

# February 2025



**ST. GEORGE'S**  
Brockworth



To grow through faith, prayer and worship in Brockworth, to make committed followers of Jesus.

# Getting in touch:

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Court Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4ET

**Office Hours:** 9.30—11.30am, Monday, Thursday and Friday

**Phone:** **01452 550554**

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**Parish Website:** [www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org](http://www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org)

**Facebook:** Search for "St George's Brockworth" and 'like' our page

**Vicar:** Rev. Mike Smith  
The Vicarage, Court Road, Brockworth, GL3 4ET  
Tel: 07415 089897  
Email: **vicar@stgeorgesbrockworth.org**  
Mike's day off is Friday

## Licensed Reader:

Mrs Louisa Messenger 01452 862058, email: [louisamessenger@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:louisamessenger@hotmail.co.uk)

**Churchwardens:** Positions vacant

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mr Derek Harbottle 01452 863732  
email: [treasurer@stgeorgesbrockworth.org](mailto:treasurer@stgeorgesbrockworth.org)

**PCC Secretary:** Mrs Elaine Marsh  
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**Safeguarding Officer:** Mrs Liz Hopkins 01452 550554,  
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**Magazine Editor:** Mrs Pat Hartwell email: [stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com)

## The article deadline for the issue is 15/02/25

Please email: **[stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com)**

If unable to email, please deliver hard copy to the Church Office

## Editorial Disclaimer & church policies :

Any ecclesiastical or political views contained in this magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC or the Editor. This church promotes good practice in work with children and young people. It has a current and active Child Protection Policy that's available to view at St George's Church & St George's Church Centre. St. George's, Brockworth is a Fair Trade Parish and supports the Parish Giving Scheme.

**THIS MONTH'S COVER: Old photo of the interior of St. George's Church. Date unknown.**

# Message from Bishop Rachel

Yesterday, in his inauguration speech, 78-year-old President Trump stated that the golden age of America was beginning. There is much that could be said about that speech and the theology reflected within it, but those confident words in the present moment about the certainty of the future seemed in such contrast to the scenes of people wandering along pathways through mountains of rubble in Gaza. Earlier this week as I watched poignant scenes of Israeli hostages reunited with families, and crowds greeting the release of Palestinian prisoners, there was no sense of a bright new future.

It is poignant that next week there will be numerous events to mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD). The theme this year is 'For a Better Future'. 80 years on from the day of liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the shocking events of the Holocaust continue to impact lives and shape people's views of the world. The horrific attacks on southern Israel on 7 October 2023 and the detestable anti-Jewish actions on people and property, not least in this country, are seen and experienced against the history of the Holocaust. At the same time, Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank live the present in the context of the events of 1948.

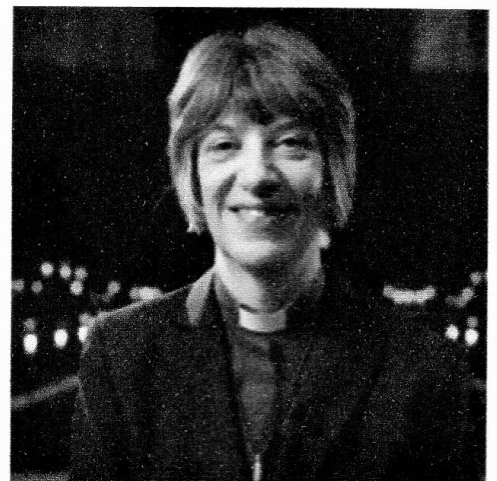
That question of how we perceive, live and shape 'a better future' carrying the realities of the past, is such a pertinent one, not only for individuals, communities, nations and peoples but also for us as a Church. What might the holding together of deep repentance, thanksgiving and hope truly look like as we play our part in shaping the future, rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ through whom there will break 'a yet more glorious day', even golden, as the kingdom of God is one day brought to completion.

I am delighted that in the coming days there will be a diocesan focus on the role of the grandparent generation in relation to children and young people. How can the older generation actively nurture and support faith and hope in children and young people in the present which will profoundly impact the future?

