve been sharing its words with people from our parishes, schools and chaplaincies as a way of inviting us all to think about how our diocesan vision can be refreshed and developed to help us look towards the future with confidence and joy.



Our vision calls us to ‘live and tell the story of Jesus’. It speaks of faith in action. It makes clear that all we do is in the name of Jesus. And it’s full of aspiration; living out its words is a life-long task.

But what might our vision mean in terms of what we’d like to focus on specifically? This is where my Zambian proverb comes in. For my sense is that in our common life we would be strengthened if we had a greater focus of what we’re all working towards together.

To help us think about this, I’m suggesting four themes that I hope we can all get behind. The aim is not to generate a new initiative, rather it’s to identify priorities for our common life upon which we can all focus. Our diverse communities of course mean that anything we do needs to fit local contexts. But I hope the four themes can provide a common framework that will help us all.

Under our overall vision of ‘living and telling the story of Jesus’, the themes are: (1) Valuing and cherishing the people we already have, (2) Offering worship and sharing our faith together in new and different ways, (3) Developing our own faith and the faith of others. (4) Sharing in ministry and leadership.

I’m inviting everyone to have their say about how these could be developed, adapted or altered. Please do speak with each other and your local church, school and chaplaincy leaders about how this can happen where you are. More information to enable feedback is available at bathandwells.org.uk/vision.

Please be part of the conversation! Your insights, thoughts and experience are invaluable in helping us think together what it means to ‘live and tell the story of Jesus’.

Bishop Michael



Update from St. John's Primary School

Our Christian Value of the Term has been Wisdom: 'Wisdom is worth much more than precious jewels' - Proverbs 8:11 The whole school recently joined together to celebrate World Religion Day. This started in 1950 in the USA, but is now celebrated all over the world on the 3rd Sunday of the year. One of the youngest religions, the Bahá'í faith, began the celebration. Its aim is to promote interfaith understanding and harmony and to unite everyone whatever their faith.

Each year group chose to explore a different faith and these included Islam in Reception, Sikhism in year 1, Taoism in year 3, Shinto in year 6 and Buddhism in year 4. A wide range of learning happened during the day and at the end of the day we had the opportunity to share some of the lovely activities that had been going on in each class!

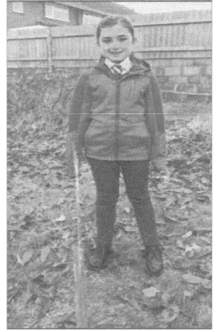


We have supported the NSPCC with their annual Number Day and many of the pupils (and staff!) were very imaginative and had created wonderful number-based outfits and enjoyed solving the many maths challenges throughout the day.

Our Young Voices Choir (from Years 4,5 and 6) attended a concert at the O2 in London, joining 8500 other pupils from around the country to perform as one choir to an audience of family and friends.



Prior to Christmas, one of our pupils joined children from other Diocesan schools at the Welcome and Installation of the Right Reverend Dr. Michael Beasley as the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells at Wells Cathedral. As part of the celebration, she was given a tree to bring back to plant at school.



The Diocese has been awarded Silver Eco Church status and our tree has been planted on our school field alongside others which will help tackle the climate crisis and provide a lovely environment for future pupils at the school.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

At our last meeting we made suggestions for a new programme. This will be completed when we get replies from speakers and then we can post a 'What's on' for members to consider.

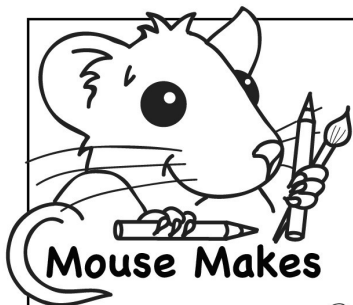
Our next meeting is on 14th March when we are going to join the 12 noon Eucharist, followed by a visit to Weatherspoon's for lunch.

Please come along and join the group, you will be more than welcome.

QUIZ NIGHT

This was a really happy and fun night and we were thrilled to welcome so many people. Sincere tanks to Andy & Linda for organising the questions and delivering them.

£470 was raised which will help us keep warm! This was a very generous amount, thank you to everyone who supported this event in any way.



Mouse Makes

WHO IS MY MOTHER?



- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| CAIN | ELIZABETH |
| ISAAC | HANNAH |
| JESUS | RACHEL |
| JACOB | REBEKAH |
| TIMOTHY | EVE |
| JOSEPH | MARY |
| SAMUEL | SARAH |
| JOHN | EUNICE |

Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search

- REBEKAH
ELIZABETH
EUNICE
RUTH
MARY
RACHEL
LEAH
ZIPLAH
MOTHER
MUM



BIBLE MOTHERS

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

_____ Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

_____ Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

_____ 1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

_____ Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

_____ 2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

_____ Exodus 6:20

Look up the Bible verses and find out who the Bible mothers are.



M _____ Matt 1:16

O _____ 2 Tim 1:5

T _____ 1 Kings 1:11

H _____ 1 Sam 1:20

E _____ Gen 34:1

R _____ Gen 30:22

How many other words can you make from:

MOTHERING SUNDAY



E E L O I S Z I L A M J H
U V N Z M A R Y Z U O Z R
N E A U U R U T H L T I A
I J O C H A B E D E H L C
C I M B J H M U M A E P H
E L I Z A B E T H H R A E
R E B E K A H A N N A H L

MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

followed by

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

will take place in the Church Hall on

Sunday 30 April 2023 at 11-15

The meeting to elect two churchwardens will be held immediately before the APCM.

