

The Parish Magazine

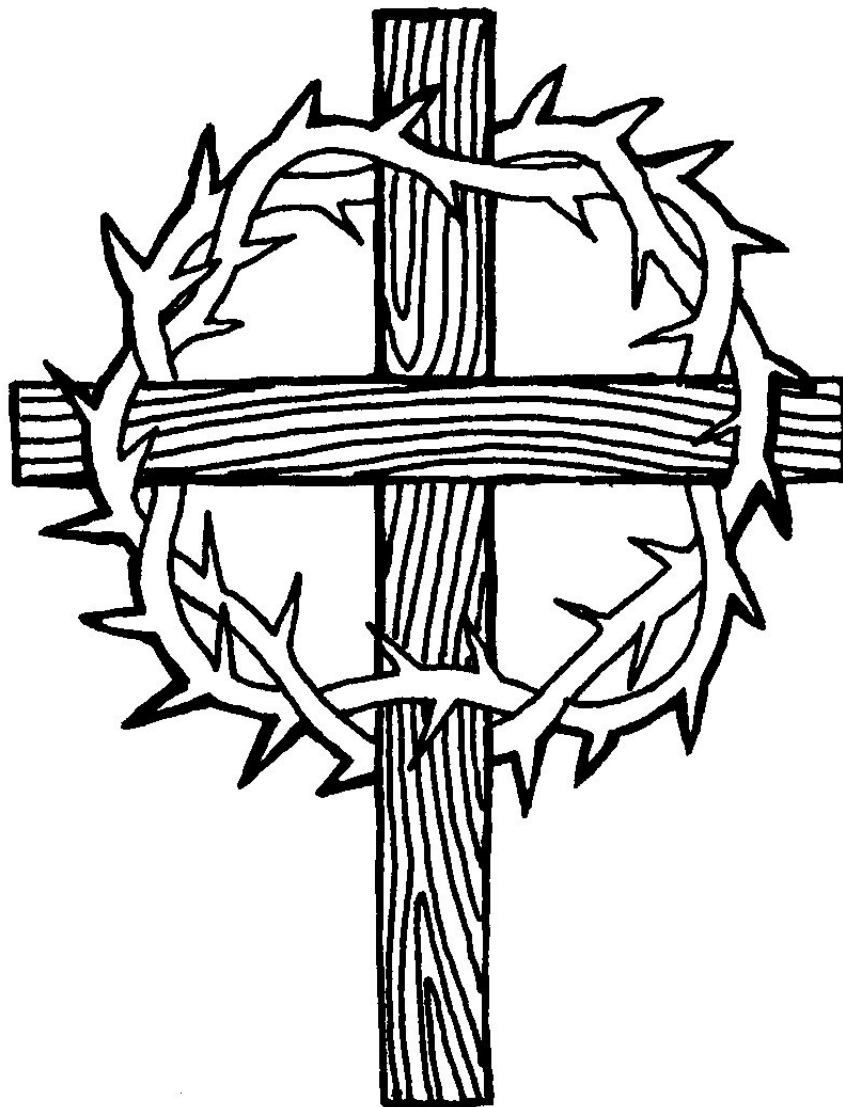
St John-in-Bedwardine

St Michael's



April 2025

50p



Information

WORCESTER CITY WEST TEAM CLERGY (clergy@wcw.church)

Phil Bradford (Team Rector) (01905 423794)

Day off: Friday

Sarah Cottrill (Team Vicar) (01905 426257)

Saturday

Gilly Maxim (Assistant Curate) (gilly.maxim@wcw.church)

Friday

Stephen Buckley (Pastoral Minister) (07746 206905)

TEAM OFFICE

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12noon.	
1a Bromyard Road St John's, WR2 5BS	Tel: (01905) 420490 e-mail: office@wcw.church

ON THE WEB

St John's	Parish Website: www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine
St Michael's	Parish Website and A church near you: } www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19689 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaelsdinesgreen

SERVICES

Please check our websites and Facebook pages, or the notices published on the church noticeboards and printed in the magazine and weekly pew sheets.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about possible abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, contact one of the Safeguarding Officers, Fiona Templeton, Elizabeth Forman in person or via safeguarding@wcw.church, or any member of the clergy.

Churchwardens: stjohns.churchwardens@wcw.church Gordon Templeton (749025), Joy Job (423051).	St John's
Pastoral care: The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact Sylvia Render (telephone 422654/email sylviarender@talktalk.net) or Stephen Buckley (tel 07746 206905/email stephenbuckley554@gmail.com).	
Churchwardens: Mike Dowling (dowlingm28@sky.com / 424539) Val Mason (val.mason@yahoo.com /428948).	St Michael's
On Site Safeguarding Officer: Mike Dowling (details above).	

Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council is a charity with the Registered Charity Number 1205354.

A word from the editors

Welcome to our April 2025 edition. We've chosen the collect for Easter Sunday this month as our theme. Phil considers this in his letter and shows us the invitations to each of us arising from the collect. The collect also led Rob Little to think about Heaven and to tell us about a book which he has found helpful (see page 29).

This edition of the magazine straddles the two seasons of Lent and Easter so is filled with events from both. The Lent course and Lent lunches are still running in the first part of the month, then we are into Passiontide and Holy Week – go to page 11 to see the many services that are happening in that period. We hope to see you there!

The culmination of all this is, of course, the resurrection, and the love and the joy it will bring us if we follow Christ's teachings (John 15.10a,11):

"If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love.

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

Graham and Sue Evans

Important information

Email address: parishmagazine@wcw.church

Next edition: Deadline is Sunday 13th April 2025.

Distribution – towards the end of April.

Subscription form: Page 46.

Cover picture: Courtesy of Parish Pump

Pictures in this magazine: Thanks to those who have provided pictures for this magazine, including Beth Broadway, Sue Fairman, Joy Job, Colin Nash and Gilly Maxim.

The magazine

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August.

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes and anecdotes are welcome - do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact. Do include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered. If you can, please use e-mail (address below left). The editors will always acknowledge items sent by email; please try again if you do not receive a response. Please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office.

The magazine costs 50p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £5 per year; by subscribing you make things easier for our printing team as we know more closely how many copies to print.

You can subscribe by filling in the form near the back of the magazine or by taking a subscription form from the rack (where the magazines are) at the back of the church. Please return the form and your payment to the parish office.

Opinions!

Opinions expressed in this magazine are personal opinions of the authors concerned and may not represent the views of the editors, our Joint Council or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

To advertise

Please see page 12.

From Phil Bradford

Throughout human history, whenever a new regime comes to power, it typically makes an effort to stress how it differs from whatever it may be replacing. This is especially true when the transition of power follows a revolution or act of violence, for that act needs to be justified.

Yet it is equally the case when the transition is peaceful and democratic. Rarely does a new government come to power, peacefully or otherwise, and state that it intends to continue exactly as before with whatever the previous administration was doing. After all, in that case, it would hardly be worth having a change in the first place.

Even if the reality is (or quickly becomes) that little changes, the rhetoric is on how the new is different, how shaking off what has gone before has overthrown the wrongs of the past and offers a way to a dazzling new future.

It never works out that way, and even the most confident, optimistic and determined of new governments ultimately finds itself replaced at some stage, but it is the promise of that better tomorrow which sustains hope. The failure of moderates today to offer that hope, at the same time as extremists are promising the disenchanted an impossible but seductive brighter future, is what lies at the heart of the disturbing malaise that is contemporary global politics.

As we celebrate Easter this month, our magazine theme is the collect for Easter Sunday.



The Collect for Easter Sunday

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

There are echoes of that rejection of a failed past and embracing of a better future in the core section of that collect, which talks about how God ‘through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him.’

That is a very bold claim indeed. In the two thousand years since that first Easter Sunday, it is hard to see how the old order of sin and death has been overcome. Death remains the fate that awaits us all. The consequences of sin are all around us in the wars, the injustices, the poverty, the inequality, the hatred, the intolerance, the violence and the despair which assails us day by day on the news. The scenery and methods may have changed, but there seems little difference from Jesus’ day when wealthy and powerful elites exploited the poor and imposed their will by force and lies. It does not seem a promising claim in that context.

The clue, however, is in the resurrection. Easter is not about God magically ending everything in one dramatic moment. It is rather about demonstrating, through the resurrection, that the old order has no real power and will ultimately fail. For if death itself no longer has final power, as shown in the resurrection of Jesus, what power is left to those old ways, deprived of their ultimate weapon?

In that way, God has made things new and transformed the world order, for he has demonstrated that even death cannot contain his Son or divine power. Yet it is not a sudden end to time, but rather an invitation to humanity to discern that power and respond accordingly.

We are invited to recognise that the love of God conquers all, and to share with him in the work of building the kingdom that is heralded by that defeat of death. God is not like the ancient gods of Olympus, imposing his will arbitrarily and toying with human beings. He loves his creation so much that he became part of it in his Son, and he died to show human beings the way of a love which conquers death and sin.