The 'Faithful Generations' event at the Cathedral on Saturday 1 February takes place on the eve of Candlemas when we focus on two old and faithful servants of God (Luke 2:22-38). When Simeon holds the young Christ child in his arms, his words stand in stark contrast to those of the new President of America. Simeon's words in the present moment deeply acknowledge his confidence in God's unchanging faithfulness in the past as he recognises Jesus Christ as the fulfilment of God's past promises and humbly proclaims the baby as the light for all people. Here in Christ is God's generosity and love for the world, which offers us a sure and lasting hope as we engage with the pain and joy of the present, facing the reality of the past with both thanksgiving and repentance, and as we play our part in shaping the future locally, nationally and globally.

This week, particularly as we mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, I am praying my favourite collect with an ever-greater sense of thanksgiving, sorrow and hope:

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen



+ Rachel

# ST. GEORGE'S

Brockworth

## WORSHIP NIGHTS

Every other Wednesday  
7:15pm for 7:30pm start  
8:10pm finish

Join us in the Church Centre for 30 minutes of contemporary (aka loudish!) worship, followed by 10 minutes for silent, or requested, prayer.

Feel free to sit and be still, sing, pray, walk around, soak in His presence; the time is yours to do as you wish.

The purpose of these evenings is to create space to worship God freely.

Our prayer is that you'll leave feeling blessed and refreshed.

Any questions? Please speak to Chris & Claire  
[hello@stgeorgesbrockworth.org](mailto:hello@stgeorgesbrockworth.org)

More info and dates visit:  
[www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org/worshipnights](http://www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org/worshipnights)





## 55 YEARS VICAR OF BROCKWORTH

### REV. J. H. SEABROOK RETIRING

The Rev. J. H. Seabrook, Vicar of Brockworth for over half a century, is retiring, and by his decision one of the best-known clerics in the diocese will say good-bye to a ministry he has held under five monarchs.

The new Vicar is the Rev. Donald Ernest Leavey, senior curate of All Saints', Cheltenham, and priest - in - charge of St. Michael's, Whaddon.

Mr. Seabrook became Vicar of Brockworth in 1886, having been curate of Atherstone for four years previously.

Of striking personality, it was not long before Mr Seabrook gained the confidence and esteem



REV. J. H. SEABROOK

Anne's, Woolwich, S.E.,  
Woolwich, S.E. Patron,  
Rev. P. H. ATKINS, M.A.,  
Vicar of Chart Sutton, n

This, and other articles, such as this month's cover photo and those on P.10 were discovered in the Church Centre office recently. Rev. Seabrook must have started young! *Ed.*



# Raise FREE donations for

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£ Over £30 million raised

👤 1.6 million users

❤️ 130,000 causes



# Good news, and welcome Rachel!

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Parish Administrator. Rachel Green and her family are regular attenders at St. George's services, so are already well known to many of us. Rachel will take up her position on Monday 10th February and the **new office opening hours will be: 9.30—11.30 am, Monday, Thursday and Friday.**



I'm sure we'll be hearing more from Rachel, but here is a brief introduction from her:

*Hi, I'm Rachel. I live in Coopers Edge and have been a member of St George's for nearly three years! I'm married to Simon, and we have three children. We like to walk and go on lots of adventures. I'm really looking forward to my new role and getting to know Brockworth better.*





Our next meeting at the Church Centre is on

**Monday, 24th February at 2.30 pm**

Virginia and David Adsett will be speaking on the title -

## **Children's Hour**

This will be the fourth time Virginia and David have come to our branch and as always they will be bringing a variety of objects which will revive memories and stories. They very kindly do not charge their usual fee for their time and are entertaining and well informed so do try to come along. Visitors to the meetings are very welcome.

### **Prayer for Children**

*Be close to every child, God, surround them with your shield of protection. Guard them against illnesses of the mind and body, protect them from accidents and evil. Amen*

MU members - your support is empowering families to lift themselves out of poverty through the One More Step programme.

From literacy to agricultural business skills, you've helped create real, lasting change.



