

CHURCH ALIVE



St. John the Baptist
Midsomer Norton
September 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

Tel: 07596 759 584
Email: curatemsnstjohns@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Liz Casson

Tel: 411216
Email: msnparishoffice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Mrs Pat Clynes Tel:
37 Staddlestones
Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PP

Tel: 412928
Email: patclynes@hotmail.co.uk

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 Cladown
Volume 807 Number 9

GIFT DAY

The total raised on our Gift Day in July was £2,700.
Thank you again to everyone for your generosity.



Midsomer Norton Heritage Open Days

As part of the Midsomer Norton Heritage Open Days, the Tower will be open to visitors to climb the 100 steps up to the roof of the church on Sunday 10th September from 14:00 to 17:00. A chance to take in the magnificent view from the top!

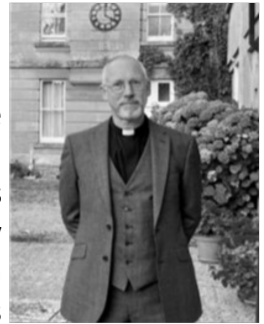


On Wednesday 13th September between 19:30-21:00 come and see the Bells being rung in the Church and perhaps have a go yourself!

Also that week there is a fun and immersive self-guided sound walk around 13 landmarks entitled Myths & Memories of Midsomer Norton High Street. Join in on a journey of discovery from medieval times to the present day, learning about Midsomer Norton's distinctive history as a market town, industry hub, entertainment hotspot and lots more. Get to know some of the people who made the High Street what it is today – including the man who founded the market hall and a grieving mother with a passion for improving access to clean water.

More information at <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/myths-and-memories-of-midsomer-norton-high-street-audio-trail>.

Report from Father Philip given at the 2023 APCM Working with local Primary Schools.



Over the past year local Primary Schools have made educational visits to the church, where Guy and I have given tours and answered questions. Classes from Welton and Midsomer Norton Primary Schools have visited. Feedback has always been positive and we look forward to building on the links being made.

We hope to host a visit from the Fosseyway Special School and the newly opened Norton Hill Primary soon.

These visits have complemented our work with our own school, St John the Baptist CEP. Following a protracted absence, we now welcome the whole school, pupils, parents/carers and staff to celebrate Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the end of the academic year. The school has well over 400 pupils and a large staff, so half the school comes in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. It has been wonderful to see the church filled each time with all ages. It has boosted our visibility, made others more familiar with us and our beautiful church. In no small way, it played a part in doubling attendance at our last Crib service.

Our relationship with St John's School is enhanced by weekly visits where we lead Collective Worship. We donated a Pascal candle in thanks for the floral cross made by the Reception children last year. This year, despite an Ofsted Inspection, the children provided 3 scenes for our Easter Garden. During Lent I was able to make extra visits to teach and support each class in their study of Salvation.

We have also been able to make an Easter visit to the newly built Norton Hill Primary School. We have hopes of building a closer relationship with them also, alongside all our local schools.

Mindful of our need to work with older children, Guy and I have signed up to an initiative that supports churches that wish to develop youth work with 11-16 year olds. The *Launchpad* initiative is being piloted by the diocese and we are very grateful to have been selected to participate. Over the coming months we will explore ideas and receive support.

We are especially pleased that our school will be participating in our Patronal festival on 18th June when Bishop Michael will join us. They hope to provide artwork, intercessions and song to our service.

All bodes well for us as we seek to renew and deepen our relationship with our school. Such ties are easily lost or damaged and very slow to rebuild. But the signs are positive. So please take heart, you may not see many children on Sunday mornings, but be reassured that work is being done and the gospel preached.

Fr Philip

HARVEST FESTIVAL LUNCH

Sunday 1st October

12:30pm followed by an Auction of Harvest Gifts

Tickets on sale in September.



FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Our July meeting was supposed to have been an afternoon out, but we did not have enough transport, however 'Every cloud has a silver lining' and Carol (M) invited us to her home and garden. A lovely afternoon was shared along with buttered buns and a lovely cup of tea. We had a lovely surprise when Father Guy joined us and yes, there was a bun left! We appreciate and enjoyed the time he spent with us.

A bit thank you to Carol and David for sharing their home with us. We all enjoyed our afternoon.

There was no meeting in August.

September, we will be sharing readings, poetry, happy memories and a nice cup of tea!

October, Father Philip will be talking to us on a subject of his choice. We look forward to him joining us very much and welcome any lady to come along and join us from 2:30 - 4pm in the Church Hall.



FORTHCOMING EVENT

DECEMBER 1st - 3rd
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL. ST JOHNS CHURCH

Anyone and everyone of all ages, welcomed to be part of this beautiful, exciting weekend.

Full information will be available from 24th September.
Please include this event in your diary.

SAFEGUARDING

Ensuring that our church is a safe and welcoming place for everyone is very important. So that we can all become more aware of safeguarding issues church volunteers are encouraged to complete the Safeguarding Basic Awareness course on the Church of England safeguarding training portal. Details of how to find this are on the church website.

For those people who would prefer to attend a face to face session one has been arranged on Friday 29th September. Details are shown below.

Safeguarding Basic Awareness

At: 2:30pm

On: Friday 29th September

Venue: Church Hall

Whatever your role in the church, whether you are a sidesperson or a flower arranger, a server or on the coffee rota, this session is aimed at you. Anyone is welcome to attend.

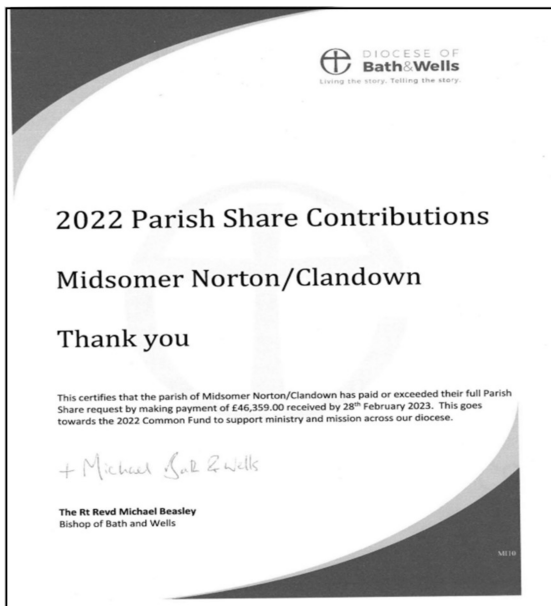
If you would like more information about Safeguarding please contact Ann Munton (Parish Safeguarding Officer) on 07895 038871 or send an email to:

midsomernortonsafeguarding@gmail.com



This is a thank you certificate from the Diocese for our contribution to the 2022 Parish Share, which we paid in full and on time.

A copy is also displayed in the Church Porch.



The advertisement features a circular logo for "WELTON CHURCH RUNNERS" with a stylized figure of a runner. The main text is "FREE 5K RUN". Below this, it lists dates: "3rd September 2022 | 1st October 2022 | 5th November 2022". The location is "9am | Midsomer Norton Town Park | Entrance near: Somer Centre, Gullock Tyning, MSN BA3 2UH". A paragraph describes the event as free timed events for the community to encourage runners and walkers to be active and enjoy the beautiful Town Park. Registration, refreshments and toilets will be at the Somer Centre. If you would like to take part, please register at: tinyurl.com/weltonchurch5kseries. At the bottom is a black and white photograph of a group of runners participating in a 5K run on a grassy field.

Welton Baptist Church organises a community run in the Town Park which takes place every first Saturday of the month.

