# St George's Parish Church Stalybridge





CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

50p



**June 2023** 

## St George's Church Stalybridge

#### Vicar

Wardens	Mrs Gillian Cotton	0755 325 8674
	Mrs Valerie Fallows	0755 325 8674
Deputy Wardens	Mrs Christine Crabtree	0161 285 1775
	Mrs Janet Vidler	0776 358 3278
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Rose Hayward	0161 303 1731
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Lynn Moon	0161 338 5773
Treasurer	Mr Michael Davies	0161 338 5112
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Hurst	0161 330 0518
Room Hire	Mrs Janet Vidler 0776 358 stgwarden@hotmail.co.uk	
FACEBOOK	www.stg.org.uk TWITTER	

For baptisms, marriages or funerals or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact the Wardens on 07553 258674 or <a href="mailto:stgeorge.wardens@yahoo.com">stgeorge.wardens@yahoo.com</a>

@StGStalybridge

Baptisms are usually conducted at 12.30 pm on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month.

To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, please contact Chris Crabtree on 07714235736 or



@stgeorgestalybridge



#### **Friends**

'What is a Christian? The richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father. If you want to know how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child and having God as his Father.' (J I Packer, Knowing God)

The month we celebrate fathers on Father's Day. Unlike Mothering Sunday, this doesn't have a distinctly Christian origin. However, it does provide an opportunity the celebrate God's fatherhood and what it means for us.

At His baptism, as Jesus came out of the water: 'heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.' (Matthew 3:16,17). What can we learn about Jesus' relationship with His Father, the role of fathers and our relationship with God?

#### The Father's presence

When Jesus was baptized, the Father made His presence real by the Holy Spirit. It's the Spirit who enables us to call God 'daddy' (abba, Galatians 4:6). God is with us and knows our joys and sorrows, fears and trials. In this way, dads can relate to their children.

#### The Father's love

The Father described His Son as 'beloved', who like us, is subject to His unconditional love. Dads should be constant in assuring their children of their love.

#### The Father's pleasure

The Father tells Jesus that He is 'well pleased' with Him. We also need to hear this, if we feel that we are disappointing God or letting Him down. This can arise with harsh words spoken by our parents. Fathers should use every opportunity to demonstrate their pleasure in their children, especially when things go wrong.

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#### **Service Details**

#### Sundays

#### 10.30am Parish Eucharist with hymns

## Baptisms, weddings and funerals continue with no numerical restrictions

A full risk assessment is in place and regularly revised. We continue stringent hygiene and social distancing procedures.

## YOU MUST NOT ATTEND if you are unwell, self isolating or showing any symptoms.

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#### **Changes to Covid 19 Measures**

Please continue to sanitise your hands on your way into the building. Due to a high number of Covid cases among our congregation, we are asking everyone to wear a face covering unless you are medically exempt. This is not a legal requirement, but we hope you will join us in keeping everyone safe. You are encouraged to ensure that you are well spaced around the church and not singing directly behind someone else.

Please continue to leave your collection on the plate at the back of church. If you do not wish to share the peace physically, please wave the peace instead to indicate this!

Holy Communion continues to be received standing and using the one-way system still in place in church. Please sanitise your hands before receiving. The chalice will be available for those who wish to receive it. **No intinction (dipping wafers)** 

#### Everything I need to know... I learned from Noah's Ark

- 1. Don't miss the boat.
- 2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- 4. Stay fit. When you're very old Someone may ask you to do something really big.
- 5. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job needing to be done.
- 6. Build your future on high ground.
- 7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- 8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
- 10. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

Author unknown

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#### THANK YOU!

National Volunteers Week is  $1^{st} - 7^{th}$  June. I felt that this was a perfect time to thank the Volunteers who are involved in St George's Dementia Café who give of their time to help me support those living with Dementia and their carers. I certainly couldn't do what we do without them! Especially those who make the brews!

This then led me to think about ALL of those who are involved in St George's Church who give freely of their time and talents to enable the church to be a place of welcome to all those who come to worship our Lord. There are so many who give freely of their time and I am going to attempt to mention each and every one of them!