Brockworth Vicarages, Old and New



# MY FAVOURITE CHORUSES - Allan Delves

Following on from my series on “My favourite Hymns” I thought I would change direction and continue my series on Choruses, which started with “Wide, Wide as the ocean” in the last Magazine.

I have chosen one chorus which should be appropriate to all of us at this post Christmas time – “I am H.A.P.P.Y”. In my Sunday School days in Harrogate this was always very popular.

Dear Readers, pause for a moment and ask yourself “What makes you happy?

The late *Ken Dodd* reminds us it's not material wealth - his song quotes “I have got no silver or gold, but I have happiness in my soul”.

Other quotes include: “The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes, but in liking what one does”. *J.M. Barrie*

“Happiness cannot be travelled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude.”  
*Denis Waitley*

“Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.” Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Happy are the people whose God is their Lord" (Psalm 144:15).

So here is a list of 10 things to make you happy:

## 1. Appreciating the small things:

Enjoying simple pleasures, such as reading a good book, watching your favourite TV programme, enjoying a meal out, basking in the sunshine, or looking out at a good view can instantly spark your happiness

## 2. Spending time with your family and/or other loved ones

Family and loved ones can provide emotional and social support, which can help us cope with stress and adversity. This sense of social support can lead to greater happiness and well-being. When we share experiences with the people we care about, it can also create good memories and strengthen our relationships. Whether it's special occasions or pure quality time, making time for our loved ones can surely give us a good dose of positivity..

## 3. Expressing love and sharing our love:

Knowing that the people we love feel the same way can also boost our self-esteem and sense of self-worth, which can lead to greater confidence and happiness. When we show our love to someone and we know we've made a sense of self-worth, which can lead to greater confidence and happiness in them. It can give us a sense of fulfilment. In the same way, feeling their love in return can certainly provide the kind of joy that's priceless.

## 4. Doing your favourite activities:

Whether it's enjoying our hobbies or pursuing the work that we love, doing what makes us happy can do wonders for our mental health and overall life satisfaction. Engaging in activities that we enjoy can also act as a form of stress



relief, helping us to relax and live an easy-going life. Keep in mind that you don't need a lot of reasons to do something but just do it to make yourself happy!

#### 5. Experiencing new things:

Ever had one of those "bucket lists" of things you want to try before you reach a certain age? Surely, ticking things off this list can bring adventure and excitement to your life.

Often, we can get lost in the grind of our daily lives, and one way to break such monotony is by immersing ourselves in new experiences. So, step out of your comfort zone and enjoy all the excitement and happiness that the world has to offer!

#### 6. Achieving our goals:

Most of us find happiness through a sense of accomplishment. By setting goals and working towards achieving them, we attain positive feelings such as pride, satisfaction, and growth.

While it's great to be goal-driven, it's also important to note that true happiness is not a destination. Rather, paying close attention to our journey can help us find more meaning in everything that we choose to do.

#### 7. Taking care of ourselves:

Self-care is fundamental to our happiness and overall well-being. When we take care of ourselves, we are more capable of doing the things we love, spending time with the people we care about, and pursuing our passions in life. Health, in all aspects, can help us experience happiness to our maximum potential. So, make sure to rest and recharge before you go back to chasing that adrenaline rush!

#### 8. Giving back:

For some of us who have already achieved all sorts of happiness in life, contributing to other people's happiness and welfare can further fuel our sense of purpose.

Whether it's getting involved in charitable work or dedicating ourselves to helping our communities, knowing that we've made a positive impact on other people's lives can bring us incomparable joy.

#### 9. Living our purpose:

Discovering our purpose is essential to finding our own happiness. When we know what we're most passionate about and we pursue it, we gain a sense of direction and fulfilment.

Living with purpose can also make us feel like we're needed and that we have a place in the world. These positive beliefs can ultimately lead us to live a happy and healthy life.

## 10. Finally. Feeling content:

Contentment is often associated with a sense of acceptance and gratitude for what one has, rather than a focus on what one lacks or

desires. People can sometimes have the tendency to keep wanting more and never feel satisfied with what they have. But to be truly happy, we must learn a valuable lesson: that good enough *is* good enough. Only when we find contentment will we achieve genuine happiness. It is not a permanent feature of one's personality, but a fleeting, changeable state. Happiness involves positive emotions and life satisfaction. Happiness can have different definitions for different people, depending on their values, goals, and experiences.