We are invited to participate in the overthrow of the old order and the making of the new, the way foreshadowed in the death and resurrection of Jesus. In a world which seems pretty bleak and horrifying right now, this is the reminder for us that God calls us to another way, and the promise of a future of genuine, not illusory, hope.

Phil

In Memoriam

Florence A Lewis	4 April 1994
Patricia Rosalie Surman	7 April 1986
Rev'd James William Newton	10 April 1988
Doris Drinkwater	18 April 1989

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic but must be specifically requested via the clergy.

Inclusion only needs to be requested once; entries are then included until the fortieth anniversary.
An extension may be requested by family or friends of those named.

From the Registers, February 2025

St John's

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 7th December 2024 Daniel-Dennis Arthur Blackwell

d. 8th August 2024 Clayton Randall

d. 16th January 2025 Coleridge Collingwood Sobers

SERVICES: Communicants 170. Total attendance at all services 538
including 145 at two funerals.

St Michael's

SERVICES: Communicants 57. Total attendance at all services 77.

Weekday services

For 31st March to 3rd April; 7th to 10th April; and 28th April to 1st May, the mid-week Eucharists and daily offices are scheduled as usual.

Tuesday	St John's 10am (Eucharist - Book of Common Prayer)
Thursday	St Michael's 10.30am (Eucharist - Common Worship)

Daily offices take place in St John's Church from Monday to Thursday. Morning Prayer is at 8.30am. Evening Prayer is at 5pm during British Summer Time (i.e. from 31st March until October). Occasionally other commitments will prevent a service happening; the schedule for each week will be published in the pew sheet.

For Holy Week, (Monday 14th April to Saturday 19th April), please see the article starting on page 11.

For Monday 21st to Thursday 24th April, there are no services planned.



Dates for your diary

Location key	(J) St John's Church	(M) St Michael's Church
	(V) The Vicarage, 7 Manor Road	

(J) Mondays in term time, 10am: Little Lambs, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 29th March, 8.30am to 11am: Community Breakfast.

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 2nd April, 12.30pm: Lent Lunch, 12.30pm to 2pm, see page 9.

(J) Wednesday 2nd April, 7.30pm: Lent Course, see page 19.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 5th April, 7.30pm: 'God is gone up', concert by The Elgar Chorale of Worcester, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 12th April, 9am: Women's Breakfast, see page 8.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 12th April, 4pm: Messy Church, see pages 8 and 26.

Doors open and drinks available from 3:30pm. NB not the first Saturday!

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 9th April, 12.30pm: Lent Lunch, 12.30pm to 2pm, see page 9.

(J) Wednesday 9th April, 7.30pm: Lent Course, see page 19.

--- 000 ---

(J) Thursday 10th April, 1pm: The Good Old Days present Discover History, "Victorian Medicine & Surgery", see page 8.

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 16th April, 12.30pm: Lent Lunch, 12.30pm to 2pm, see page 9.

(J) Wednesday 16th April, 2.45pm: Tea/Coffee & Cake, see page 8.

(J) Wednesday 16th April, 7.30pm: Lent Course, see page 19.

--- 000 ---

(M) Thursday 17th April, 2pm - 4pm: West Worcester Friendship Group.

--- 000 ---

(V) Friday 25th April: Fourth Friday Friendship Group. Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 26th April, 10.45am: Café @ 10.45, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

(J) Friday 16th May, 6.30pm: Bingo Night.

Events at St John's



NB in April NOT on the first Saturday of the month

Saturday 12th April, 4pm.
(doors open 3.30pm with drinks and biscuits).

“Holy Week & Easter”

Please do come along – you’ll be sure of a warm welcome!



Women's Breakfast Meetings for Friendship and Christian Fellowship

Why not join us?
Everyone is welcome!

Our next meeting is on

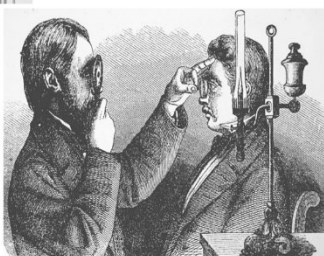
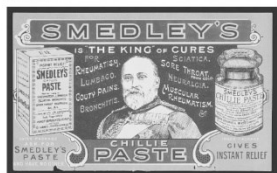
Saturday 12th April
9.00am until 11.00am
Guest Speaker Margaret Rutter

St John-in-Bedwardine
in The Blakefield Room

Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)



THE GOOD OLD DAYS PRESENTS DISCOVER HISTORY



VICTORIAN MEDICINE & SURGERY

THURSDAY 10th APRIL
1.00PM

ADMISSION £4
INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS

ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

Open for Tea/Coffee and Cakes

Suggested donation £2.00



Wednesday 16th April
at 2.45pm in the Church
ALL WELCOME

Events at St John's



Mondays in Term Time at

St John's Church

10:00am to 11.30am

FREE!

**Toys and Games, Art & Craft, Messy Play,
Snacks and Stories, Singing**

Birth to 4 years old and carers

For more details contact Sue Fairman on 07845 942962

Come and join the fun!

ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

LENT LUNCHES

*Soup, bread, cheese and fruit
with tea or coffee*



Wednesday 12th March

Wednesday 19th March

Wednesday 26th March

Wednesday 2nd April

Wednesday 9th April

Wednesday 16th April

In the Blakefield Room

12.30pm to 2pm

Suggested donation £4

St John in Bedwardine



**Join us for Fresh Coffee and
Danish**

'Friendship and Thoughts'

At 10.45am on

**Saturday
26th April**

Guest Speaker Gilly Maxim

ALL WELCOME

The Elgar Chorale of Worcester

Charity Commission Number: 1147273

Director of Music - Piers Maxim

Organist - Peter Shepherd

GOD IS GONE UP

**A Concert of Music by the British composers Finzi,
Parry, Stanford and Walton
includes**

Walton - Missa Brevis & Jubilate

Finzi - Lo, the full final sacrifice & God is gone up

**Parry - Songs of Farewell & Blest pair of sirens
and organ solos by Finzi & Stanford**

Saturday 5th April 2025 at 7:30 pm

St John-in-Bedwardine Church

1A Bromyard Road, Worcester WR2 5BS

**Tickets: £18, Concessions: £16 Students: free
Under 18s accompanied by an adult: free,**

**Available from eventbrite.com/elgarchorale/
or scan the QR code to access Eventbrite.**

In person or by telephone:

Worcester Tourist Information Office

**The Guildhall, High Street Worcester WR1 2EY
01905 726311**

**making
music**





Worcestershire Fencing Ltd.

A local, family-run business, based in the heart of Worcestershire

- ✓ Established 2006
- ✓ Waste Carrier Licence
- ✓ All work guaranteed

✓ **Fencing**
Domestic & Commercial

✓ **Gates**
Driveway & Pedestrian

✓ **Landscaping**
Driveways, Patios, Decking...



Call for a **FREE** no-obligation quote

Office **01905 887005**

www.worcestershirefencing.co.uk

  @worcestershirefencing

★ **Trustpilot** /review/worcestershirefencing.co.uk

Jacksons Fencing 
APPROVED INSTALLER

DuraPost
BY BERRICOMPLE
TRAINED INSTALLER



Passiontide, Holy Week and Easter 2025

The last two weeks of Lent are among the most solemn and important in the Christian calendar, leading to the joyous celebration of Easter. What follows is an outline of the services we will have during this period this year as we journey together towards Easter Day.

Sunday 6th April

This day is Passion Sunday and the start of Passiontide. In addition to the 10.30am Eucharists at St Michael's and St John's, the 5.30pm Evensong at St John's will be replaced by a Service of Music and Readings for Passiontide. This is a reflective service of Bible readings, hymns, choral pieces and organ music. As it marks the start of a solemn season, we will have refreshments beforehand, to allow us to leave quietly at the end.

Monday 7th April to Saturday 12th April

During this week, there will be Morning Prayer (8.30am) and Evening Prayer (5pm as we will then be in British Summer Time) at St John's from Monday to Thursday as usual. There will also be the normal 10am Tuesday (BCP) Holy Communion at St John's and 10.30am Thursday (Common Worship) Eucharist at St Michael's.

April's Messy Church will move to the second Saturday, 12th April, and will have an Easter theme. As usual, doors open at 3.30pm for a 4pm start, with 5pm worship followed by a meal together.

Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday

Today we mark Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the start of Holy Week. At St John's, the 10.30am service will be the All Age Eucharist, which will begin with the Liturgy of Palms and blessing of Palm Crosses outside in the churchyard (weather permitting!), followed by a procession into church for the main service. The Passion Gospel will be read, led by the children.

The service at St Michael's will be Morning Prayer at 10.30am.

Monday 14th April to Saturday 19th April – Holy Week

During Holy Week, every day from Monday to Thursday there will be Morning Prayer at St John's at 7.45am followed by a short, said (Common Worship) Eucharist at 8.05am. Evening Prayer will be at 5pm as normal. The Chrism Eucharist will be in the cathedral at 11am on Monday 14th.