The Wardens work so hard, especially during this interregnum; those responsible for music; the choir; Junior Church leaders; Servers; Eucharist Assistants; Sidespeople; Readers; those who wash the Communion cloths; those who lead our prayers; those who keep our church clean; the maintenance team; those who help with Baptisms, weddings and funerals; those who take Home Communion; those who make the brews!

Let's now think about those who work hard to support those in our community. The uniformed organisation leaders; the Tots Time team; the Thursday Café; George's Kitchen; Tameside Community Voices; those who organise the Quiz Nights; those who are involved in the Fundraising and Social side of our church family especially those who make the brews!

Now let's think about the boring bits! Our Treasurer who spends so much of his time trying to make ends meet; those who count our monetary donations and monitor our giving; our PCC Secretary and PCC members who have sometimes challenging decisions to make; the person responsible for the Electoral Roll; the person responsible for the room bookings; those responsible for producing the magazine; the person responsible for keeping us all safe; our Deanery Synod representatives; those responsible for opening and closing church when workmen etc need access; the person who delivers our food bank donations; unfortunately none of these get brews!

You may have noticed that I have mentioned the brews occasionally! Well, I think that the social side of our church family is as important as the worship. We are also there to support and befriend, listen and advise or simply enjoy a cuppa in good company!

I have no doubt in my mind that I have missed somebody off this list. The problem is that so much of our church life goes on "behind the scenes", unseen and - maybe they think - unappreciated. Rest assured that each and every one of you is very much appreciated and valued! We simply couldn't do it without you!

#### HAPPY VOLUNTEERS WEEK!



#### PARISH EMAIL NEWSLETTER

To help us keep in touch we have a weekly email parish newsletter with bible readings and prayers for Sundays, information, updates, activities for Junior Church and announcements

If you don't already receive the e-newsletter and would like to, please email the wardens on stgeorge.wardens@yahoo.com send your email address by text or WhatsApp to the wardens or sign up via our church Facebook page or website.



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#### Readings and Psalms for June 2023

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Trinity Sunday

10.30 Isaiah 40.12-17,27-end; psalm 8; 2 Corinthians

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30 No service

Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 1st Sunday after Trinity

10.30 Hosea 5.15-6.6; Psalm 50.7-15; Romans 4.13-ed;

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30 No service

Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 2nd Sunday after Trinity

10.30 Exodus 19.2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5.1-8; Matthew

9.35-10.8

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30 No service

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> 3rd Sunday after Trinity - Dedication Sunday

10.30 1 Kings 8.2-30; Matthew 21.12-16

**Worship For All** 

Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30 No service





Stalybridge Labour club Tuesday 6pm



Stalybridge Labour club Wednesday 9.30am

Marie



Stalybridge Reach Church Wednesday 5.00 pm 6.30 pm

#SWtastethefreedom





\*At participating groups only. See our website for more information.

touching hearts, changing lives

## Some dates for your diary - June 2023

	• •				
Thurs Fri	1st 2nd	1.00 p.m 3.00 p.m. 9 a.m.	Come Together Café for coffee, chat & activities		
ГП	ZHU	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Whit walks with St George's, Mossley		
0	411	11.30 a.m - 2 p.m.	Dementia Café - please book places on 07714235736		
Sun	4th	10.30 a.m.	Sunday Parish Eucharist with hymns		
			Come Together Café for coffee, chat & activities		
Sun	11th	10.30 a.m.	Parish Eucharist with hymns		
Mon	12th	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
	13th	6.30 p.m.	Rainbows		
Wed	14th	6.30 p.m.	Brownies		
		7.30 p.m.	Guides		
		7.30 p,m, - 9 p.m.	Informal prayer, meditation and praise at St John the Baptist, Roughtown, Mossley		
Thurs	15th	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
		1.00 p.m 3.00 p.m.	Come Together Café for coffee, chat & activities		
		7.30 p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice		
Fri	16th	11.30 a.m - 2 p.m.	Dementia Café - please book places on 07714235736		
Sun	18th	10.30 a.m.	Parish Eucharist with hymns		
Mon	19th	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
Tues	20th	6.30 p.m.	Rainbows		
Wed	21st	6.30 p.m.	Brownies		
		7.30 p.m.	Guides		
Thurs	22nd	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
		1.00 p.m 3.00 p.m.	Come Together Café for coffee, chat & activities		
		7.30 p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice		
Sat	24th	7.00 p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Concert		
Sun	25th	10.30 a.m.	Parish Eucharist with hymns		
Mon	26th	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
Tues	27th	6.30 p.m.	Rainbows		
Wed	28th	6.30 p.m.	Brownies		
		7.30 p.m.	Guides		
Thurs	29th	9 a.m 11 a.m.	Tiny Tots		
		1.00 p.m 3.00 p.m.	Come Together Café for coffee, chat & activities		
		7.30 p.m.	Tameside Community Voices Practice		