May the Lord grant you and all your loved ones peace, joy and goodwill. Here is the Chorus!

I'm H-A-P-P-Y

I'm H-A-P-P-Y

I know I am, I'm sure I am

I'm H-A-P-P-Y

I'm L-O-V-E-D

I'm L-O-V-E-D

I know I am, I'm sure I am

I'm L-O-V-E-D

I'm S-A-V-E-D

I'm S-A-V-E-D

I know I am, I'm sure I am

I'm S-A-V-E-D

(Chorus)

I'm Happy, Loved and Saved

I'm Happy, Loved and Saved

## Happy New Year !!

Jim lived on the edge of a village in The Cotswolds.

It was New Years Eve, and he decided to cycle into the village to buy some bottles of beer to take home, in order to welcome in the New Year.

At the Off Licence he bought himself 4 bottles of beer and placed them in the basket on the front of his bike and set off for home.

He had ridden about 100yards when a thought suddenly occurred to him. If I fall off my bike on the way home, I will most certainly smash the bottles.

So, he stopped, got off his bike and sat down on the grass verge where he drank all four bottles. He then continued his journey home.

On arriving home, he went into the living room and collapsed in his armchair in front of the log fire.

Another thought then occurred to him; that it was a good job he had drunk the bottles of beer, as he fell off his bike four times on the way home.

Mervyn Watts

# HELP WITH PRINTING & SCANNING

**Brockworth Community Library**  
Moorfield Rd, Brockworth GL3 4EX

**MONDAY - FRIDAY**

**10:00am - 1:00pm**

**2:00pm - 5:00pm**

**SATURDAY**

**10:00am - 12:00pm**



**1-2-1 IT Support**

**Brockworth  
link**



[brockworthlink.org.uk](http://brockworthlink.org.uk)



[office@brockworthlink.org.uk](mailto:office@brockworthlink.org.uk)



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**Support the work of St  
George's church in  
Brockworth.**

**QR code for St George's  
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Parish Giving Scheme  
website.**

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# HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE NHS APP?

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- UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS TO YOU



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**MONDAY 10AM – 1PM, 2PM – 5PM**  
**TUESDAY 10AM – 1PM, 2PM – 5PM**  
**WEDNESDAY 10AM – 1PM, 2PM – 5PM**  
**THURSDAY 10AM – 1PM, 2PM – 5PM**  
**FRIDAY – CLOSED**  
**SATURDAY 10AM – 12:00 PM**

# **KNIT AND STITCH**



Come and join us at a friendly and informal knit and stitch group, every third Tuesday of the month, 10 – 11.30am in St. George's Church Centre lounge.

Bring along whatever knitting, sewing or craft project you have on the go, and if you're a novice and would like to learn more, there will probably be someone who can help. Enjoy a cuppa and a chat. Free of charge.



**Next meeting: Tuesday 18th  
February**

Here is our Treefest tree. We were delighted to win a prize for the third favourite tree as voted for by visitors to the Festival. Already wondering what to do next year .....

# A UNIQUE QUIZ: ABBREVIATIONS

With so much coverage recently in the media concerning MI5 and MI6 I decided to explore the difference and then it suddenly dawned on me that we use abbreviations frequently in our everyday life so why not compose a quiz to see how much our Readers know the meaning of just a few.

It must, in my opinion, be a unique subject for Quiz lovers.

