

Dear friends,

I have always found the story of how St George's was built moving. The church was consecrated in 1902 to serve the population of the parish which was growing with the advent of the new railway line. The building of the church was funded almost entirely by small donations from local people, despite opposition from some of the more affluent residents who were content with keeping St Mary's as their parish church. There is something in this history of the transformative power of the often-underestimated dedication and faith of ordinary people who seek to serve their local community. As we mark our dedication festival today, this history invites us to consider who and what our church building is dedicated to: the worship of God who is love and the service of our community through sharing of this same love. In other words, the fabric of our building – its mission, life, and purpose – is dedicated to and bound together by self-giving love. And, of course, it is not just the building, but much more so the people for whom the building exists, us, who are called to be dedicated to loving God and neighbour. This is a dedication of our hearts, minds and lives that we must live out and reclaim daily, especially in the face of suffering, violence, division, hatred. It is a dedication we must renew when confronted by the horrifying attack against the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue in Manchester last Thursday on Yom Kippur during which two Jewish people were killed amid rising levels of antisemitism in our country. As the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullay, said we as a Church, 'have a responsibility to be a people who stand with the Jewish community against antisemitism in all its forms. Hatred and racism of any kind cannot be allowed to tear us apart. In every church you will encounter Jesus Christ, and his teaching to love one another: our source and our standard. This is both gift and responsibility. Jesus Christ is the life-changing hope that brings us together as church, even in our own brokenness and messiness – and sends us out into the world to witness to that Love.' And it is this shared dedication that has led so many in our church, nation and across the world to rejoice at the news of her appointment as the first female Archbishop of Canterbury.

With my prayers and blessings, Fr Angus

DONATE TO ST GEORGE'S

The life and mission of St George's are entirely dependent on your support. There are many ways to donate:

Gift Aid: Gift Aid envelopes are available in church that enable us to reclaim tax on donations made by UK taxpayers, increasing the donation by 25%.

Regular Giving: Set up a standing order, preferably via the Parish Giving Scheme (<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk>). Contact the treasurer for details.

Contactless Giving: A card reader is available in church for card donations. Card donations are also accepted via our website.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk: Use this when you buy online. For each purchase, a donation will be made to your nominated charities.

QR code: Scan this image to donate via your smartphone:



Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH OFFICE

01243 782885

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RECTOR

Fr Angus Reid

01243 533112

rector@stgeorgeschichester.org

Rest day on Friday

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Susan Howell Evans

directorofmusic@stgeorgeschichester.org

YOUTH WORKER

Zara Cross

youthworker@stgeorgeschichester.org

CHURCHWARDEN

Currently vacant

churchwardens@stgeorgeschichester.org

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mark Arnold

mmarnold@btinternet.com

Jill Merry

merryjill@btinternet.com

Mike Mower

mikemower@outlook.com

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Ginnie Wyllie

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TREASURER

Alison Davis

treasurer@stgeorgeschichester.org

PCC SECRETARY

Mary Howick

secretary@stgeorgeschichester.org

For current members of the PCC, see here: <https://www.stgeorgeschichester.org/pcc>

NEW TO ST GEORGE'S?

Welcome! If you have any questions, please ask a Warden or Fr Angus, we are happy to help.

VOLUNTEERING

There are many ways to engage at St George's. Please ask the Rector or Wardens.

COME AND SING!

Our choir sings at the main services and practises once a week. You are welcome to come along. Contact Susan Howell Evans.

PARISH NOTICES

Welcome to Fr Tom, Archdeacon of Chichester

Today we welcome Fr Tom Carpenter, the new Archdeacon of Chichester, to our Parish Mass. Fr Tom will be admitting Jill Merry as our new churchwarden and preaching at the service.

Healing Ministry Today

During communion anyone who wishes is welcome to go to the Lady Chapel for the Laying on of Hands by lay ministers and Anointing with Oil by a priest as a part of our sacramental ministry of healing.

Volunteers for Reading, Intercessions, and Chalice

If you are interested in joining the rota for reading one of the scriptural passages at the Sunday service, writing and leading the prayers of intercession, or administering the chalice, please do contact Fr Angus. He is putting together the rota for the next five months so now is the time.

Pilgrimage To The Cathedral

Fr Bill is organising a Pilgrimage to the Cathedral on Saturday 11 Oct. **Starting now at St. George's at 9.45am.** Fr. Angus will send us off with a blessing or two. Arrival at Roman Amphitheatre at approx. 10:10, at Roman Wall at 10:45, at St. Mary's Hospital at 11:05, at the Gardens nearby 11:20, at St. Olaves book shop North St. at 11:35, at Cathedral at 12 noon. Copies of the route available if so desired. At the Cathedral there is a place to eat your picnic lunch or have a bite in the Cloisters. If you would like to have a short tour, then that can be arranged. If you have any questions, please contact either Fr Philip (528 783) or Fr Bill (681280).

Secondary School Admissions

If you require a Church Support Form to be filled in by Fr Angus in support of a school application, do contact him by email.

Harvest Festival 12 October

Ahead of our Harvest Festival on Sunday 12 October, we are asking for donations for the foodbank,

particularly: Baby Food and Baby Toiletries; Instant Coffee and Regular Tea Bags; Kitchen Roll and Toilet Roll; Deodorant and Shampoo; Tinned Meat or Vegetarian Meals; Treats (eg kit kat, snack bars, etc); Washing Up Liquid; Jam, Honey Spreads etc; Size 5,6,7, Nappies; Tinned Vegetables; Tinned Fish; Long Life Milk and Fruit Juice. Donations can be placed in the container at the back of the church. Thank you.

Prayer List

If you want to add someone to the parish prayer list, please contact the parish office or Fr Angus.

Pastoral Ministry

Please contact Fr Angus for pastoral matters like visits, baptism, confirmation, first communion, weddings, funerals, house blessings, etc.

Sacrament Of Reconciliation (Confession)

Available by appointment with the Rector.

THIS WEEK

See full calendar of services & events on our [website](#)

SERVICES

Dedication Festival 5 October

10:00am Parish Choral Mass with healing (J -team)

Meditation in Lady Chapel (term time only)

5:30-6pm Monday

Morning Prayer

8:45-9:15am Tuesday-Thursday

Mid-Week Mass in Lady Chapel

11:30am Wednesday Said Mass (followed by refreshments)

9:30am Thursday

Harvest Festival 12 October

10:00am Parish Choral Mass with baptism (J -team)

EVENTS

St George's Tots, 6 Oct 10:30am-12noon

Youth Group, 6 Oct 7pm

School Harvest Festival Service, 8 Oct 2pm

Children's Choir, 7 Oct 5:15-6pm

Community Food Hub, 10 Oct 10-11am