For more information please go to our website www.stg.org.uk

#### Reflecting faith - the Lectern

Have you ever considered the furniture that we have in our church?

Close your eyes and think what your own sitting room looks like and the furniture you have chosen to go in there. Most of us will have chairs, a sofa, one or more tables of different sizes, a fireplace and a television. Which way are the chairs facing? What's the focal point?

Churches are no different in that they have most fixtures and fittings in common, and in set places.

In an Anglican church the focal item is the altar at the centre, with the lectern – from where the Bible is read out loud during services - on the right side as you look at it, and a pulpit on the left-hand side.

In a Methodist church the pulpit is often behind, but built higher than the altar, and probably with a mobile lectern to be placed as chosen.

This demonstrates a key difference between the two denominations. The former holds the bread and wine in greater importance whilst the latter gives that status to the preaching and the Word of God.

Such variations reveal the way in which we 'reflect our faith' through our buildings.

The word 'lectern' derives from 'to collect, gather', and again, 'to speak', so together it means 'to gather words, to pick out words.'

The words in church which we read from the lectern have been certainly carefully chosen and then written down. There have been centuries, indeed millennia, of time, thought, prayer and energy going into preparing the Bibles that we read today!

It is a privilege to be asked to read from the Bible during a service, as that will form the basis for the sermon, the hymns and indeed the whole theme for that day or even that week.

Have a look at the lectern in your place of worship or the place where the Bible readings are read from. What material is it made from? What shape is it? Does it have any distinctive features? Then consider how that passage or those passages are continued and expanded through the different elements of the service.

Why not have a good look at the lectern in your church, to see what is was made from and if it has a particular design.

There seem to be two distinct styles for lecterns, either a 'simple' plain book holder or one in the shape of a bird. Both styles are usually made from either wood or gilt metal (brass).

The bird is an eagle - often holding the world in its talons. The intention being that the eagle is known as the most powerful bird, which can fly the highest and longest without pausing and so can take the Word of God - the Bible that it holds - to all the places in the world.

There are 44 mentions of eagles in the Bible, but just two to include here:

In Exodus after the Israelites have left Egypt and crossed the Red Sea they camp in the wilderness, where they are not surprisingly worried about what will happen next. Shall we say 'there's a bit of grumbling and groaning' going on?

So God calls to Moses with words to encourage them, 'The Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself." (Ex 19: 3-5)

And the second is one to uplift us all when we are in need of support:

Isaiah in chapter 40 is trying to describe how awesome and powerful God is and concludes that even our youth will grow weary in comparison. However, 'those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.' (Is 40: 30 – 31)

So perhaps as we hear the words of the Bible passage read to us from that symbolic figure we are reminded to both trust in the Lord and to gain inner strength.

This month, as you hear the Bible passage(s) read from the lectern during this coming month, listen not just to the words themselves but reflect on their intention to encourage you.

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#### St George's Snippets

#### 200 Club

#### **May Winners**

1st prize £25 No 97 £25 Jean Watkins; 2nd prize £15 No1 Ted Longdon; 3rd prize £10 No 99 Sarah Denith

There are still some numbers available for the 200 Club. The cost is £12 per number you hold for the full year. If you are interested please speak to Rose.