Allan Delves

1. BSc
2. RSPCA
3. RSVP
4. JP
5. LNER
6. NHS
7. QR
8. ITV
9. RIP
10. MOT
11. DVLA
12. OBE
13. NATO
14. VAT
15. LBW
16. GCHQ
17. MSN WWW
18. PIN
19. PhD
20. GMT





# Church Diary - February 2025

**2<sup>nd</sup> 9am Communion Worship Service: Church**  
**10am Coffee and biscuits: Church Centre Hall**  
**10.30am Family Worship Service: Church Centre Hall**

4<sup>th</sup> 10am Friendship Club Café: Church Centre Lounge

5<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Communion Service: Church Centre Chapel  
7.20 for 7.30pm Worship night: Church Centre Hall

6<sup>th</sup> 10am Flower arranging team: Church  
7.30pm Bellringing practice: Church Tower

**9<sup>th</sup> 9am Communion Worship Service: Church**  
**10am Coffee and biscuits: Church Centre Hall**  
**10.30am Family Worship Service: Church Centre Hall**

12<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Communion Service: Church Centre Chapel

13<sup>th</sup> 10am Flower arranging team: Church  
7.30pm Bellringing practice: Church Tower

**16<sup>th</sup> 9am Communion Worship Service: Church**  
**10am Coffee and biscuits: Church Centre Hall**  
**10.30am Family Worship Service: Church Centre Hall**

18<sup>th</sup> 10am Knit and Stitch group: Church Centre Lounge

19<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Communion Service: Church Centre Chapel  
7.20 for 7.30pm Worship night: Church Centre Hall

20<sup>th</sup> 10am Flower arranging team: Church  
7.30pm Bellringing practice: Church Tower

**23<sup>rd</sup> 9am Communion Worship Service: Church**  
**10am Coffee and biscuits: Church Centre Hall**  
**10.30am Family Worship Service: Church Centre Hall**

24<sup>th</sup> 2.30 pm Mothers' Union: Church Centre Hall

26<sup>th</sup> 9.45am Communion Service: Church Centre Chapel

27<sup>th</sup> 10am Flower arranging team: Church  
7.30pm Bellringing practice: Church Tower



## HELP

Is there a regular member of the congregation who could help me please with Sidesperson duty?

All of my previous partners have either changed Churches in Brockworth or moved away.

It is not an onerous task & comes round approximately every 4 weeks. It entails arriving about 8.30am for the 9am service, changing the hymn boards, giving out the books & counting the congregation.

I rely at present on other sidespeople to help me, but it would be great to have a regular partner again.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Jenny

## **St. George's history.**

### **An extract from a local newspaper article,**

**December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1941.**

The new vicar of Brockworth, the Rev D. E. Leavey, was instituted to the parish by the Bishop of Gloucester, Dr. A. C. Headlam, on Saturday afternoon. The living was vacant by the cession of the Rev J. H. Seabrook. A large number of people attended the service which was held in the parish church.

The Bishop opened his address by saying it was 55 years since such a service was performed in the church. After describing the origin and significance of the service, the bishop said that for something like 1,000 years, parish priests had been instituted and inducted in this parish with much the same ceremony as they had taken part in that day. The office of parish priest was a very ancient one. They had had, for the last 55 years, a parish priest who had led them very faithfully and had worked very faithfully among them. He had cared for that beautiful and ancient parish church of theirs and had been a good custodian and guardian of it.

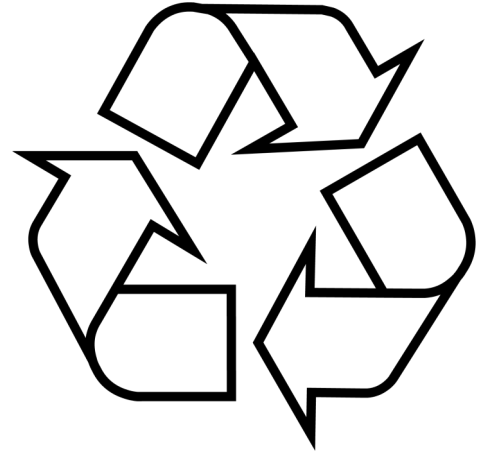
When he was appointed to this parish it was a pleasant rural spot, and it must be a rather startling change for a man who had lived over 50 years in the place and had attained a good old age to be suddenly confronted with the new Brockworth which had sprung up among them. The parish ten years ago had something like 600 people in it. Now, he supposed, there were three or four thousand people, and that change was one which would impose upon the equipment and people of the parish a very serious task, for it was their duty to help in building up the church in this place for the three or four thousand people who had come to live among them.

