

# Sunday 5th May 2024

## 6th Sunday of Easter

Priest in Charge: Revd Joy Ludlow  
Email: joyeludlow@outlook.com / thornburybenefice@outlook.com  
Phone: 01454 419 229 / 01454 281 900



Church Wardens - If you need any help the church wardens are always contactable.  
Tel: Jenny Ovens(01454414727), Robin Gupta (01454 413650), Mike Dennett (01454 419082),  
Andrew Gazard (07831 849 742) and Sandra Grey (01454 260316).

## CALENDAR

### Friday 3rd May

7.30pm – Choir Practice

### Sunday 5th May

9:00am - Holy Communion at St Paul's

10:30am - \*Holy Communion at St Mary's

3:00pm - Refresh! at Shepperdine

### Monday 6th May

Art Trail finishes at St Paul's

### Tuesday 7th May

7:30pm - Bell ringing Practice

### Thursday 9th May

9:00am - Hopscotch at St Mary's

7.00pm – Ascension Day Sung Eucharist Service at St Mary's

### Saturday 11th May

10:00am - Dads and Kids at St Mary's Hall

7:30pm - Thornbury Choral Society Concert

### Sunday 12th May

8:00am - Spoken Holy Communion at St Arilda's

9:00am – Holy Communion at St Paul's

10:30am – \*All Age at St Mary's

6:00pm - Choral Evensong at St Mary's

\*Please note: most services at St Mary's will be live streamed

Livestreaming – If you are unable to make it to church, please do use the link below so you can be part of our worship. The camera records the person speaking, with some wider shots of the church.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA>

# NOTICES AND EVENTS

**Private Prayer** will be offered at St Paul's this Sunday, after the service and every 1st Sunday of the month.

**Ascension Day** - this year falls on Thursday 9 May. Because it always falls in midweek, 40 days after Easter, it is frequently sidelined. Yet it is one of the four Principal Feasts of the Church alongside Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Indeed Pentecost finds its fullest meaning only in the light of the Ascension. There will be a sung Eucharist in **St Mary's at 7.00pm on 9 May** to celebrate the Ascension.

**Electoral Roll** – The Electoral Roll revision is being finalised. If you would like to review your entry in the electoral roll please speak to a Churchwarden. Thank you.

**International Fairtrade Day- 11th May** Thornbury will be celebrating International Fairtrade day with an event in St Mary's shopping centre from 10am - 2:30pm. There will be samples to try and opportunities to find out where you can buy the products in the town. Music and short films will accompany the stalls of food and other products listed as Fairtrade.

**Ukrainian Families** - We are expecting a family of 7 more Ukrainians arriving in Thornbury shortly. Does anyone have a child's bed we could borrow or have as they will initially need to sleep in with their parents. Thankyou. Jacquie Rinaldi 01454602150

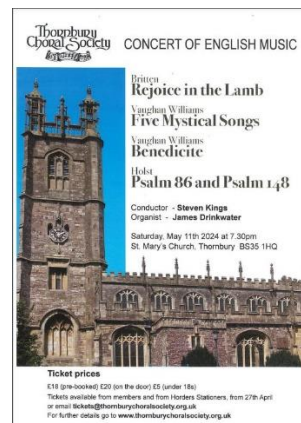
**Camping donations** - We are organising a camp in Devon for the local Ukrainian refugee children during the Summer Holidays. If you have a spare tent , sleeping bags , camping equipment , torches that you no longer need please let me know.  
Jacquie 01454602150

**Church Hall** - We wonder if you have a piece of kitchen worktop in your garage or shed that you do not need? We need a piece about 625 to 650 mm long - we don't mind what the design is like! If you have a base unit that the worktop fits on to that would be even better! We can collect. Please let Jenny O know.

## **Thornbury Choral Society**

Please join the Choral Society at St Mary's Church, Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HQ on Saturday **11th May** for an evening of beautiful music.

Tickets are available from Horders or email [tickets@thornburychoralsociety.org.uk](mailto:tickets@thornburychoralsociety.org.uk) or you purchase (by card) on the door.



**Songs of Praise** - David Primrose will be on Songs of Praise at 1.15pm Sunday **12th May** from Litchfield Cathedral.

---



**Donations can not be left at Thornbury Baptist Church from 1st May until further notice.**

**Donations can be placed in the basket at Tesco, the Coop at Thornbury Fields, Morrisons Oakleaze Road, or at Turnberrie's every Wednesday Between 9.30 and 11.00am.**

### **May 2024 Shopping List**

Stock is running low on the following items. Items in bold are in short supply.

#### **Washing up liquid**

Tins of tomatoes

Tins of potatoes

Noodles

Instant meals

Sponge puddings

Savoury snacks crisps etc

Instant coffee

Toilet rolls

Male & female shower gel

Male and female deodorant

Laundry tablets

Shampoo

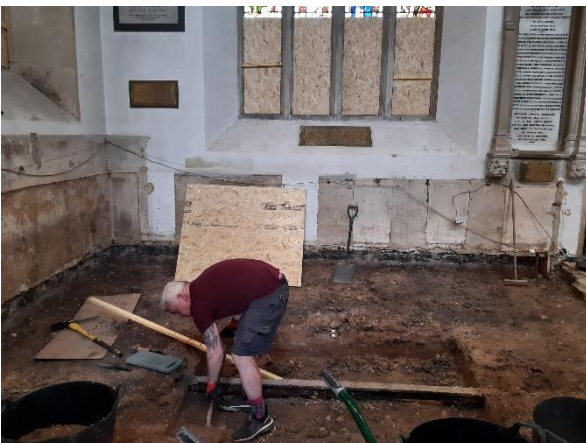
Please make sure all items are in date and unopened.

**Thank you for your on-going support!**

---

## CHURCH RE-ORDERING

We've entered the third week of our ambitious six-month re-ordering project, and the relentless excavation efforts persist. The excavation will continue for an estimated duration of another 6 to 8 weeks. Commendable progress is being made by Ellis and Co as they tackle the formidable task of removing the aging concrete from the northwest corner.



The old post box by the servery is now unavailable and a new post box for paperwork only (not money) can be found at the bottom of the office stairs in St Mary's. There is also the post box outside behind the main gate.

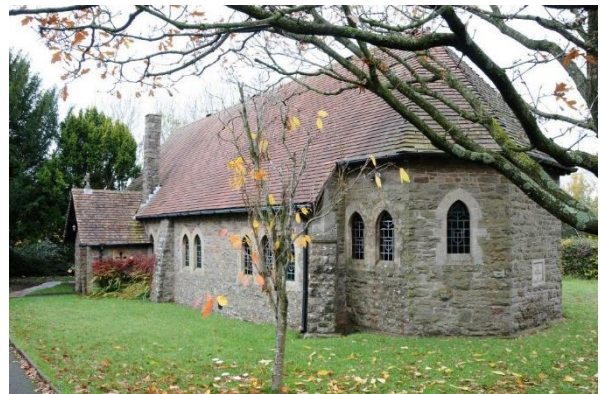
The Cleaning Team is seeking volunteers to help prepare the church for Sunday Worship. If you can spare some time this **Friday (3rd May) at 4pm**, we would greatly appreciate your assistance. Please reach out to Jenny O if you're able to lend a hand. Thank you for your support!

Please do speak to any of the Church wardens if you have any questions or concerns about the works. We will continue to keep you updated as work continues at St Mary's, please do follow the Benefice Facebook page.

## ST PAUL'S

Whilst St Mary's is undergoing the reordering works St Paul's will be hosting more events. Please see here for the highlights.

**2nd May - 6th May** - Thornbury Art Trail  
**Sunday 19th May** - Open Afternoon - Plant Swap



---

## CHURCH FAMILY

### **St Mary's School Contact:**

St Mary's C of E VA School, Headteacher Mrs. S Gillman  
Email: [stmarysthornbury@gmail.org.uk](mailto:stmarysthornbury@gmail.org.uk)  
Phone: 01454 866 760

**Help needed with weddings and funerals at St. Mary's and/or St. Paul's** - Join us in supporting our community during important life events like weddings and funerals. Your help as a verger ensures each service is personal and seamless. Assist with setting up the church, greeting attendees, and more. If you can spare even a little time, please reach out to Reverend Joy or Lizzie Jones for more information on how you can contribute. Training and support provided. Contact Lizzie at [lifeyvents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:lifeyvents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com).