#### **Jars of Grace**

We are again collecting pennies or loose change for UNICEF. The idea is to put a set amount into a jar each day e.g. a penny a day will raise £3.65 per year, but you can do it any way you like, if you prefer to put loose change in on a regular basis that's fine, and you will be surprised at how quickly it mounts up. If you've already started—great! If not, it isn't too late, just find a jar and start collecting. Jars will be collected in June to coincide with our Church Anniversary. Thanks for your support.

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#### Did you know .....

... that you can hire the Church Lounge and the Upstairs Hall? The cost is £50 per session, morning, afternoon or evening per area. Downstairs includes the lounge, creche and kitchen or upstairs which includes the large hall and kitchenette.

If you would like more information please contact Janet Vidler on 0776 358 3278

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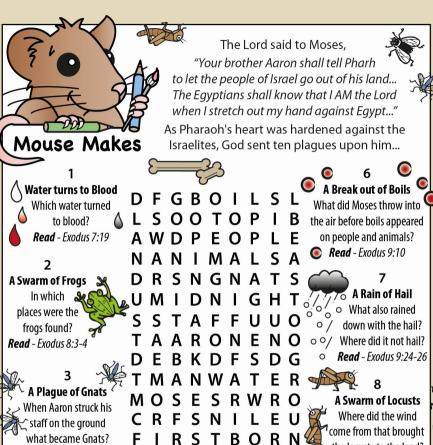
**Just a reminder** ..... that we are still accepting donations for The Swan Project at Tameside Hospital. The project is looking for charitable donations of hotel toiletries for families who are having to stay with their loved ones and for patients themselves, drawstring toiletry bags, crocheted blankets, items for memory boxes, Small knitted hearts, Small crocheted blankets, Balsa wood angels, holding crosses and hearts. Any donations can be brought to church and given to either Rose or Alicia.

We are also collecting used postage stamps for Willow Wood Hospice. Please bring these to church and give to Rose.

Thank you

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## Children's Page



what became Gnats? **Read** - Exodus 8:16-17

Swarms of Flies

In which land were the flies not be found? Read - Exodus 8:22

5

**Death of Animals** 

Which animals that belonged to the Egyptians died?

Read - Exodus 9:2



come from that brought the locusts to the land?

Read - Exodus 10:13

Darkness over the Land

How many days did it remain dark?

Read - Exodus 10:21-22

10

Death of the Firstborn

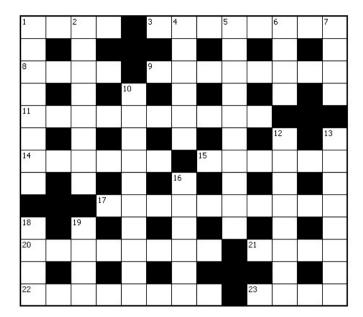
At what time would the firstborn in the land die?

Read - Exodus 11:4-6





#### June Crossword



#### **Across**

1 See 23 Across, 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8), 8 Invalid (4), 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8), 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10), 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6), 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6), 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10) 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8), 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4), 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3), 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

#### Down

1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8), 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8), 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6), 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in — , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10), 6 St Columba's burial place (4), 7 Swirling current of water (4), 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10), 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was — , to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8), 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8), 16 'There is still — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3)



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Please sign up to support us at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stgeorgeschurchstalybridge

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### Ridge Hill Lane WMC

Main room can be booked free of charge for various functions, subject to availability

Artistes regularly

All live sport shown on large screens

Pool tables

Children allowed under supervision

New members always welcome

Contact manager for further info on

07450352283

### What's going on at St George's?

#### Cleaning Team

We desperately need more volunteers for the cleaning team - you don't have to commit to every week, every bit of help will be welcomed. Please speak to Rose for details.



If your group or organisation needs storage space, please have a chat with Rose.

#### Maintenance Team

If you would like to be a part of the maintenance team please have a chat with either Ted or Ian, or simply call into Church on a Tuesday morning. It doesn't matter if you are a long-standing member, or a newbie, your help is valued. Likewise if you are not able to help on a regular basis, any time you can give will be appreciated



Did you know that we offer a Grave Tidy Service? The service runs from March—November and costs just £30 for the year.