At the present time, the world was suffering from war and all the horrors and miseries which it entailed. That war had arisen, very largely, he believed, was because a large part of the civilised world had become untrue to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel of Christ was a gospel for the world. It was a gospel of peace and love. Mankind was substituting it for a gospel of power and violence. They wanted to build up the church of Christ in this parish, the diocese and the country and they wanted to spread the message of Christ everywhere throughout the world. There was nothing that would affect the hard hearts of men except the gospel of Christ.

When the war was over their politicians and diplomats would do all they could to reconstruct and build up a new world. Their efforts would have no permanent result unless, at the same time, they could give the message of Christianity and change men's hearts so that they might be guided by the Christian message and not by the law of force.



# Recycle and raise money for our charities.



We collect::

Used greetings cards for the Cobalt Unit

Used postage stamps for The James Hopkins Trust.

Old or broken jewellery for The Alzheimer's Society

Old spectacles for Sightsavers

Ink cartridges for LINC

**Please remember we can no longer collect medicine blister packs or milk bottle tops**

There are some boxes in the Church porch for some of these items or they can be taken to the Church office in the Church centre, Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30 – 11.30am

Thank you for your support.

**Dear all at St George's,**

Thank you for my lovely card and to everyone that very generously contributed to my voucher; I am going to buy a piece of jewellery from Pandora to remember you all. The best part of working at St George's was all you lovely people I got to know really well over the years, and I really will miss you. I have some lovely memories of my time at the church that I will treasure. You are all so generous giving your time and using your skills to make the church run as it does. Hopefully, I will bump into some of you in the near future.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2025.

Karen.





# WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



PRESS RELEASE



**“I made you wonderful”**

*Kia Orana!*

Our sisters in The Cook Islands welcome us and lead us for the Day of Prayer 2025. This group of 15 islands in the South Pacific Ocean has a rich and colourful Māori heritage and a deep connection to nature. Join with us as we pray together and reflect on the theme ‘I made you wonderful’.

World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast, the service begins with the writing country and theme being chosen a number of years earlier. Once written it goes to the International Committee in New York for translation and dissemination to the National Committee in each participating country. The service is then discussed and edited before being presented nationally, regionally and then locally for branches to make their plans. Finally, at a church near you, on Friday 7 March 2025, people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of The Cook Islands.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later. A worldwide wave of prayer...

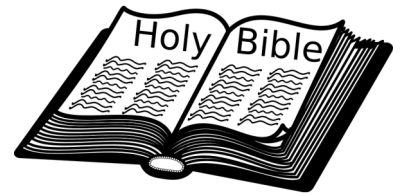
*For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area, see the WDP website: [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)*

This year’s service will be held on Friday 7th March at 10am and St George’s are hosting it in the Church Centre.

Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be available.



# Daily bible readings February 2025



Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Hebrews 11. 1-2,8-19 Mark 4.35-end

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hebrews 11.32-end	Mark 5. 1-20
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 12. 1-4	Mark 5. 21-end
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 12.4-7, 11-15	Mark 6. 1-6a
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 12. 18-19,21-24	Mark 6. 7-13
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 13. 1-8	Mark 6. 14-29
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Hebrews 13. 15-17, 20-21	Mark 6. 30-34

Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 1. 1-19	Mark 6. 53-end
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 1. 20-2.4a	Mark 7. 1-13
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 2.4b-9.15-17	Mark 7.14-23
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 2,18-end	Mark 7 24-30
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 3.1-8	Mark 7.31-end
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 3.9-end	Mark 8.1-10

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 4.1-15,25	Mark 8.11-13
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 6.5-8: 7.1-5,10	Mark 8.14-21
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 8.6-13,20-end	Mark 8.22-26
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Genesis 9.1-13	Mark 8. 27-33
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Genesis 11.1-9	Mark 8.34-9.1
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Hebrews 11.1-7	Mark 9.2-13

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	James 1.1-11	Mark 9.14-29
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	James 1.12-18	Mark 9.30-37
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	James 1.19-end	Mark 9.38-40
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	James 2.1-9	Mark 9,41-end
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	James 2.14-24,26	Mark 10.1-12



# Friendship club

@

St. George's Church Centre.

