

AROUND THE SPIRE

A photograph of a church with a tall, dark spire and a graveyard in the foreground. The church has a gabled roof and a cross on top. The graveyard is filled with many small, dark headstones. The scene is set in a rural area with trees in the background.

THE PARISH OF SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE,
QUEDGELEY and KINGSWAY

February 2019, Number 42

PARISH PROGRAMME for February 2019

HERE ARE THE MAIN EVENTS IN THE PARISH THIS MONTH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd:

Said Eucharist 09.30am

STJ Family SERVICE for old and young alike 10.30am. COME ALONG and JOIN US – as well as our act of worship it is opportunity to meet and greet one another, and partake of refreshments afterwards.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10th:

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17th:

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24th:

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

Refreshments and social time after all Sunday morning services

Chatterbox, Tuesday, each week, 9:30 – 11:00am

Wednesday Services, every week

Parish Eucharist, 10.00am with refreshments and social to follow

Said Eucharist, 7.30pm

ChitChat, Thursday, each week, 10:00 – 12:00 noon

Bellringing Practice, Thursday, each week, 7:30 – 9:00pm

Further details of weekday services and events are to be found in the WEEKLY NEWSLETTER published each Sunday. Copies are always available in the Church.

COPY FOR September MAGAZINE - to Father Hugh no later than Sunday 13th February.

Electronic or Back Copies can be made available if required. Please email the Editor, hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk, if required.

Editorial –

“Lord, teach us to pray!”... part four

WHAT DO WE PRAY?

The year that I was ordained, 1967, a new book on Prayer was published, called THE USE OF PRAYING, it was written by a Methodist minister, Revd Neville Ward.

Without exaggeration, I would suggest that this is a true classic on the subject we are considering in this series. I remember that John Yates who was Bishop of Gloucester when I came to this diocese, saying that he hoped all the clergy in his diocese would have this book on their shelves.

It is a book which has so much to say to all Christians both clergy and lay people about this subject which is at the heart of our Faith. Although it is likely to be out of print now, I guess it is still available from 'Amazon' or similar outlets.

So to answer this question of WHAT DO WE PRAY?

I have always found it to be important to seek to keep my prayer life balanced. Of course I am only human and don't always get it right, but I find that this formula does help, using the word ACTS.

Let me explain - each letter represents a part of our prayer life in this way -

A = ADORATION - to start a period of prayer to saying to God how we adore him for who he is as our creator – I often use the words from the carol 'O come let us adore him' in this context. If we can do this it gets our time of prayer off to a good start.

C = CONFESSION – it's not always easy to say 'sorry' in life, and not always easy to say sorry to God because we have let him down! But we do know, don't we, that we have done just that and it is good to say so!

T = THANKSGIVING – how often as a child I was ticked off for not saying 'Thank you!' I am sure we all have lots that we to give thanks in our lives, and it is good to spell this out! So to say Thank you to God does seem very important.

S = SUPPLICATION – what this really means in our lives as Christians is 'ASKING GOD FOR THINGS! And of course the list is likely to be quite

long for most of us! Yes, we do ask God for people and things which are important in our lives.

One way of doing this which I find helpful is to ask God in a balanced way with a calendar – some daily, some weekly and some monthly.

AND SO IN CONCLUSION -

As we come to the end of this series of four aspects of prayers I do commend it to you. I have been made aware over these last few thoughts on prayer just how many people do share my quest for a better prayer life, and I am sure I speak for my clergy colleagues here at St James when I say we are always willing and keen to help one another on this – THE HEARTBEAT OF THE CHRISTIAN!

So this comes with my love and prayers!

FATHER HUGH, your Editor

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## ***“Parish Away Day”***

On Saturday 30th March 2019 we shall be holding an away-day at Prinknash Abbey, from 10am to 4pm. We want to think, talk, and pray together about the work we do as a Church, and what we shall need to do in the future - so we have called the day “Looking to the future”. We hope very much that lots of you will come and take part; there are many things to give thanks for, and lots of thoughts to share. We hope to have a guest speaker to lead and inspire us on the day.

Some of you will know Prinknash; it is not too far from Quedgeley, and there will be transport available for those who need a lift. There is no charge for the day itself - the meeting room is provided for our use - but the abbey team hope that we will make use of their cafe for coffee, lunch etc. (Fr Hugh & Fr Ian have already researched the cafe, and also the well-stocked bookshop!) There may also be time to stroll around the grounds and enjoy the views.

Do please think seriously about taking part - everyone has a part to play in the life of our Church - make a note of the date now.

# *A Letter from Canon John*

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It was lovely to see some new faces from Kingsway at the opening of our new church office recently at the Kingsway Community Centre.

The office will be open every Saturday morning from 11.00am -12noon primarily for enquiries regarding baptisms, weddings, blessings etc. Our church office in Saint James' Church will continue to operate on a Wednesday and Saturday morning too.

Another new venture taking place this month is our toddler church or Jamie's Ark. It is aimed at our pre-school children. There will be worship, music, stories and craft activity all aimed at the under 5s and will take place in the church once a month from 1.30pm -2.30pm. Revd. Jenny d'Esterre along with volunteers will be leading on this.