**Bereaved or need Pastoral Care?** - As a church community we always try to be there for any person who is in need or has experienced a loss. We would hope that someone from the church family would be round to visit you following a bereavement within the first few days. This might not always be Revd Joy but could also be a visit from Revd Sheila Fisher

or another member of the ministry team, or friends from within the Church community. We are lucky to have a wonderful church team and family to help each other through difficult times. This also makes it possible for our vicar to visit all in need that are not yet part of the family. Please do let Revd Joy ([joyeludlow@outlook.com](mailto:joyeludlow@outlook.com)) and Lizzie Jones([liffevents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:liffevents.thornburybenefice@outlook.com)) know as soon as possible following a bereavement and we will do all that we can to help. If you specifically want a visit from a member of the clergy, please do get in touch. We are never too busy, but not all people need the same things, and it helps for us to hear from you. If you or someone you know is in hospital, struggling in isolation or has cause for concern, please let the office know and we can pass on information as appropriate.

**The Office** - The office in St Mary's will be open during the hours of 10am and 2pm, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All messages will be dealt with as soon as possible. Please send newsletter items to the office by 10am on the Wednesday. Email: [thornburybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:thornburybenefice@outlook.com). Thankyou.

---

## PAGE OF PRAYER

Those who have asked for our prayers at this time:

Gareth Mullinex, Angela Swan, Janet Morrish, Joyce Barge, Verity Barker, Phil Jones, Sylvia Zelle, Jean Boakes, Stuart Elliott, Gill and Chris Platt.

Those for whom we regularly pray: Joan Cole, Dorothy Long, Jean Thompson, Emma Stuart and Venetia Grant.

Recently departed: We pray for all those who mourn the loss of their friends and loved ones.

---

**Readings: Isaiah 55. 1-11, Acts 10.44-end, John 15. 9-17**

---

## GOSPEL READING

John 15. 9-17

9As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

---

# FOR OUR

**FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT** - Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, come in many forms and have generally got a bad press, mainly because five of the 2,000 identified species can produce some of the deadliest toxins known to science.

At the same time, they are among the oldest organisms in the world, dating back 2.1bn years, and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

Cyanobacteria were the first organisms to use photosynthesis, turning carbon dioxide into oxygen. They are responsible for creating the oxygen-rich atmosphere that enabled life on Earth to flourish and humans to evolve.

In their untold trillions, in almost every environment where there is water, even on damp rocks in deserts, they continue this valuable service, keeping the atmosphere safe for mammals to breathe.

But in nutrient-rich water, created by farm waste or sewage released into rivers and lakes, blue-green algae multiply fast, especially in warm sunshine. This is dangerous in still waters where they form dense rafts of scum that deprive the waters below of oxygen, killing fish. In some circumstances they also create toxins that can poison animals and humans that drink it. Only laboratory tests can establish whether such algae blooms are toxic but anyone seeing one is advised to avoid it and report its presence.

**FOR OUR WORLD** – Of the 1.2 million people living in Karamoja, Uganda, more than 518,000 are facing critical food insecurity. Of these, 90,000 are at emergency levels without food to eat. ‘For the first time in three years, all the nine districts of Karamoja are at crisis level or worse,’ says Narem Sarah Kotido, Chairperson of the local District Disaster Management Committee.

We pray. Lift up all those who are facing hunger. Pray that they will have enough to eat. Pray for the rains and the harvests in Uganda. Ask God for healthy crop yields and that there will be plenty of food to provide good nutrition for communities.

**FOR COMMUNITY** – Traditionally, on May Day, 1st May, celebrations included dancing around the maypole and crowning a May Queen. The earliest recording of dancing around the Maypole was in Wales in the 14th century, and this tradition soon spread. We hope whatever you do this May Day weekend you have a wonderful time.

***The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine consists of the ecclesiastical parish of Thornbury and the ecclesiastical parish of Oldbury-on-Severn with Shepperdine. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Thornbury is registered charity no. 1137265.***