Join us on the first Tuesday of every month, 10—11.30 am in the lounge.

**Next meeting :**

**February 4th**

A social club that is an inclusive and welcoming space. A great way to meet like-minded people. We'll provide the tea, coffee and cake (all free) and you bring yourself and a friend or neighbour, or come on your own.

**Everyone welcome!**

## Answers to abbreviations quiz:

1. Bachelor of Science – a university degree
2. Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
3. Repondez s'il vous plait – to request an answer to an invitation
4. Justice of the Peace
5. London North Eastern Railway
6. The National Health Service
7. Quick Response code – a two dimensional bar code
8. Independent Television
9. Rest in Peace
10. Ministry of Transport
11. Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
12. Order of the British Empire
13. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation – an alliance of 30 European and 2 North American states
14. Value Added Tax
15. Leg before wicket
16. Government Communications Headquarters
17. Microsoft Network World Wide Web
18. Personal Identification Number
19. Doctor of Philosophy
20. Greenwich Mean Time
21. Deoxyribonucleic Acid
22. Any Other Business
23. Video Assistant Referee—the Var will intervene in identity, goals, penalties and red cards
24. Potential of Hydrogen - acidity/alkalinity scale
25. Sealed with a loving kiss

The Messenger, February 2025

## Celebrating grandparents and grandchildren this month with Faithful Generations

"I deeply believe that the precious relationships between grandparents and grandchildren have profound and lasting effects. My grandma had (and still has long after her death) a huge influence on my faith. I know that she prayed for me every day of my life, and the faith that she modelled was inspirational," Kate Stacey, Diocesan Collaborative Ministry Lead: Lifelong Learning.

The chance to form, nurture and celebrate the deep connection between grandparents and grandchildren is at the heart of Faithful Generations. We have two free events taking place, a fun day on 1 February at Gloucester Cathedral, and a workshop led by Becky Sedgewick, author of 'Grandparenting for Faith' on 11 February where you can think more deeply.

Faithful Generations offers countless opportunities to engage with your grandchildren and surrogate grandchildren, and with faith in ways that are creative and personal.

Learn about DJ-ing with your teenager, find out how your four-year-old would represent you as a gingerbread person, and have you ever thought about how the children in your life view God?

The activities taking place at our Faithful Generations event on 1 February at Gloucester Cathedral create sacred moments and encourage connections that are meaningful and memorable; decorating doves as symbols of gratitude, exploring the beauty of stained glass through crafts inspired by your favourite Bible stories, or strolling through Gloucester Cathedral's cloisters hunting for shapes and colours with the littlest members of the family.

Imagine your teenage grandchild leading you onto a dance floor during an interactive worship session, or visiting a prayer station together, where they can express their own prayers and concerns. These moments mean you can step into each other's worlds, make lasting memories and feeling the presence of God along the way.

There is also an 'Uneven Song', a fresh take on the traditional Evensong service, blended with dance, interactive songs, and a display of candles and doves. This is led by Bishop Rachel who invites us to join her as she reflects on this time of year and its significance for our lives.

There are so many activities to choose from. See our full schedule at <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/faithful-generations-event/>.

On 11 February, Becky Sedgewick leads a workshop on the unique role of grandparents in nurturing supportive relationships with younger generations. Whether you are grandparents by family or by the role you play in churches, schools, or communities, the workshop shows us how supportive, close relationships between generations can influence faith formation.

It is important to take time for gratitude, reflected with a shared lunch and prayer after the workshop, and to honour yourself and others who play a guiding role in the lives of younger generations.



Find out more, and hear from Becky herself, at <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/faithful-generations-workshop/>.

Jo Wetherall, Senior Children and Families Connector, explained the vision behind Faithful Generations: "Faithful generations came about in a number of ways, all of which contributed to recognising that we need to pay attention to the role of people of grandparent generation and inspire, equip and resource them in sharing faith.