Chatterbox, our community group will continue to operate every week as normal.

Our family service held once a month continues to thrive and this month the youngsters will be making Christingles we've a different theme each month. Do come and join us – if you haven't so far. You'll find there is a great deal going on. Apart from the normal weekly activities we also need to raise money for the upkeep of the church. I'll be explaining how you can help with this in future reports.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Please visit our website, Facebook page or 'A Church near you' for the latest information...

[...www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)

[...https://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley/](https://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley/)

[...https://www.achurchnearyou.com/](https://www.achurchnearyou.com/)

With every blessing and prayers,

Fr John

Rector and Parish Priest of Quedgeley and Kingsway.  
Canon of Gloucester Cathedral

# Saint James CHATTERBOX

*...time for fun!*



[www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)

Parent, Baby and Toddler 'Drop –in' St. James Church Quedgeley  
Every Tuesday 9.30am - 11.00am

**St. James' Chatterbox**  
*(time for fun...!)*

Parent, baby  
and toddler  
'DROP-IN'  
Every Tuesday  
Saint James' Church,  
School Lane Quedgeley.  
**9.30am - 11.00am**  
Lots of activities including  
crafts & refreshments

Keep up with our events and activities by visiting our Facebook page.

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

Saint James' Quedgeley & Kingsway

# JAMIE'S ARK

(Toddler church for pre-school children)



Worship  
Music & Song

TUESDAY

12TH FEBRUARY

1.30PM - 2.30PM

Worship & Praise

St. James' Quedgeley

Music, Craft and Snack



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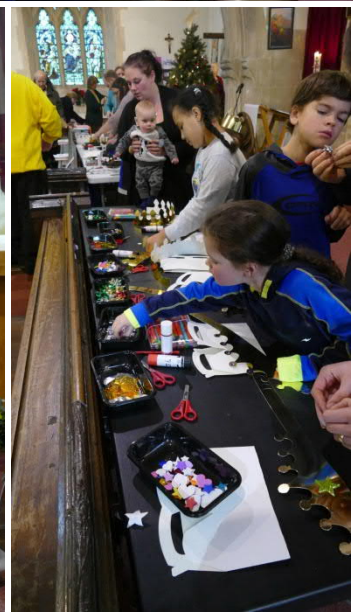
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SAINT JAMES' CHURCH AT WORK AND PLAY...





SAINT JAMES CHIT-CHAT

Relax and meet new friends !



EVERY THURSDAY AT SAINT JAMES CHURCH
QUEDGELEY 10.00AM - 12NOON FOR THE NOT
SO YOUNG BUT YOUNG AT HEART!

Saint James' Chit -Chat

Relax and meet new friends!

Thursday Morning
10.00am -12noon

Saint James' Church

School Lane

Quedgeley

GL2 4PN



Refreshments and newspapers available.
Selection of books and board games
You need never be bored!



If you would like more information on Chit Chat then please visit our website
www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk We are also on Twitter – so join us there
@StChatter1

Give us a ring on 01452 721062 if you'd like more information.

Jackie



Saint James' Church
 Quedgeley & Kingsway
 are hosting a
Wedding Fayre
Sunday 24th March 2019
Quedgeley Community Centre
School Lane Quedgeley GL2 4PN
11.00am -4pm
Refreshments available

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## ***FROM THE REGISTERS IN DECEMBER***

HOLY BAPTISM:

DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>, WIKTORIA EMILIA HOCKUL

"Welcome to the Lord's Family"

FUNERAL:

NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>, LESLEY HOOPER (68)

DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>, GORDON WHITE (86)

DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>, CHRISTINE MAYALL (84)

"Rest Eternal grant to her O Lord"

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20th Anniversary of 'Open the Book', 1999-2019

During this anniversary year, the national organisation of Open the Book hopes to reach more and more children in their primary school years to enable them to experience Bible stories. Many teams of volunteers from local churches already venture out regularly, equipped with costumes, scenery and props, to present Bible stories specially adapted for children, but it would be wonderful if more teams were available.

St James' Open the Book team members really enjoy taking part in the performances they put on at the two local schools they attend. Audience participation is encouraged and each week a few pupils are invited to join us on stage to take part as well. We appreciate the reaction we get from the children, which often brings a smile to our faces and indeed shows us how some of our scenes are received by them. Soon after I first joined our team, a pupil thought we should be dressed in black and white, because our stories were from a long time ago. I believe the children had previously been watching an old film from the days before colour television. In the story entitled, 'Tea at Auntie's House' which is based on Jesus' visit to the house of Mary and Martha, Martha is very busy in the kitchen cooking and cleaning. Our props included a broom and a duster, and the young actor helping us enquired whether we had a Dyson to use. It had to be explained that electrical appliances didn't exist in Jesus' day. However, although we do try to convey the historical period as much as we can, I am sure that, many a time, children and staff in the audience will notice inaccuracies and anachronisms in our props and dress. Sometimes these will occur unwittingly, but also, sometimes, it is fun for the children when we use modern, colourful props. Our story called, 'In the Beginning', of when the world began, and our story of Noah's Ark come alive with lots of cuddly toy



animals, which the children love.