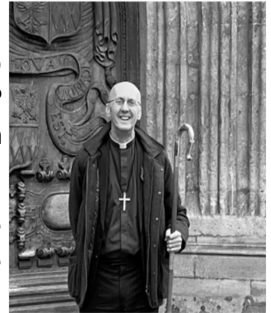
They also run/walk every Saturday at 09.00hrs from the Somer Centre as a church running / walking group.

All ages and abilities are welcome to join them.

Learn from the Master

When you hear the word 'disciple', what comes into your mind? A learner? A follower? A super Christian? Someone kitted out in Biblical dress complete with robe, sandals, tea towel head covering and beard?

The New Testament's word for disciple doesn't quite match any of these descriptions. It's much closer to the word we'd use in English for 'apprentice'.



Back in history, and still today, to be an apprentice meant spending time in the presence of a master in order to learn a craft – maybe carpentry, or blacksmithing, baking or butchery. You'd start out doing the simple stuff – sweeping floors or sharpening tools. Then gradually you'd acquire more and more skills until you learnt to work confidently with materials producing beautiful things, products of utility and worth. Apprentices often learnt their craft while living alongside their masters, becoming members of their trade through time spent together at work and rest and play.

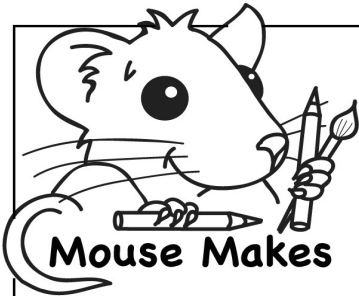
Jesus was often called 'the carpenter's son' – apprenticed to his worldly father Joseph, growing in skill at the plane and the lathe. He was also the apprentice of his heavenly father. The Gospels speak of Jesus withdrawing to spend time with God in order to know God's mind, hear God's voice, grow in God's ways.

Apprenticeship was and is a story of growth, development, discovery and change. It's the journey that Jesus invites us to take with him too – of baby steps and toddler stumbles, of emerging skill and increasing understanding.

Churches near you are offering opportunities to apprentice yourself to Jesus this autumn - from practical action that gets you involved in Jesus's service to the world, to learning and discussion that comes with courses such as Alpha, Exploring Christianity or Pilgrim.

Why not sign yourself up and learn from the Master?

Every blessing
Bishop Michael



THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

What did the enemy sow amongst the wheat?

Matthew 13:25



READ

the parable in

Matthew 13 v24-30, and v36-43

At harvest time the weeds are gathered, bundled then

but the wheat is stored in the

Matthew 13:30

Who sows the good seed?

Matthew 13:37

What does the field represent?

the

and who is the good seed?

The people of the

Matthew 13:38

Who sows the weeds?

The

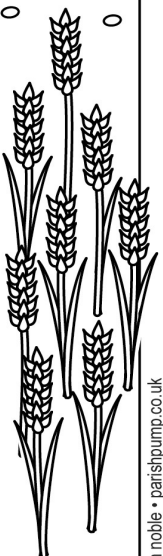
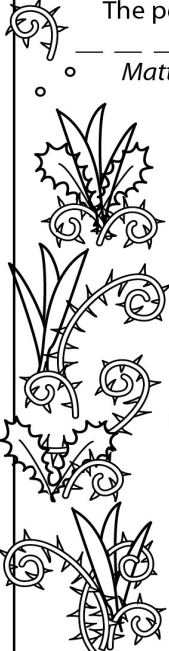
Who are the harvesters?

The

Matthew 13:39

"He who has ears, let him

Matthew 13:43



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

PARABLE • HEAVEN • SOWED • GOOD • SEED • FIELD • ENEMY • WHEAT • GRAIN
GROW • TOGETHER • TIME • HARVEST • GATHER • BUNDLE • TIE
PEOPLE • DISCIPLES • JESUS • EXPLAIN • EVIL • FIRE • END • AGE • EARS

Find the words from the questions too!



alpha Course

Time: Tuesday 7.00 - 9.30 pm

Venue: St Peters Church Westfield

September 5th

Is there more to life than this?