Continued on page 13

Would you like to advertise in this magazine?

An advert can be full-page, half-page or quarter-page in size.

The booking can be from one month to one year.

The Parish Magazine is published A5 in size, in black and white.

There are eleven issues each year,
July and August being a combined issue.

If you are interested to advertise, please contact Sue Hussell
by telephone on 01684 893397
or by email at suehussell4@gmail.com

Jeremy Massey Electrics

- ✓ Domestic, Commercial & Industrial
- ✓ All Work Guaranteed, Insured, including indemnity
- ✓ Re-wires and New Builds
- ✓ Additional Sockets, outside and inside
- ✓ Lighting including, Smart, LED, outside and inside
- ✓ Inspection and Testing - including rental properties
- ✓ Armoured cable installation
- ✓ EV Chargers
- ✓ CCTV

Telephone: 01886 888493

Email: masseyjeremar@aol.com



Thursday 17th April – Maundy Thursday

On Maundy Thursday, 17th April, there will be the normal 10.30am Eucharist at St Michael's (there will be no tea and coffee afterwards).

St John's will have a sung Eucharist at 7.30pm, concluding with the stripping of the altars. While there will be no formal watch, people are welcome to sit in silence in the darkened church after the service for a time of personal prayer and reflection. The clergy will be present, so no one will be alone in church.

Friday 18th April – Good Friday

Good Friday, 18th April, starts at noon in St John's with the Stations of the Cross, a reflective service of short meditations and music, following the fourteen stations which represent Jesus' journey from condemnation to burial. This lasts around an hour, then there will be an interlude of organ music until The Liturgy of Good Friday starts at 1.30pm. This is a service of prayer, the reading of John's Passion Gospel, hymns and choral music, and veneration of the cross, concluding as we leave in silence at 3pm, the traditional hour of Jesus' death. People are welcome to attend the whole three hours, or just one of the services within it.

At 8pm, there will be a Tenebrae service at St Michael's. Tenebrae ('darkness' in Latin) is a quiet, moving, meditative service of readings, Taizé chants and silence as night falls, during which candles are gradually extinguished and we leave in darkness, to mark the solemnity and despair of Good Friday.

Saturday 19th April – Holy Saturday

The Easter Vigil and Liturgy is at St John's at 9pm. This begins in a darkened church as we listen to a series of readings tracing God's plan of salvation, interspersed with canticles and psalms sung by the choir, and short prayers. We then go into the churchyard where a fire is kindled, from which the Paschal (Easter) Candle is lit and processed into church. Marking the night during which Jesus passed from death to life, we sing the Exsultet and then the church is suddenly lit up for the Gloria. With gold vestments and hangings, we celebrate the resurrection, concluding with a renewal of our baptismal vows and the Peace.

Sunday 20th April – Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday we have the usual 10.30am Eucharists at St John's (using the high altar) and St Michael's. At the St John's service, we are hoping to admit the first children to communion, so this will be particularly special.

Continued on page 15

Herefordshire and Worcestershire's
friendliest home care and live-in care
provider.



Live-in Care | Visiting Care | Respite | Companionship

Kemble at Home is a multi award-winning,
local, family company providing
OUTSTANDING Live-in Care for people in
Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

www.kembleathome.co.uk

Call Kelly Hennessey-Ford on 01432 382017

Email: kelly.hf@kembleathome.co.uk



JDS
Electrical

For all your electrical needs
Fully qualified and insured

JON HALL

07528 183057

jds.electrical@outlook.com



HOSKINS
FUNERALS DIRECT

For Funerals arranged your way, whatever your budget.

Caring for your family, when you need us.

Simple or complex we can help.

Funerals, Traditional and Bespoke,
Celebrations of Life, Direct Cremations

07942 114560 - 24 hrs - It costs nothing to talk

Keeping our prices manageable & helping you beat funeral poverty

Droitwich, Worcester, Pershore, Malvern and between.

CALL NOW TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS - 07942 114560



Hoskins Funerals Direct
129, Astwood Road, Worcester
www.hoskinsfuneralsdirect.co.uk
01905 27862



@HoskinsFuneralsWorcester



DirectHoskins



hoskins-funerals-direct

Monday 21st April to Saturday 26th April – Easter Week

During Easter week, there will be no Morning and Evening Prayer, and no Eucharists on Tuesday 22nd at St John's or Thursday 24th at St Michael's.

As no other feasts or saints' days can fall in Easter week, St George is this year transferred from 23rd April to Monday 28th, and St Mark from 25th April to Tuesday 29th.

Café @ 10.45 will be held in its usual fourth Saturday slot on Saturday 26th April. The 'Thought for the Day' will be given by Gilly Maxim.

Sunday 27th April – Easter 2

On Easter 2 (Low Sunday), 27th April, there will be a 10.30am Eucharist at St Michael's, and a 10.30am Morning Worship at St John's.

The most important fortnight

This may seem like a heavy pattern of services, although it is nothing like as packed as would have been the case in times past! This is the most important fortnight in the Christian year, so please do make the effort to come to whatever you can. If you are in any doubt about exactly what happens at one of the services mentioned, just ask a member of the clergy or anyone who might know!

Phil Bradford

Sundays and Principal Feasts in April

Sunday 6th April: The fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)

Sunday 13th April: Palm Sunday

Monday 14th April to Saturday 19th April: Holy Week

Thursday 17th April: Maundy Thursday

Friday 18th April: Good Friday

Saturday 19th April: Easter Eve

Sunday 20th April: Easter Day

Monday 21st April to Saturday 26th April: Easter Week

Sunday 27th April: The second Sunday of Easter

Monday 28th April: George, Martyr, Patron of England (from 23rd April)

Tuesday 29th April: Mark the Evangelist (from 25th April)

Computer Problems?

We **FIX** computers!

Sales | Service | Support

Worcesters best loved, family run IT company...



Custom build PC's

Gaming PC's

Repairs

Upgrades

Networking

Anti Virus & Security

Home User Support

Business IT & Support



worcester-computers.com

01905 759111



worcester
computers

visit us in-store | 40 Ombersley Road | Worcester | WR3 7HA

Mothers' Union

The Members of the Mothers' Union in the Worcester Diocese welcome Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Edinburgh, as our new royal patron. Sophie is committed to helping strengthen families and communities to deal with issues that impact them.

The Diocesan Commissioning Service of the President and Trustees was held in Malvern Priory on 19th February led by Bishop Martin. The Trustees enable the proper functioning of MU right across the diocese; without them we cannot guarantee financial and legal compliance with the requirements of the Charity Commission. But most of all we share our stories, learn more about MU as a whole, plan how to expand our outreach into our communities, and how best to care for, and involve, every member.

At the Commissioning Service it was wonderful to welcome the Provincial President, Comfort Idowu-Fearon, and the Diocesan Presidents of Coventry, Birmingham and Hereford.

There will not be a meeting at St Michael's in April as the third Monday (April 21st) falls on Easter Monday.

The next meeting to be held at St Michael's will be on Monday 19th May, when we shall welcome Peter Platt to talk about and show us examples of his work when he was at Worcester Porcelain over many years.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

Jo Dowling



Kingdom Arts...

...will be held on Tuesday 8th April, and then on the following Tuesdays in the remainder of 2025: 13th May, 11th June, 14th October, 11th November, 9th December.

Coffee from 10am, finishing with a soup lunch.

Held at St George's Church, Worcester, WR1 1HX. Visit www.kingdon-arts.co.uk

Kingdom Arts is a morning of painting, collage, craft, creative writing and clay. It begins with a cup of coffee, a short piece of worship and short talk. It ends with us sharing our morning's activities, and soup lunch at about 12.45pm plus fellowship. It is open to anyone who would like to come.

Jenny English

RHINO WINDOWS AND DOORS LTD



Rhino Windows and Doors was formed on values of the very best customer service and the highest quality installations.

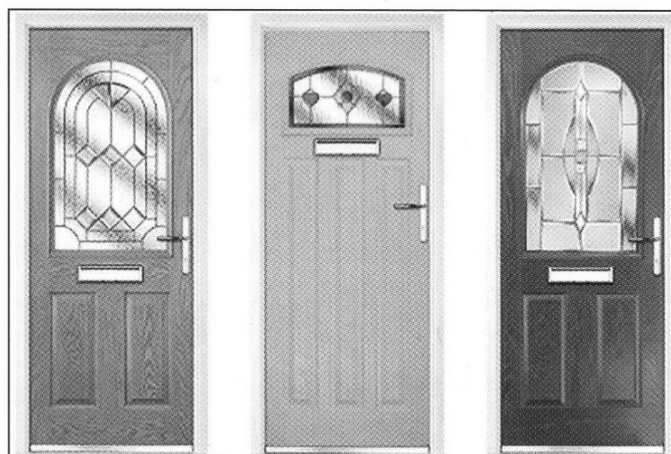
As we have continued to grow and develop our business, we remain committed to complete customer satisfaction.