The APCM is a chance for all church members to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2022 and an opportunity for anyone to raise questions and to comment on what the Officers and PCC have done during the year.

Churchwardens are elected annually and their term of office is for one year.

PCC representatives are elected to serve a three year term of office. Three people need to be elected to serve from 2023 to 2026 and one to serve from 2023 to 2024.

2023 is the year that Deanery Synod Representatives are elected to serve a three year term. The number of representatives is governed by the number on the electoral roll. As the number on our electoral roll has dropped below 100 we are now entitled to two representatives.

Please speak to Father Guy, the churchwardens or the PCC Secretary if you are interested in taking up one of these positions.

Nomination forms are available on request from the PCC Secretary.

From The Registers

Christian Funeral

“May they rest in peace.”

25th January	Joan Dorothy Morris
27th January	Beryl Sheila Curtis (Ann)
3rd February	Pearl Rosina Kossowski
14th February	Rose Selway
15th February	Ronald Leonard Champion



Holy Baptism

“We welcome you into the Lord’s Family”

22nd January	Oakley David Cocks
29th January	Jack Padfield
12th February	Poppy Adeline Golledge

BAPTISMS

FRONT COVER - FICE’S WELL

Near Two Bridges, on Dartmoor

One version of the story about this well tells how in the days of Good Queen Bess, Sir John Fitz and his wife were riding across the Moor when they became quite disoriented in a thick mist (most common even on a good day on Dartmoor).

They were tired, hungry and thirsty when they came across a spring of clear water. They dismounted to have a drink. As soon as they had quenched their thirst the mist cleared. They recognized their surroundings and were able to head towards home - Fitzford House, near Tavistock.

In gratitude Sir John later returned and had the spring walled and covered as you see in the picture. On the front edge of the canopy are his initials, I.F. and the date 1568, although weathering have made the lettering almost illegible. The outer wall was built later to protect the well from cattle.

Date	Reader/Intercessions	Sides person
5th March	Linda Broadhurst <i>Colin Tincknell</i>	A Broadhurst, L Broadhurst
12th March	Robert Broughton <i>Sally Curtis</i>	R Broughton, S Broughton
19th March	Beth Davies <i>David Moore</i>	A Fitch, L Hurst
26th March	Hilary Denning <i>Heather Hill</i>	K Gay, L Powell
If you have to swop or cannot do any of the dates, please can you let Beth or Hilary know. Thank you		

Coffee Rota	
5th March	Hilary Denning, John Shears
12th March	Pat Clynes, Pat Marriot
19th March	Lyn Powell
26th March	Lyn Hurst
If you swop or are unable to fulfil your rota, please can you let Margaret Small know. Thank you	



***This month's front cover was provided by Andrew Broadhurst
Fice's Well, near Two Bridges, Dartmoor
(see P12 for information on this picture)***

Magazine deadline for copy is the 14th of the month

To: Mrs Linda Broadhurst, 43 Furlong Close, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PR
Telephone: 01761 415562 Email: stjohnsmagazine@aol.com

Parish Directory

		Telephone
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs Angela Fitch	413636
Choir Leader	Mr Geoff Miles	
Church Cleaning	Mrs Pat Clynes	412928
Church Hall Bookings	Mrs Carolyn Wroe	07591 557578
Coffee Rota	Mrs Margaret Small	411474
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Flower Rota		
Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Head Server	Mr John Norman	
St John's School	Mrs Danielle West-Gaul	412019
Ladies Group Leader	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Magazine Distribution	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	07941 204179
Organist	Mrs Margaret Whatley	418072
PCC Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895
PCC Treasurer	Mr John Shears	479033
PCC Vice Chairperson	Mrs Beth Davies	418787
	Mrs Hilary Denning	07828 550006
Safeguarding Person	Mrs Ann Munton	07895 038871
Tower Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895

Church Organisations

The Choir practise on Fridays from 6:30 pm until 7:50 pm.

The Friendship Group: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Group meets on the second Thursday of the month

The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham meets every 3rd Friday of the month at 11am for Said Mass and the Angelus. The Cell takes an annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham in September. A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend the service or join us on Pilgrimage.

Further details can be obtained from a member of the Clergy.

**You can stay in touch with us on our website: www.stjohnschurchmsn.org.uk
Twitter: [@StJohnMSN](https://twitter.com/StJohnMSN), on Facebook: [@StJohnMSN](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnMSN)
and on YouTube: [St John's MSN channel](https://www.youtube.com/StJohnsMSN).**

Thursday 2nd	19:30	Lent Course
Friday 3rd	10:30	World Day of Prayer at Kilmersdon Church
	12:30	Trio Paradis Café Concert
	12:30	Lent Lunch in Church Hall
Sunday 5th	2nd Sunday of Lent	
Tuesday 7th	10:30am - 11:45am	Coffee in Church
Thursday 9th	19:00	Ladies Group
	19:30	Lent Course
Friday 10th	12:30	Lent Lunch in Church Hall
Sunday 12th	3rd Sunday of Lent	
Tuesday 14th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
	12 noon	Friendship Group
		<i>Magazine Copy Date</i>
Thursday 16th	19:30	Lent Course
Friday 17th	11:00	St John's cell of Our Lady of Walsingham - Eucharist
	12:30	Lent Lunch in Church Hall
Sunday 19th	Mothering Sunday	
Tuesday 21st	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Thursday 23rd	19:30	Lent Course
Friday 24th	12:30	Lent Lunch in Church Hall
Sunday 26th	5th Sunday of Lent	
Tuesday 28th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Thursday 30th	19:30	Lent Course
Friday 31st	12:30	Lent Lunch in Church Hall