September 12th

Who is Jesus?

September 19th

Why did Jesus die?

September 26th

How can I have faith?

October 3rd

Why and how do I pray?

October 10th

Why and how should I read the Bible?

October 17th

How does God guide us?

October 21st

Holy Spirit Day

10.00 - 4.00 pm

Who is the Holy Spirit?

What does the Holy Spirit do?

How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Venue: TBC

October 24th

How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

October 31st

How can I resist evil?

November 7th

Why and how should I tell others?

November 14th

Does God heal today?

November 21st

What about the Church?

From The Registers

Christian Funeral

“May they rest in peace.”

27th July Keith Fitzgerald
28th July Colin Smith
9th August Heather Ann Kingman



Baptism

“We welcome you into the Lord’s Family”

6th August Nevaeh Blue



Holy Matrimony

“May they live together in joy and peace”

12th August Owen Donkin & Amber Manley



As the young people return for the start of the new academic year, we wish them all the very best of luck with their studies on the continuing chapter of their journey of life through education.

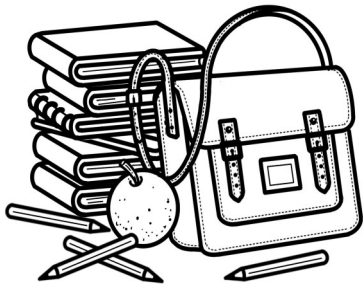
We particularly think of those starting school for the first time, moving to a new school and those starting college and university.

We give thanks to all the staff who work in schools and the preparation needed to start the new term.



Date	Reader/ <i>Intercessions</i>	Sides person
3rd September	Robert Broughton <i>Sally Curtis</i>	D Winter, J Winter
10th September	Hilary Denning <i>David Moore</i>	N Barnett, P Marriott
17th September	Lesley Garvey <i>Jim Ballistone Thicke</i>	A Broadhurst, L Broadhurst
24th September	Heather Hill <i>Carol Moore</i>	R Broughton, S Broughton
<p>If you have to swap or cannot do any of the dates, please can you let Pat or Hilary know. Thank you</p>		

***This month's front cover is of St John's Primary School
Midsomer Norton.***



PLEASE NOTE:
**There will be no celebration of the Eucharist at 12 noon on
 Tuesday 19th September. Walsingham Pilgrimage week.**

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	Mrs Carol Moore	412226
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	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
PCC Vice Chairperson	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.

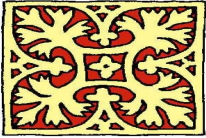
The Friendship Group: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Group meets on the second Thursday of the month

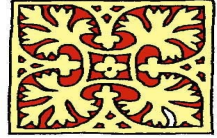
The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham meets every 3rd Friday of the month at 11am for Said Mass and the Angelus. The Cell takes an annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham in September. A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend the service or join us on Pilgrimage.

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/channel/UC...).**



September 2023



Friday 1st	12:00	Trio Paradis Concert
Sunday 3rd	13th Sunday after Trinity	
Tuesday 5th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Friday 8th	10:00	Gardening Group
Sunday 10th	14th Sunday after Trinity	
	14:00 - 17:00	Church Tower Tours
Tuesday 12th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
	14:30	Friendship Group
Thursday 14th		Magazine Copy Date
	19:30	Ladies Group
Friday 15th	11:00	St Johns cell of Our Lady Of Walsingham - Eucharist
Sunday 17th	15th Sunday after Trinity	
Sunday 22nd to Friday 22nd		Walsingham Pilgrimage
Tuesday 19th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
	No Midday Eucharist	
Friday 22nd	10:00	Gardening Group
Sunday 24th	16th Sunday after Trinity	
Tuesday 26th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Friday 29th	14:30	Safeguarding training
Sunday 1st October	Harvest Thanksgiving	
	12:30	Harvest Lunch & Auction