Our services are wide ranging from UPVC windows and UPVC doors/ composite doors to conservatories.

Our windows and doors are made using the finest quality materials and manufactured to the highest standards.

All of our UPVC Windows and Composite Doors are energy efficient, reduce noise pollution and incorporate the latest security features.

We offer a range of designs options that will complement virtually any property style and age.



REPLACEMENT WINDOW &
DOOR SPECIALISTS BASED
IN WORCESTER

01684 770437

info@rhinowindowsanddoors.co.uk

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A
FREE NO-OBLIGATION QUOTE



www.rhinowindowsanddoors.co.uk

Bring your willingness to ask!

By the start of April, the Lent course will have started, but you are still welcome to join for the remaining sessions, even if you have not attended from the start.

The services we have, the variations, and the way we worship are all the result of centuries of historical and theological development. Our way of worshipping in West Worcester is not the only way; there is a great variety of liturgical material and ways of using it in the Church of England.

For our Lent course this year, we are looking at our liturgy in more depth. We are looking not just at liturgical texts, but at everything that accompanies and supports them: vestments, church architecture and furnishings, people. Our focus is both historical and theological as well as focussed on the present, looking at how we have the services we have as well as how we devise and use liturgy today.

No specialist knowledge is required, just interest and a willingness to ask if there are things you want to know or explore.

Sessions will be in the Blakefield Room at St John's:

Week 2 (2nd April) - The Book of Common Prayer

Week 3 (9th April) - BCP to Common Worship

Week 4 (16th April) - Liturgy Today

Tea and coffee will be served from 7pm, with sessions starting at 7.30pm and finishing by 9pm. If anyone has any queries, please just let me know!

Phil Bradford

Dines Green update

An update on some events at the DG Den which are open to everyone.

The cafe in the DG Den has now been opened from Tuesday to Thursday, run by a lady called Anita, as a business. It's also open once a month on a Sunday to provide a roast lunch .

The Hope Café is still opening on a Friday as usual (11am-3pm).

Val Mason

All are welcome

TEA and CAKE is on Wednesday 16th April starting at 2.45pm. Bring your friends - a time for a cuppa and chat with a delicious piece of cake.

Cafe Church at 10.45am Saturday 26th April. Thought for the Day is by Gilly Maxim (swapped from March).

Jenny English

Anne

Worcester & Wychavon

bluebird
care®

Expert care.
From Mum's
favourite
armchair.

Inspected and rated

Good



CareQuality
Commission

We're here to give your loved one the support they need, in the place they love.

That's what Home Care is all about. From preparing healthy meals and picking up medication to going on lovely walks in the local park together, our Care Experts will not only put your loved one at ease – they'll help them live the life they want.

See how we can *support you*.

It's good to
be home

Call us for a friendly chat on

01386 764 830

Or email

worcesterandwychavon@
bluebirdcare
.co.uk

*Find
out more*



Prayers for our world

As we come before God today, let us be still and make a pause in our busy schedule of life. A time to stop and be still. Let your whole being be open to what comes to you. Relax and breathe gently and deeply perhaps with the words, “God, here I am.”

Lord of all life and power come to us as we pray for our world. Remembering the people of Ukraine, the Palestinian people of Gaza, and the people of Sudan and the The Congo.

God of mercy, we remember your people who are held hostage or imprisoned. We pray for their mental well being that they may have an inner strength to cope with the isolation and loneliness. We pray for all people who are held in gaols without being sentenced and who are waiting to be released - young and old, men and women. We pray your love into the harsh environment of prison and in being held as a hostage. May they all know that through the power of the resurrection, all things are made new.

God of all mercy, we pray for the leaders of our world, the many decisions they make on behalf of nations and people. Change their hearts so that they become true peacemakers of our world. Lord, we continue to pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine. We pray that the peace process between Israel and Gaza will be sustained. We pray for peace in the West Bank, and in Lebanon to be maintained. We pray for the Sudanese people who are manipulated by two warring factions in their political system and live in refugee camps.

Lord God, help us all to work towards peace for all; that at this Eastertide we may be faithful in our prayer for those who suffer terrible hardship in the face of war. May ‘Thy will be done’ Lord of all life and power.

Lord God of mercy, we pray for all your people that they will find peace, a safe place to call home, education for all and health care to meet the needs of those who suffer. We pray for the people of Ukraine to have nights of peace and hope; for a democratic future for their country.

Lord God, you are with us, beyond our understanding, you are in our present, our past and our future. Give grace to all and may all people know that you surround each and everyone, whoever and wherever they may be, with your Holy Spirit.

“Lord in your mercy hear our prayers.”

Amen.

Jenny English



Christian Aid Week 2025

In 2025, Christian Aid celebrates 80 years of helping those in need across the world. Projects like those in Guatemala, highlighted this year, really make a difference. There, Aurelia is enabled to lead her community to push back against the climate crisis to protect farms and futures. Amelia also hopes to combat extreme weather with training from Christian Aid partner Congcoop. She is planting resilient crops, conserving water and making fertiliser.

Christian Aid has and is currently partnering projects in many countries including Haiti, Columbia, Sudan, DRC, Ukraine and Gaza. These projects have helped people support their communities through some of the most difficult times imaginable.

7 Days to Make a Difference 11th-17th May 2025

There will be envelopes in church and information about Christian Aid in church.

The monthly Women's breakfast on Saturday 10th May is celebrating with a speaker, Nicole Mayall, from Christian Aid. We make a full English breakfast which is £5 and it is served at 9am. Let us know if you would like to come. Later on the same day, 10th May, we hope to serve soup and a roll and cake to all comers from 12noon to 2pm - depending, of course, on cake making and serving volunteers. Please let me (Sally Mills) know if you would like to be involved.

There will be events across Worcester including a Ceilidh at St George's Barbourne on 10th May and a folk evening in Hallow Village hall on 17th May. The Christian Aid website (<https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/70k-in-may>) gives details of the '70k in May' walking challenge to raise money.

80 years of Christian Aid is worth celebrating!

Sally Mills

Poppy drop

The Royal British Legion are organising a Poppy Drop for this year's Remembrance Sunday which will be the 80th Anniversary of the end of the 2nd World War. It will be hung on the outside of the church behind the War Memorial on the church wall. 6000 poppies are needed for this venture!

Your help in knitting poppies or crocheting them would be very much appreciated! Patterns are available in church. Many different groups in the community are already involved. You can hand your poppies in at church. Thank you!

Joy Job

Easter Flowers at St. John's Church



Easter flowers 2024

Spring is on its way and the Flower Team is planning the decoration of church for Easter.

This year, Easter Sunday falls on Sunday 20th April. The team will decorate the church on Saturday 19th April from 9am. until 1pm.

Refreshments will be available from about 11am.

Any gifts of greenery which you may have to spare would be most welcome.

If you wish to remember relatives or friends, you can do so by making a donation towards the Easter lilies and flowers. Please give your donation, in an envelope, with the name(s) of those to be remembered, to the churchwardens, Dorothy Little or me.

The names will be included in the memorial list which will be placed on the 'Welcome' table.

The Flower Team thank you for your continued support, and wish you and your families a blessed and joyful Easter.

Sue Hussell

Sudoku Puzzle

© 2013

KrazyDad.com

*The solution
is on the
inside back
cover.*

				5	7		3	
3			2					
	8	5						
1				6	2	3		7
		3				5		
6		7	5	3				4
						7	4	
					8			3
	4		6	1				

Storytime at Little Lambs

Spring has arrived at Little Lambs, and we are busy making chick and flower pictures and we plan to make a special gift for the mums or grans in our lives very soon. All helpers are very welcome, you would enjoy yourselves too.

We were very lucky to have a visitor on Monday 3rd March, who brought the book “Shark in the Park” by Nick Sharratt to share with us. Our older children really enjoyed this experience and joined in with the story as we all tried to spot the shark, but it wasn’t there in the park, or was it?

Have you read this book with your children? If not, we think you would enjoy it.

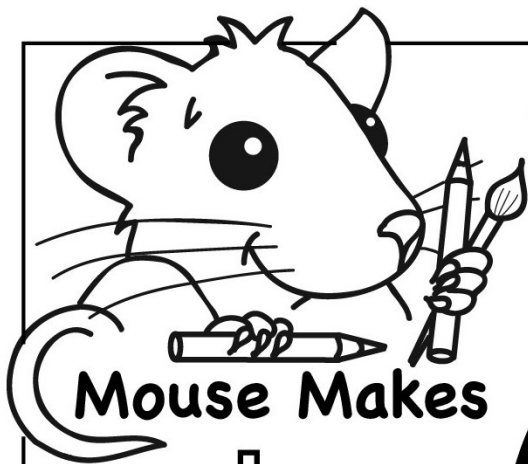


It will soon be Easter!

Our last session this term will be on 7th April. We will return on 28th April and just a note that we will not meet on 5th May as it is a Bank Holiday.