"Often people in parishes tell us they have no contact with children, meaning there are no children present on Sunday morning, and we are quick to point out that many people have contact with children in other ways, for example Open the Book teams, toddler groups and their own grandchildren, godchildren, nieces, nephews etc.

"When we talk about Growing Faith at home Bishop Rachel frequently refers to grandparents and their role in sharing faith.

"The events are all aimed at enabling people to have conversations about faith which feel normal, are not super spiritualised, but recognise the presence of God in everyday life. We are also realistic in that, for some people, sharing faith in their families is problematic. We want to acknowledge this and support them."

For all the details and to book your space, visit <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2024/youre-invited-to-faithful-generations-events-in-february/>.

## Lent 2025 – Living Hope

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2025 is Living Hope. An initial overview of the campaign is now online at [www.cofe.io/LivingHope](http://www.cofe.io/LivingHope).

Living Hope offers us the opportunity to deepen our hope in God and be part of what God is doing to bring hope in the world. This year, the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, is on 5 March and you are invited to come along to your church to find out more about Lent and Easter. Find your local events at [www.AChurchNearYou.com](http://www.AChurchNearYou.com).

What do you think about the Messenger?

The diocesan communications team wants to hear your views about The Messenger, our social media and our other publications. Share your thoughts so we can ensure they are engaging, relevant, and valuable to you. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yxx9ezxt> for the questionnaire.

Events and training More details for all these events at [gloucester.anglican.org/events](https://gloucester.anglican.org/events)

Faithful generations event Cathedral Green, Gloucester Cathedral, 1 February, 12pm to 5pm

Book now for this fun and creative afternoon where grandparents and grandchildren can explore Christian faith and spirituality together. There will be prayer spaces, story, activities, dance, interactive worship and more. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/faithful-generations-event/>

Faithful Generations 'What can a Grandparent do?' workshop

Church Centre, St Andrew's Church, Station Road, Churchdown

GL3 2JT, 11 February

Becky Sedgewick, author of Grandparenting for Faith, leads this workshop, teaching how to understand the importance of strong intergenerational relationships and how to share and demonstrate faith meaningfully. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/faithful-generations-workshop>

### Peace doves at Tewkesbury Abbey

Tewkesbury Abbey, Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RZ, 1 to 27 February

Experience the Peace Doves and Imagine Peace installations by Peter Walker, where thousands of paper doves are decorated with messages of love and peace by local communities to create a display of art.

<https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/peace-doves-at-tewkesbury-abbey/>

### Chrism Eucharist 2025

Gloucester Cathedral, 17 April, 11am to 12.30pm

This special service will be led by Bishop Rachel Treweek. Around 400 clergy and lay ministers will come together for the Maundy Thursday service, where they will process through the Cathedral. They will then renew their vows of ministry. This service will be live streamed and all are welcome to attend.

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**Have you got new neighbours?**

How about putting a copy of our magazine through their door!

You can get extra copies from the Church Office

**01452 550 554**

## Don't forget .....

This is *your* magazine. We need your interesting stories, facts, jokes, poems, quotes, recipes, brain teasers, photos, notices or anything else that others would enjoy reading.

All contributions will be gratefully received by the church office or, preferably, please email:  
[stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgesbrockworthmag@gmail.com)

**The DEADLINE for the March issue is 15th February**

**Thank you.**

# ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VENUE

**for your children's party, family  
gathering, meeting or other event?**

**St. George's Church Centre  
is available to hire.**

The hall is located in the centre of Brockworth village on Court Road, GL3 4ET and has good facilities, including a private car park for hall users.

The main hall can accommodate up to 100 people, perfect for larger events, and can be hired for £20 per hour, or £70 for four hours.

The lounge can accommodate up to 25 people, ideal for smaller meetings, and can be hired for £11 per hour, or £40 for four hours.

**For further details, contact the  
Church Office on  
01452 550554**

**Email: [hire@stgeorgesbrockworth.org](mailto:hire@stgeorgesbrockworth.org)**

**Or see our website,  
[www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org](http://www.stgeorgesbrockworth.org)**