If you are interested please have a chat with Ian

If you are interested please have a chat with Ian Cooke

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#### Bible Society to sponsor a garden at RHS Tatton Park

Bible Society says it is "excited" to be sponsoring a garden based on Psalm 27 at the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park in July. Psalm 27 is a profound meditation on loss, fear and faith.

Inspired by designer Ollie Pike's reflections on burial grounds – "scenes of sadness, but also of hope and spiritual refreshment" — the Psalm 27 Garden will aim to lead visitors on a journey through pain to peace.

Ollie Pike first heard the psalm when attending a funeral. "Its hopeful message was very comforting at a time of sadness," he said.

"The psalm speaks to me of protection and to be hopeful. It gives a feeling of comfort in difficult moments and to have faith that things will improve."

The garden follows Bible Society's sponsorship of Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2021. The Psalm 23 Garden won a gold medal, Best Sanctuary Garden and Best Construction.

Bible Society hopes to use this garden to "introduce people to biblical wisdom, and to help them see that the Bible can speak to them today."



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#### **May Crossword Solution**

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet. DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.

#### From Our Book of Remembrance

Jun 2	Hilda Beswick	1977	Jun 15	Lily Hardy Cooke	1979
	Pauline Margaret Turnbull	1995		Eva Jones	1996
	Mollie Dorothy Darbyshire	2011		John Edwin Ratcliffe	2007
Jun 3	Marjorie Lofthouse	2015		Tessa Ruth Louise Meldrum	2006
Jun 4	Mary Alice Priestley	1985		O'Reagan	
	Leonard Broadbent	1969	Jun 17	Sidney Cooper	1970
	Harry Bullock	2009	Jun 18	Margaret Parkinson	1897
Jun 6	Alfred Christian	1966		Renee Birch Hawley	2002
	John Ambrose Stephens	1979		Monica Ann Press	2005
	Thomas Smith	1987		Christopher Robert Pierce	2012
	Irene Jones	2021	Jun 19	Colin Wilson	2016
Jun 7	Minnie Jones	1987	Jun 20	Linty James	1975
	William Webster	2002		Hilda Wilson	1984
	Dinah Hannah Dale	1984		Mary Tonge	1989
Jun 8	Norman Ratcliffe	1984		Dorothy Horner	2007
	Thomas Booth	2000	Jun 23	Edward Cooper	1983
	Leslie Adnett	2012	Jun 24	Edith Spencer	1995
Jun 9	John Ollerenshaw	2013		Hilda Holt	1979
	Judith Dalton	2014	Jun 25	Dennis Greenwood	1982
	Florence Diamond	2019		Louise Pulm	2010
Jun 11	Gladney Swift	1950	Jun 26	Jack Williams	1998
	Edward Jones	1985	Jun 27	Edith Olive Hughes	1980
Jun 12	Mona Coogan	1992		Andrew Christopher Taylor	1990
	Frank Prescott	1987		Charlotte Molly Ingham	2008
Jun 14	Gordon Alfred Trudgeon	2002	Jun 28	Mary Stephens Carter	1983
	David John Stevenson	2018	Jun 30 +++++	Ann Humphries	1963

## **BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS**

#### **Baptisms**

21 May Owen Wayne Robinson

#### **Funerals**

24 April Peter Flanagan O3 May Norman Gillaspy







#### **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens.

The cost for the inscription is £10 per entry

## TAMESIDE (S.A.S) GROUP

## Stroke Awareness Support Group

Affiliated to the Stroke Association

We are a social group for all who have survived a stroke, their families, friends and carer.

We meet on:

Wednesday

10.30 am till 12.30 pm

at The Pavilion, Dukinfield Park

Our aim is to enjoy life, no matter what and have fun and socialise.

Our message is:

### DON'T STOP BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, OURS IS OPEN.

We look forward to new members and volunteers to join us. Come in for a brew and a chat.

Don't be shy...Give us a try!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION

Contact:

**RAKSHA on - 07368 816232** 

HELPING TO REBUILD CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDANCE