



SUNDAY 8th AUGUST 2021

Readings 1Kings 19.1-13 and John 6:35,41-51

A Note From **Your Administrator**

As Nick is taking a very well deserved break to recharge the batteries, I thought I'd use this opportunity to do "A Note From" this week.

Do you know how far away Dundee is from Taunton? It's approximately 500 miles and would take about 8 1/2 hours to get there. What about a flight from London to Barbados? Ok, so it's flying but it's 4211 miles and takes the same length of time. Do you know what else takes 8 1/2 hours? I do! Taunton to London...yep! That's how long the drive took us on Saturday. At one point it took 3 hours to travel 2 miles. How was it so long I hear you say? Well some bright spark thought closing Junctions on the M4 during the summer holidays was a terrific idea. Argh!!!

The frustrating thing though was more the fact that the journey did not need to take that long. If only the band had listened to me....

We've had a lot of experience as a band of travelling quite far for gigs and at times it's been a white knuckle ride to get there in time as we follow the one band member who says "Yeah! I think I know how to get there, follow me!". It's been one too many times for my liking where we've got lost so, this time I told them we were going to follow my Sat Nav.

She's lovely is our Sat Nav—we call her Maura as I've made her have a lovely soft Irish accent-much nicer than the posh chap telling me I need to make a U-Turn. He's polite obviously but sounds nicer with Maura!

We could see the Motorway signs above warning us about the closed Junctions. Maura knew fine well about the closed junctions too and was telling us to take her diversion. But as we approached the junction, the rest of the band said "Oh the traffic doesn't look too bad, people are still driving up to the next junction, let's ignore her and keep going". I shook my head and said "Trust me, we need to follow Maura! She wouldn't be diverting us unless she knew what lay up ahead" but alas I was overruled and

next thing we knew we were slap bang into the worst traffic jam I have ever experienced. "We should have listened to Maura" was all I heard for the next 3 hours (aka 2 miles). I simply smiled and nodded :)

I know that you cannot really compare Jesus to a Sat Nav but I do as there are similarities aren't there...

A Sat Nav isn't normally fixed on one route. It adapts with changing situations. God's guidance in our lives is just the same. Sometimes things outside our control can make the route difficult, but God adapts to get us to His destination for our lives. Whatever life throws at us, His purposes remain, and if He has to change the route to get us there, He does just that.

A Sat Nav never gives up on us. They always adapt, gently correct, and patiently guides us to our destination. Jesus never gives up on us either. It's us that stops listening or switches off. I have always found though that He has brought me back to His path many times when I have taken a detour as I stopped listening.. So I always think of Jesus now when I use my Sat Nav. It always reminds me that no matter if I steer off in the wrong direction, He will re-route me, guide me over the bumps and the roundabouts and most importantly He will never give up on me.

I'll let you know if the band let me put Maura on again this Saturday as we head off to our next Summer gig....

Bethan x

Whilst Nick is off, if you have any ministry matters, please do get in touch with **Rev'd Martin Kirkbride** on 07746 519311 For any **pastoral issues** please do contact our Pastoral Coordinator, **Rachel Neal** (see her lovely note on the back page) or for any issues with regards to the **Church buildings**, get in touch with our lovely **Churchwardens**. (see their contact details on pg4) For all other matters do get in touch with me at the Church Office on office@stgchurch.co.uk and I will do my very best to help you.



St George's **Small Groups**

Footprints will be meeting for our next walk at 10.00 on **14th August**. We will once again be on the Quantocks and will meet at the intriguingly named 'dead women's ditch' car park.

This month's walk will be approximately 5km and take in a couple of the beautiful combs and the Dowsborough Iron Age fort with time to chat and to contemplate our faith journeys.

If you would like to come please drop Nick Oliver an email (nickoliver36@me.com) and we look forward to seeing you then!

Nick and Maggie



The next "Stroll for the Soul" will be on **WEDNESDAY 18th August**. Assemble 10.15am at the church for a few minutes of scripture reflection before strolling, with like-minded Souls, at 10.30am. It would be wonderful to have you join us if you can!

Janet

If you would like to join any of our small groups, or have an idea for one yourself please get in touch—we'd love to hear from you!!
office@stgchurch.co.uk

Thank you John & Linda!

After helping us with our Bookstall for several years now, the lovely Linda and John Cowdry have decided to stand down and hand the literary baton onto someone else.

On behalf of everyone at St George's **THANK YOU SO MUCH** for all your help over the years. It has been really appreciated. It has helped us to raise much needed funds when we have needed them the most and we thank you for helping look after

the books for all this time. Bless you! Thank you!

...and a Request...

So we're hoping and praying that some lovely person/couple may pick up the baton to continue this offering. If you can help in any way please see Rosa after church on Sundays or ring 338817

Thank you in advance. Your offer will be much appreciated. It is such an asset which we'd love to keep going!

Rosa x

ST GEORGE'S **Charity Information**

EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST have put out an urgent appeal to support the Christian brothers and sisters in the Near East Council of Churches to provide ongoing support alongside the life-saving provision of medical provisions, shelter and fuel to keep the generators going (their only source of electricity) to the people of Gaza.

Buildings near Al-Shifa Hospital (Gaza's main hospital) have been bombed during the recent escalations of violence there. Doctors who worked in the hospital were killed with their families in the blast, and the street in front of the hospital was bombed out - not even ambulances can enter. How can an already overstretched healthcare system and hospital, already struggling to cope with COVID 19, operate in this situation? When they needed a neighbour - will we be there?

'Embrace' have published a prayer for this situation which we might all use at this time.

O God, the creator of all life, we bring before you all the people who call Israel and Palestine home.

We particularly remember those living in Jerusalem and Gaza whose lives are marred by restrictions to their freedom, the threat of eviction from their homes and the constant fear of armed conflict.

We ask your forgiveness for the anger, hatred and violence that all of us have the potential to carry within us. We beseech you to soften hearts and open minds so that the sanctity of life is always protected, the right to freedom of worship upheld and the security of a safe home defended.

We pray that justice will flow like rivers. That human dignity will be respected and that each of us may strive to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen

To donate to Embrace the Middle East, please send your cheque to:

24 London Road West

Amersham

BUCKS HP7 0EZ

Or online donations by visiting

www.embraceme.org/give



Would you like to make a difference?

Taunton is home to magistrates', family and Crown courts, and the town's team chaplaincy is in the process of forming a group of chaplains initially to serve the magistrates' court.

The hope is to operate on one day each week, at both the morning and the afternoon sessions, with at least two chaplains from the team on duty; you will be able to choose the level of commitment you can offer.

Chaplains are there to listen, to serve - for example by pointing to sources of support and advice, and to hold people in their prayers; in all this they may have opportunities to discuss faith. Those who attend the court often need reassurance, comfort and hope for their future. Chaplains will also offer their presence and support to those who work within the courts, and it is with their welcome and permission that we enter.

There is a short new video 'Court Chaplaincy Recruitment' on our website at www.tauntontc.co.uk and that will tell you more.

Might this be something in your heart at this time? Previous experience in the legal world is not necessary, and training is of course provided. Though we are ecumenical in the chaplaincy, we use the resources of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and they will be running their 'Exploring Chaplaincy' foundation course over two days soon - on **14th September and 5th October**; this gives time to ponder and explore, and no commitment is expected at this stage.

If you would like to consider courts or other chaplaincy, please get in touch with the Chaplaincy Development Adviser, Revd Mike Haslam, at mike.haslam@bathwells.anglican.org. Or you may like to contact me at mgwhayes@gmail.com as I am always happy to talk about any aspect of this.

Michael

Michael Hayes,
Courts Chaplaincy team leader

The Taunton Cancer Research UK group are collecting at the motorway service station every weekend during the summer and are desperate for more collectors. If you could spare an hour any weekend, please ring Chris on 335303. Many thanks

DIARY DATES

SUN 8th From 9.45am
Online Sunday Service
10.00am
CW Holy Communion

MON 9th 9.00pm
Compline Service on Zoom

THURS 12th 10.00am -12.00pm
Open Church for Prayer

SAT 14th 10.00am
Footprints Walking Group
Meet at Dead Womans Ditch
Car Park

FUTURE DATES

WED 18th Aug—Stroll For The Soul Walking Group
SAT 21st Aug—Churchyard Gardening
WED 25th Aug—Mossy Church at the Wildside
SAT 28th Aug—Coffee Cake and Catch Up in
Church Hall

ST GEORGE'S **Contact Info**

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

Vicar

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Bethan

Administrator

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours Mon—Thurs 10-1pm

Peter

Churchwarden

Tel: 01823 257094 or 07761 407 433

Hilary

Churchwarden

Tel: 01823 976694 or 07460 471 514

Website: www.stgchurch.co.uk

Facebook: St Georges Wilton

Twitter: @StGeorgesWilton

Instagram: @StGeorgesWilton

YouTube: St George's Church Wilton

St George's

Events

Come and join us for our Coffee, Cake
& Catch Up on **Saturday 28th August**.

There will be several stalls safely spaced, with hand sanitizing available and windows kept open to ensure good ventilation.

Do get in touch with us if you are able to help bake a cake or in these Covid times, some mini individual cakes—what's your speciality? Maybe you cannot bake but you have some good quality donations of books and raffle prizes instead? If so, please bring it along on Sunday and put them on the table at the back of the church after the Sunday Services on 8th, 15th and 22nd August. That would be wonderful!

It will be so good to be together again so do come and join in the fun and fellowship and help us to raise some much needed funds!

For any enquiries, do contact either Rosa or the Church Office
office@stgchurch.co.uk

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

Mossy Church on the Wildside

**FREE* EVENT FOR FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-14**

EXPLORE: WOODLAND, MEADOWS & HABITATS

ENGAGE: FARM & WILD ANIMALS, NATURE & CAMPFIRES

CONNECT: OTHER FAMILIES, CREATION & THE CREATOR

25TH AUGUST

10AM-1PM

**@WILDSIDE EXPERIENCES,
HEMYOCK (BLACKDOWN HILLS)**

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO BOOK FROM
MOSSYCHURCHONTHEWILDSIDE.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK

*** OPTIONAL COLLECTION TAKEN ON THE DAY
FOR OUR HOSTS WILDSIDE EXPERIENCES**

What have you enjoyed so far this Summer?
Have you found any mossy marvels like all of the butterflies hatching or maybe a nice seashell?
We'd love to see a picture of any natural objects you find interesting. Mossy Church is all about getting outside and getting stuck into creation and being pointed to our Creator.

To help you explore, on the back of this page we have a scavenger hunt to take with you out and about. Will you find them all?

Don't forget to book your free place for our family event up on the Blackdown Hills - Mossy Church on the Wildside. It is going to be lots of fun.

We will meet animals, explore meadows and

woodland, do some fun activities, and have a picnic around the campfire.

Do share the event with any local families you know. It is FREE to book!

If you have any questions about the session, or anything else to do with Mossy Church, do drop us a message on our facebook page or email families@stgchurch.co.uk.

There will be lots more Mossy Church fun in the Autumn term and beyond so watch this space!



St George's Wilton
Mossy Church

S U M M E R S c a v e n g e r H u n t

Take a mossy moment today and see what amazing things you can spot in creation today. Have you noticed that nature is always changing, each thing takes it's turn. what new things can you spot?

B u z z y B e e



S e a g u l l



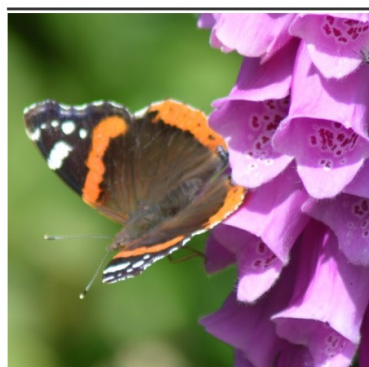
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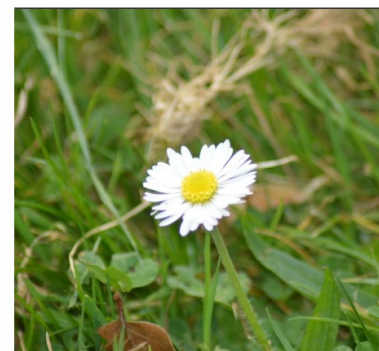
S t r a w b e r r y



B u t t e r f l y



D a i s y



H o r s e
o r P o n y



M o s s



S u n r i s e
(o r S u n s e t)



E x p l o r e ~ E n g a g e ~ C o n n e c t

ST GEORGE'S **Prayer** Space

Prayers this week

Everlasting God Help us to understand the way that you would like things to be done and to be ready to follow your ways until we too can enter the wide open doors of heaven. Almighty God you want us hold the needs of our sisters and brothers in Christ as dear to us as ourselves. Help us to love our neighbours as ourselves as we offer our thanks and our intercessions on behalf of the church here in the Taunton and throughout the world.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Creator God, you call us all to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit. Help us to demonstrate our love for your creation and the world in the way that we live. Open the hearts of those with power both elected and non-elected and give them compassion in all that they do for the good of the people that they lead.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Creator God we pray for all those on holiday this Summer despite the ongoing restrictions imposed because of the Pandemic. Thank you for the refreshment which holiday brings to their lives, for the freedom from routine and for the new experiences and opportunities they have as they explore our countryside and relax in our resorts. Thank you for the gift of your wonderful creation and help us to be good steward especially in our leisure time and also to continue to take all the necessary precautions for the safety of ourselves and others. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has healed so many in body, mind and spirit. We hold before you those still burdened, those seeking healing, those in need within the church and the world.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

God of power, hear our prayers, and through the ministry of your Son free us from the grip of the world and all that is evil. Lead us as we go forward into another week strengthened and upheld by your love, the knowledge of the Gospel and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Collect for Sunday 8th August

Lord of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,
but always to bring our prayers before you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Our **Prayer Circle** is a confidential way to ask for prayer for yourself or someone on your heart. If you have any prayers that you would like please do not hesitate to email
rachelmneal@btinternet.com

ST GEORGE'S **Pastoral** Care



If you feel that you would like to chat on the phone or for someone to be in touch from our Pastoral Care Team in the church, please either email me: rachelmneal@btinternet.com or Bethan in the office office@stgchurch.co.uk and she will pass on the message to me. I would be very pleased to hear from you. The uncertainty of these times has gone on a long time but the wonderful thing is that God never changes and he still continues to love us whatever our circumstances. If we put our hand into Jesus' hand he will grasp and hold it and give us strength.'

Rachel



Morning Prayer will be
back again on Wednesday 18th August
over on our YouTube channel from 8am

In Loving Memory

Merciful God we pray for those whose lives have been shattered by the death of someone close and dear to them. We pray for members of our natural and church families who have died and whose anniversary we remember now.

Dora Wyatt, Alfred Wyatt

Hold them in your eternal kingdom and may they rest peace and rise in glory.

Amen