Thank you and blessings from us all at Little Lambs.

Sue Fairman



Mouse Makes

On the cross Jesus opened wide his arms for us.
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us,
and showed us the resurrection to
come by His raising to new life!



Jesus is risen!

The angel said:
"Jesus ...is not here, for He
has risen, just as He said."
Matthew 28:6

Jesus is here

Jesus said:
"Where two or three
come together
in my name I am
there with them."
Matthew 18:20



READ the story of
the resurrection in:
Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:1-19
Luke 24:1-49
John 20:1-29
and 21:1-14



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



Jesus will come again!

Jesus said:
"I will come back
and take you to
myself so that you
will be where I am."
John 14:3



JESUS • ALIVE • RISEN
LORD • SAVIOUR • KING
RESURRECTION
PEACE • NEW LIFE • JOY • GOOD NEWS



MESSIAH • REDEEMER
CHRIST • SON OF GOD
HOSANNA • PRAISE
GO TELL • EASTER





Who's tried giving up coffee?

It turns out a few of us have, and we all very much missed it! Falling the weekend before Ash Wednesday, March's Messy Church focused on Lent.

Found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, we heard the story of Jesus

journeying into the desert and facing the three temptations from the Devil. This was the inspiration for our activities, thinking about our own journeys and actions during Lent.

One of the most popular activities this month was the Aisle Obstacle Course.



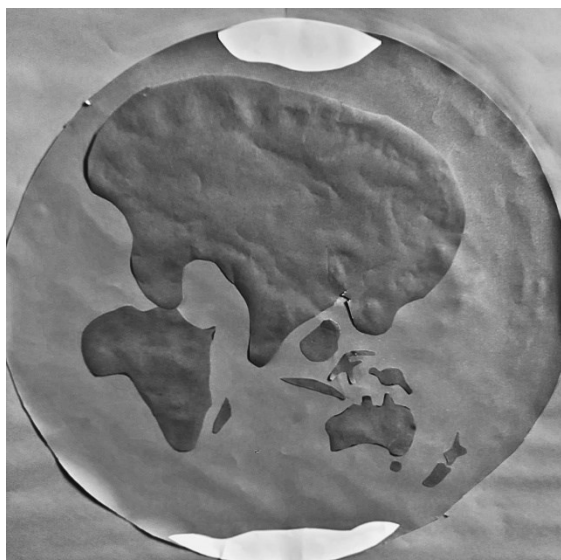
The second most popular activity was making parachute peg people.



The Aisle Obstacle Course was designed by the children in attendance with ropes, blankets and tunnels. It was then a competition to who could make it through the fastest. Adults had a go too! *Activity meaning: Jesus' journey in the desert and our own journey through Lent will not be simple and may face difficult moments (obstacles) to overcome.*

The parachute peg people were made using tissue paper, string and blu-tac. We made parachutes and attached pegs to them, before dropping them from the Gallery to see if they worked. *Activity meaning: This reflected on the Devil's suggestion that Jesus should jump from the temple pinnacle, and Jesus' response that we should not test God.*

Other activities included making chocolate boxes (not to be opened until Easter!), sand art, making a Lent Journey Log and foil crosses. As it was also only a few days early, we made some pancakes as well to mark Shrove Tuesday.



The Messy Church display board shows Earthly 'treasures' which might tempt us away from God. This needed a picture of the world. Phil took great care cutting out Africa, Australia and New Zealand – even using a map for accuracy. However, due to time constraints, Europe and Asia became a bit more approximate! It was still an impressive effort, so do have a look when you're next in St John's.

Our worship talked about giving things up and resisting temptations even when it's difficult.

Change of date for April!

The next Messy Church is on Saturday 12th April, a week later than usual, and our theme will be Holy Week & Easter. Please do come along! Doors open 3.30pm for a cuppa, with activities beginning at 4pm. With crafts, worship and food, Messy Church lasts approximately 1.5-2hrs.



Beth Broadway

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem..

The Chief Priests were plotting



How can we get rid of Jesus?
He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas
came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy
to pay you



How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened
to be the same amount
that had to be paid
as compensation to
the owner if a
slave was
killed
Ex.31:32



I'll let you
know when Jesus is alone.

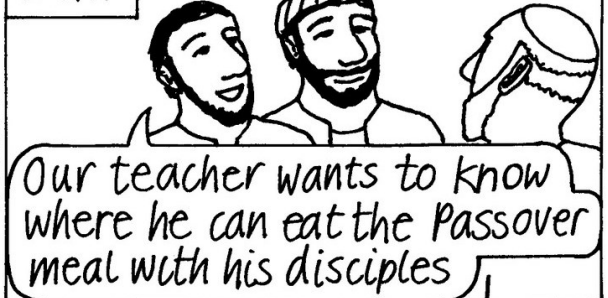
Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where
do you
want us to prepare
the Passover meal?

Go into
the city
and follow
the man carrying a
water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house
owner



Our teacher wants to know
where he can eat the Passover
meal with his disciples

The room is upstairs
on the roof, ready
to use



Peter and John got
the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his
12 disciples went to the room
to eat the Passover meal.



Strip out the subordinate clauses

Although I learned absolutely loads over my two year reader course, there were two areas in particular that I would have liked to have spent more time on and those are PRAYER and HEAVEN. And when I was invited to offer some thoughts on this month's collect, it highlighted just why a better understanding of these areas of theology is so important. But let me take a step back and start from the beginning.

The collect in question can be seen on page 4 and is, of course, a prayer, a supplication, respectfully asking God for something by using the word "grant". But as poetic as the language is, I felt it washing over me a little. Phrases that are so common throughout our liturgy lost their meaning and so I used a technique taught to me way back in school, to strip out all the subordinate clauses and get to the very heart of what is a rather long sentence. And when you do that, you are left with this:

Lord, grant that we may reign with Jesus Christ in glory.

That sounds simple enough, but it immediately opened up a raft of questions in my mind about heaven, and what happens when we die... "where will we reign in glory? When? Who else will be there?"

These questions proved a bit too much for my "Theology - the basics" book and so I needed something a little meatier, but also accessible enough for a Theology undergrad! And so, after some research I used some of the book token I was generously given at my licensing to purchase : "Surprised by Hope" by Tom Wright.

It is described as "Rethinking heaven, the resurrection and the mission of the Church" which is quite an ambition in 350 pages but at about a quarter of the way in, I'm finding it an easy read even if the subject is really challenging. The author is pretty blunt in his criticism of how the church has allowed the biblical view of what happens after we die to become blurred with some non-Christian ideas over the years.

Like I say it's challenging and maybe he's deliberately setting out all that he sees is wrong before later in the book offering some encouragement, but it's also very exciting to read someone being so confident about a topic I'm so unsure of.

I'm afraid I don't have an answer yet for just what reigning with Jesus Christ in Glory will look like, but I'm very much enjoying finding out!

Rob Little

Your Local Worcester Home Care Company



"Carers are always so friendly and helpful, always on time and couldn't do enough for me. Would recommend to anyone."

If you need care or have older parents, whose health has taken a sudden change, we can tailor responsive, companionship led care from 30 minutes through to 24/7 care in your own home.

01905 950 409

www.severnvalhomecare.co.uk

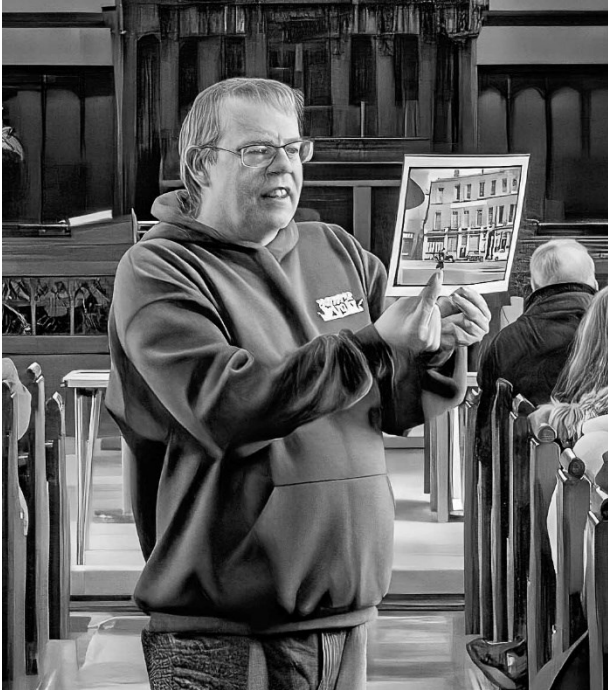
care@severnvalhomecare.co.uk



Your local, award winning, home care company

Secrets of the Old Town

Over 100 people turned up on a grey February afternoon to hear Paul Harding from Discover History talk about the Secrets of the Old Town. Over £450 was taken at the door, a record.



The talk is based on the Discover History walking tour of the same name, and this is based on the area around New Street and Friar Street. However, the oldest known streets are High Street and Sidbury. The High Street is part of an old Roman Road, and it is thought to run along an old Bronze Age track.



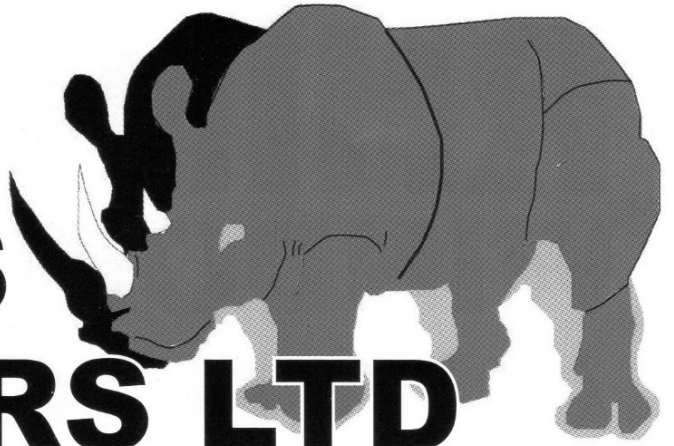
Our tour starts at The Old Talbot, also known as Ye Olde Talbot, in Sidbury which appears to be fairly modern but has a much older interior.

During the Civil War it was used as a large store house and there was a massive explosion when they were moving gunpowder. There are

still timbers upstairs that show signs of the fire damage. Luckily the fire was put out relatively quickly, so the rest of the gunpowder did not explode, and the building largely survived. The most iconic building in Friar Street is The Cardinal's Hat, probably built in the 11th or 12th Century and said to be the oldest pub in Worcester. It was probably the

Continued on page 33

RHINO WINDOWS AND DOORS LTD



**A TILED ROOF WILL KEEP YOUR CONSERVATORY
WARM IN WINTER & COOL IN SUMMER**

Rhino Windows & Doors can enhance your conservatory and make it easier to enjoy year-round – we can even add skylights and lighting. Contact us today for details of how to get more from your conservatory

**TELEPHONE:
01684 770437**

info@rhinowindowsanddoors.co.uk

REPLACEMENT WINDOW &
DOOR SPECIALISTS BASED
IN WORCESTER

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A
FREE NO-OBLIGATION QUOTE

www.rhinowindowsanddoors.co.uk

Continued from page 31

brewhouse of the Franciscan Friary. The monks moved out and built a new Friary outside the City Walls. The brewhouse was sold off and it became a pub in the 14th or 15th Century.

During the Civil War Prince Rupert planned the defence of the city in The Cardinal's Hat.



The Farrier's Arms also claims to be the oldest pub in Worcester.

The Quaker's Meeting House was in Friar Street and Mr Cadbury went there and opposite it was The Cross Key's, which was derelict at that time. Cadbury decided that it would be a good location for a coffee house. It is now Tudor House Museum. The worst thing for old buildings is that they become empty, uncared for and then slowly deteriorate. Even if they are turned into a new coffee house or charity shop, they are still being used and heated and therefore cared for.

25 Friar Street was famous and has a Blue Plaque. The Snell family lived in the house, Hannah lived there and was married to a Dutch sailor. She found that he had enlisted in the Army after the death of their child. So, she took his clothes and joined up as James Grey to try and find him. Even though she was flogged and had a musket ball shot to the groin no one identified her as a woman. She eventually told them, and she was discharged. She stayed in London and eventually ended up in Bedlam, where she died.

Continued on page 35



La Fleur Florist

Weddings Funeral Tributes Everyday Flowers
Corporate Flowers Special Occasions
Garden Plants

Victoria Phelps
36 Woodstock Road
Worcester, WR2 5NE
Tel: 01905 421820 or 07842258936
lafleur@hotmail.co.uk
www.lafleurflorist.co.uk

Worcester Chiropractic Clinic

102 Bromyard Road, St Johns, WR2 5DJ

Expert treatment for a range of conditions:

- Sciatica
- Headaches
- Sports Injury
- Trapped Nerves
- Back Pain
- Carpal Tunnel
- Tendonitis
- Osteoarthritis
- Neck Pain
- And more...

01905 428 956

Continued from page 33

The Laslett's Alms houses, although built in a mock Tudor style, were actually built in the late 19th Century on the site of the old city Prison.

A bit further down Friar Street is Greyfriars (shown on the right); Worcester's oldest house, built in the 15th Century.



By the 18th Century it was divided up into a collection of shops and there was a street where the entrance to the National Trust property is.

This was called George's Yard with houses around the yard. The current garden is made from a lot of the scrap materials from these houses.



The Commandery was also built about the same time as Greyfriars. They are the oldest buildings still standing in Worcester.

Crossing into New Street we get to Nash's House, built in the early 17th Century, which probably replaced an earlier medieval house. It has changed a lot over the years including being an ironmonger's. One reason that many of these buildings survived is that they are in a back street and away from the main thoroughfares. The High Street was constantly being changed and modernised.

Continued on page 37

Safeclean[®]



BY GUARDSMAN

**Quality cleaning services from
the furniture care experts**



**Safeclean will help keep your
home fresh, bright & beautiful**

- Carpets • Fabric & Leather Upholstery
- Curtains • Mattresses • Hard Floors

Contact Elliot for a free, no obligation quote

Call: 0808 144 8161 or 07748 328 597

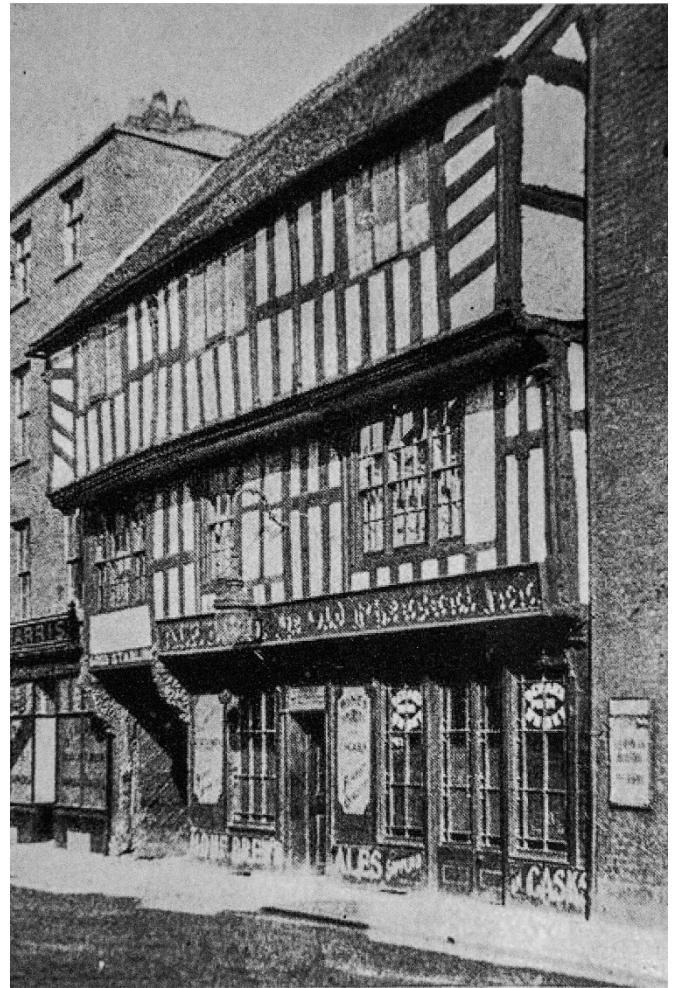
Email: elliott@safeclean.co.uk

Web: www.safeclean-cheltenham.co.uk

Please mention the magazine when responding to advertisers

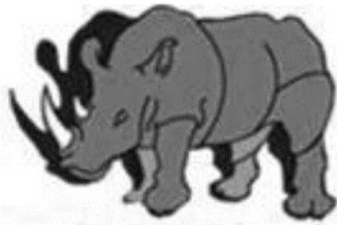
Continued from page 35 Further down New Street is the Pheasant pub (shown on the right). It used to have stables behind the pub and used to host cock fighting in a cockpit out the back and that was its unique selling point at the time. When the law changed to ban cock fighting, they created a bowling green and went up-market.

At the end of the road is the King Charles Pub (shown below), which is where King Charles stayed during the Civil War. It was originally a much bigger building and was the Sherriff's Mansion (Lord Berkeley) but in the 17th Century there was a massive fire that started in the centre of the building burning outwards. Only the 2 ends of the building survived. This is where the tour ends.



Luckily, we had enough cake for everyone during the break, but we did have to get in extra mugs to cater for the last few people. Looks like more cakes will be needed next time. If you can help with a cake, then please speak to Sandra or Catherine.

Colin Nash



RHINO ROOFING LTD

- FLAT ROOFING REPAIRS
- RE-ROOFS
- FLAT ROOFS
- CHIMNEY WORK
- FASCIAS
- SOFFITS
- GUTTERING
- LEADWORK
- RE-POINT RIDGES AND VERGES



Genuine OAP Discount

If you are looking for trained professionals to fix your roof, look no further. Rhino Roofing Ltd is a very professional and established company. You can put your trust in us to give you the best as we have over 20 years experience and still counting! Contact us for a

FREE QUOTATION – CALL US ON 01905831364



<https://www.facebook.com/rhinoroofingltd>



https://instagram.com/rhino_roofing_ltd/



<http://www.rhinoroofing.co.uk/>



rhinoroofingltd@hotmail.com

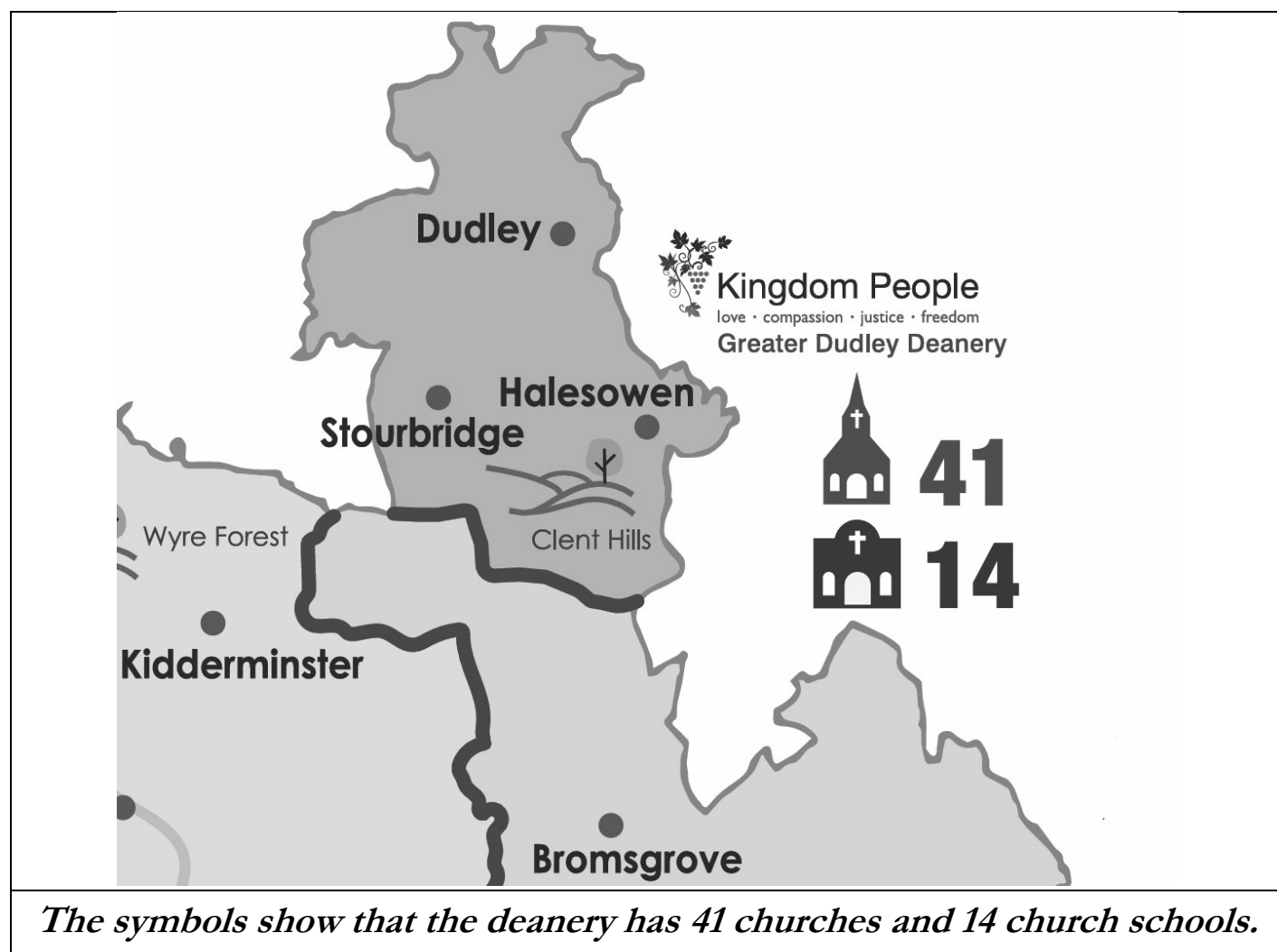


Let's explore our diocese!

The Editors: Within the Diocese of Worcester 'Statement of Needs 2024' (compiled for the process for appointing Worcester's new bishop) is a page about each of the deaneries in our diocese. We are using this information each month, as space allows, to explore our diocese.

Dudley Deanery

Greater Dudley Deanery consists of the Black Country parishes contained within the Metropolitan Borough of Dudley, with a handful of parishes from neighbouring Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Worcestershire.



The deanery is almost entirely urban and home to around 40% of the population of the Diocese. However, there are many differing centres of population, with a diversity of cultures and ethnicities, each of which has a strong local identity.

The task of growing healthy and sustainable churches in the deanery is challenging. There are many more church buildings than are strictly necessary. Some congregations are quite small and are often ministering in areas of significant deprivation, with limited numbers of people

Continued on page 41

BEDWARDINE FUNERAL SERVICES

A COMPLETE & COURTEOUS 24 hr SERVICE

PERSONAL ATTENTION
PRIVATE CHAPEL of REST
MONUMENTAL MASONS

HOME ARRANGEMENTS
DAIMLER FLEET
FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

GOLDEN CHARTER PRE PAYMENT PLAN

01905 748811



*INDEPENDENT & LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESS
OFFERING*

EXCELLENCE AS STANDARD

TO THIS COMMUNITY and SURROUNDING AREAS

The Coach House, 30 Bromyard Road, Worcester. WR2 5BT.

Continued from page 39

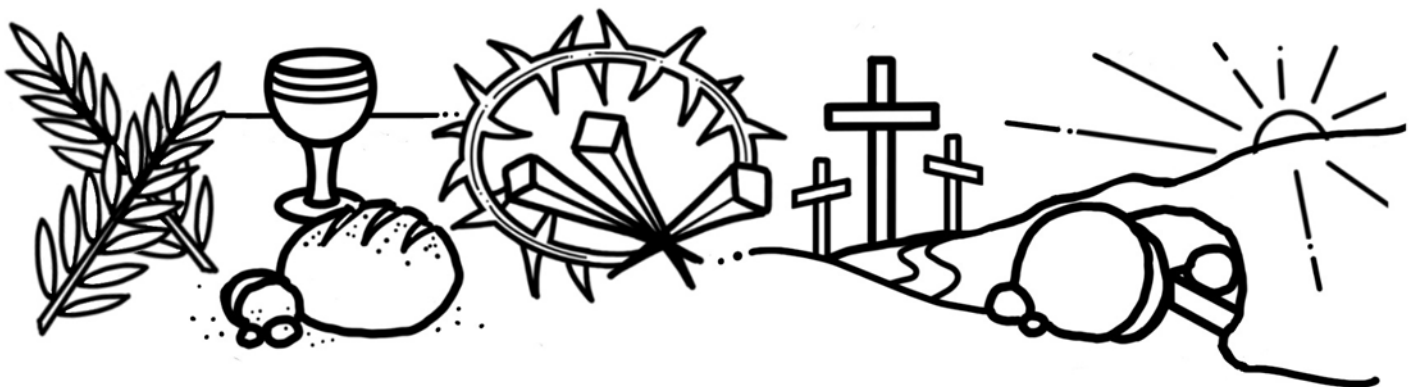
who feel they have the skills and experience to take on positions of leadership in our churches with confidence.

The picture is changing. Significant investment in the churches of the deanery by the national church's Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board (SMMIB) to support the diocesan transformation programme, is already having an impact. As the full phase one plans are rolled out, we are confident that we will establish strong sustainable ministry at the heart of the main centres of population. Our hope and expectation is that with some strong local churches, significant growth will be experienced across the entire deanery.

The deanery leadership team includes the Area Dean, two Sub-Deans, and four lay members. Although sceptical when the present deanery system was created in 2021, we've found that being a larger deanery has facilitated greater opportunities for team working between clergy and churches, and for drawing suitably significant groups together for training and support. Deanery gatherings of ALMs, LLMs, children's ministers, for example, are a regular feature. Increasingly churches work together, sharing resources and opening new opportunities for mission.

The Deanery Chapter of over 30 clergy meets every 4/5 weeks and is primarily a place of mutual support and encouragement, as well as a place to discuss matters of business. Deanery Synod acts as a focus and stimulus for parishes to deliver the mission priorities of the Diocese. Meetings are well attended and serve to lift individual churches beyond the parochial and broaden understandings of mission.

Through good, collaborative working within and between parishes, between clergy and laity, and between deanery and diocese, along with a great deal of prayer, we are facing the challenges, growing in confidence and learning to celebrate as God's Kingdom grows.





**Your home care experts providing quality home care in
Worcester & Surrounding areas**

home... there's no place like it.

Being able to live at home can be one of the most important comforts in any person's life and because family and friends can't always be there, Home Instead are here to help in your area.

Our award winning services include:

- Companionship
- Light housekeeping
- Meal preparation
- Help with medication
- Shopping
- Personal care
- Specialist dementia and alzheimers care *and much more...*

If you would like an informal, no obligation chat to discuss your needs **OR** if you feel like you have the right qualities to become one of our Care Professionals please call:
01905 420404 and our experts will be at hand.

ST JOHN'S LIBRARY

Library closures

- Good Friday - Friday 18 April
- Easter Sunday - Sunday 20 April
- Easter Monday - Monday 21 April

Library opening hours

Libraries Unlocked

Monday - Saturday: 8am - 8 pm

Core (staffed) opening times:

- Monday: 2pm - 5pm
- Tuesday: 10am - 5pm
- Wednesday: 10am - 1pm
- Thursday: 2pm - 5pm
- Friday: 10am - 5pm
- Saturday: 10am - 1pm

Events at St John's Library

Weekly events:

- LEGO Club, weekly every Saturday, 11:00am to 12:00pm.
- Bounce and Rhyme, weekly every Tuesday, 11:00am to 11:30am.
- Chess Club and Scrabble Club, weekly every Tuesday, 2:00pm to 4:00pm.
- Crochet and Chat, weekly every Wednesday, 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Storytime and Song, weekly every Friday, 11:00am to 11:30am (not 18 April).

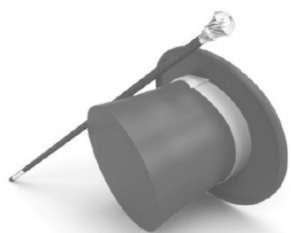
Other regular events:

- Classic Film Club, fortnightly, every other Thursday (3 & 17 April), 2:00pm to 3:30pm.
- Crime Readers' Group, first Friday of each month (4 April), 12:00pm to 1:00pm.
- Photography Group, third Friday of each month – not running in April, 2:00pm to 3:00pm.
- Councillors' Surgeries (Saturday 5 April), 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Meet the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team, St Johns and Bedwardine, on Tuesday 22 April, 10:30am to 11:30am.

The Hive - Earth Day

Save the Date! Earth Day at the Hive on Tuesday 15 April.

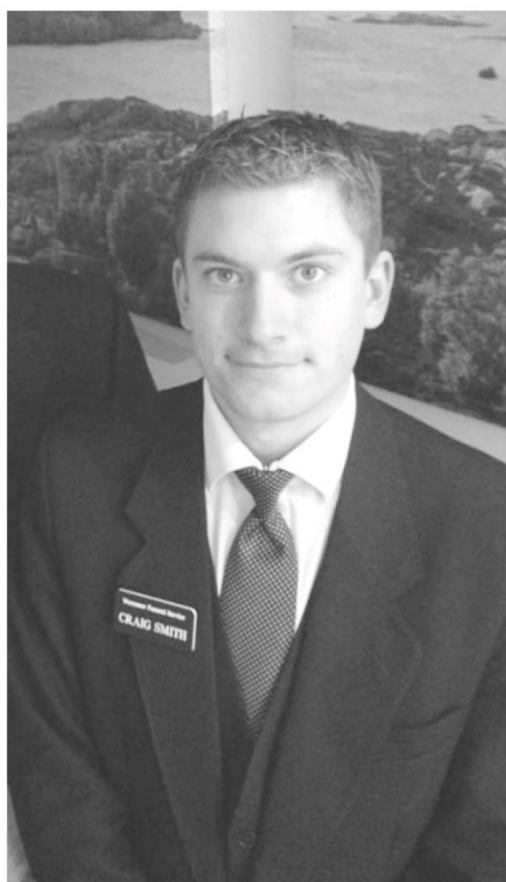
Join us for a fun-filled day of activities to celebrate Earth Day! Keep an eye on the Hive website or Facebook page for details.



Worcester Funeral Service

01905 23499

Independent Family Funeral Directors



Craig is available 24 hours a day.
Please call for any assistance.

Golden Charter 
Funeral Plans



Kilbury Drive, Worcester, WR5 2NE

WorcesterFuneralService.co.uk

From the magazine archive, April 1930

Old Boys of St. John's Day School.

Memorial to Mr E. R. Bowen.

It will be remembered that the Old Boys have determined to raise £100 for this Fund. The main object in view is to attach the Westminster Quarters to the Church Clock at a cost of about £70. Considerable work has already been done towards finding the money; but, so far, only £37 16s. 8d. has been banked, leaving a large sum still to be raised. It will be a great help if my readers will kindly send the names and addresses of any Old Boys who are living out of the parish to Mr. A. J. Morton, 92, Bromyard Road (or St. John's Boys' School), or to Mr. A. J. McHarg, 38, Nelson Road, or to Mr. W. Sedgley, St. John's Post Office. Any of these three gentlemen will be pleased to receive donations from Old Boys who have not yet contributed, or from the parents of deceased Old Boys.

It may be pointed out that any one who received his education, either wholly or in part, either in the immediate or more remote past, is entitled to contribute to this Memorial, and the Committee earnestly urge ALL St. John's Old Boys to do so.

Offers Wanted.

I have received, and have gratefully accepted, the kind offer of one lady to do the work which Miss Moses used to do in connection with the choir robes, altar linen, etc., and of another lady in the matter of a certain amount of sick visiting. I am anxious to receive further offers in the way of visiting, and am specially anxious for an offer to take on the Vestry Clothing Club.

The Parish Magazine - SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please tick one of the boxes below and fill in your details:

*Pick up
at
St John's*

*Pick up
at
St Michael's*

(£5) I will pick up my magazine from the church whose box I have ticked
(subscribers' magazines are put out at the back of church,
usually from the 4th Sunday of the preceding month).

☐

(£5) I live in St John's but need my magazine to be delivered.

☐

(£23.15) I live outside St John's and need my magazine to be posted. Postage and Packing costs
£18.15 (Large Letter, 2nd class postage is now £1.55)

Your details:

Title:

.....

Forename:

.....

Surname:

.....

Email

address:

.....

Address (including post code):

		Total
Magazine subscription (as above)	£5 / £23.15	
Additional Donation (if applicable)		
GRAND TOTAL		

Send your payment in an envelope, or as a cheque made payable to St. Johns Parish Church, with this completed form to The Parish Office, 1A Bromyard Road, Worcester WR2 5BS. **Or, to pay by bank transfer**, please email parishmagazine@wcw.church to give your name and address details, and you will be given a reference number. Then make a bank transfer to the following account:

Account number: 20150628

Sort code: 82-12-08

Account name: WORCESTER ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE AND ST MICHAEL'S JOINT COUNCIL

Please put in the reference number you have been given, as the reference for the recipient.

giftaid it

Please make your money worth 25% more!

Please tick:

- ☐ I want St. John-in-Bedwardine Parish Church to treat the enclosed donation as shown in the Grand Total box above, as a Gift Aid donation.

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give).

Signed:

Date: //20.....

NOTES

1. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income or capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
2. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
3. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity.
4. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.



Puzzle solution

9	6	4	1	5	7	2	3	8
3	7	1	2	8	6	4	5	9
2	8	5	3	9	4	1	7	6
1	5	8	4	6	2	3	9	7
4	9	3	8	7	1	5	6	2
6	2	7	5	3	9	8	1	4
8	3	6	9	2	5	7	4	1
5	1	9	7	4	8	6	2	3
7	4	2	6	1	3	9	8	5

And finally....

A woman invited many of her family for a meal. At the table, she turned to her young niece and said, "Would you like to say the grace?"

"I don't know what to say," the little girl replied.

"It's okay. Just say what you hear your uncle say.

The little girl put her hands together and said: "Dear Lord, why on earth did she invite all these people?"

--- 000 ---

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer:

"Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from email."

--- 000 ---

A bishop was visiting a small church in his diocese for Easter. He wanted the young people to understand what he had to say about the Good Shepherd, so he dressed up in his bishop's long, flowing robes and carried his crook.

"Now," beamed the bishop, "do you know who I am?"

A small voice from the back answered, "Little Bo Peep?"

Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council is a charity with the Registered Charity Number 1205354.



Sunday Services in the Worcester City West Team – April 2025

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
6th April	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Service of music and readings for Passiontide		4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
13th April	10.30am The Liturgy of Palms followed by All Age Eucharist	10am Eucharist		10.30am Morning Prayer
20th April Easter Sunday	10.30am Eucharist	10am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
27th April	10.30am Morning Worship		4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
4th May	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong		4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
The information above is correct at the time of going to press but please watch the weekly church newsletters and website for the latest information.				

For more details of the all the services in April, please see the item starting on page 11.