The stories we tell are from The Lion Storyteller Bible written by Bob Hartman and illustrated by Krisztina Kallai Nagy and the Open the Book Bible Storybooks 1, 2 and 3.

Services of 'Thanksgiving and Celebrating our Future' will be taking place throughout 2019 at different venues in the UK. All Open the Book teams and everyone at churches and schools involved with Open the Book are invited to attend.

Gloucester Cathedral will be holding a service on Tuesday 14th May, 2019 from 2 – 4 pm. Bookings will be available in the New Year; details can be found at www.openthebook.net/events

St James Church Open the Book Team (2009 – 2019)
Registered Team Leaders: Liz Keenan; Jane Rogers

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## ***“Times and Seasons” : Saints in February***

1<sup>st</sup>: Brigid, Abbess of Kildare born in the 5th century, five miles from Kildare. She is reputed to have been baptised by St Patrick, before becoming a nun at the abbey of Kildare, eventually being elected the Abbess. The stories of her portray a woman of great compassion, living a life of prayer and devotion. By her prayers and miracles, she is reputed to have influenced the formation of the church throughout Ireland, where she is a patron saint. She died in the year 525.

Anskar, Apostle of the North. He was a monk of Corbie near Amiens, who after the conversion of the king of Denmark to Christianity, went to Schleswig and attempted to start a Christian school there. He was expelled by the locals but went on to Sweden, where he is reputed to have built the first church. In 832 he was consecrated Bishop of Hamburg, and later Archbishop of Bremen. He returned to Denmark and travelled widely through Scandinavia and was much-loved for his work among the poor and in mitigating the slave trade. He died in 865 and is the patron saint of Denmark.

14<sup>th</sup>: Cyril & Methodius, Missionaries. These two brothers were born in Thessalonica (N. Greece), and were both talented linguists. They excelled in Slavonic – a language not written in an alphabet commonly understood – but they set about translating the Scriptures and various liturgical texts. They established the Church in Moravia, but in so doing entered into the controversy between local and centralised religious practices (just as happened in England between the Celtic and Roman traditions!). The brothers were in Rome in 869, seeking papal approval for their work, when Cyril died. Methodius returned to Moravia as Archbishop and continued the work; he died in 885. Together they are seen as patron saints of ecumenism between the Eastern and Western branches of Christendom.

17<sup>th</sup>: Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda. He was born at Acholi in Uganda in 1922. His early years were spent as a goatherd, but he showed an ability to learn and absorb knowledge when given the opportunity. He trained as a teacher, was converted to Christianity, and in 1956 was ordained. He became Bishop of North Uganda in 1969, and Archbishop in 1974. Idi Amin had come to power as the result of a coup and his harsh rule was much-criticised by the Church. Following the publication of a letter which protested at the virtual institution of state murder, Janani and two government ministers were found dead following a car accident. It soon emerged that they had died on the

implicit instructions of Amin. Janani's commitment to Christ and the things he believed in led him to his martyrdom on this day in 1977.

23<sup>rd</sup>: Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna. Polycarp had been Bishop of Smyrna on the Adriatic coast of Asia Minor for over forty years when the persecution of Christians began. He was arrested and given the opportunity to renounce his faith and so save his life. His response was "I have been Christ's servant for eighty-six years and he has done me no harm. Can I now blaspheme my King and Saviour?" He was immediately burnt at the stake. His mortal remains were buried outside the city and the practice began of celebrating the Eucharist over his burial place on the anniversary of his death, a practice which also grew over the martyrs' tombs in the Roman catacombs. Polycarp died in the year 155.

27<sup>th</sup>: George Herbert, priest & hymn-writer. Born in 1593 into the aristocratic Pembroke family, George Herbert went up to Cambridge in 1614 and eventually became a Fellow of Trinity College. At the age of twenty-five he became Public Orator in the university and then a Member of Parliament, apparently destined for a life at court. To everyone's surprise he decided to be ordained and after spending time with his friend Nicholas Ferrar at Little Gidding, he was made deacon in 1626. He married in 1629, and was priested in 1630 and given the cure of souls in the parish of Bemerton, near Salisbury, where he spent the rest of his short life. He was a prolific writer and his hymns are still popular across the English-speaking world. His treatise "The Country Parson" on the priestly life, and his poetry, especially "The Temple", earned him a leading place in English literature. He never neglected his parish and encouraged attendance at morning & evening prayer which were said daily, and the weekly celebration of the Eucharist, calling to mind the words of his hymn: "Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee..." He died on this day in 1633.

NB: 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The climax of the Christmas season and the day when we recall the prophets Simeon and Anna proclaiming the infant Christ as the "Light of the World", and foretelling the sadness that would befall his Mother.

It is highly appropriate that this day is marked by the "Christingle" tradition: "Christ is our Light".

*To be continued... Fr. Ian*

# Who's Who in the Parish

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CHURCH OFFICE, in the St James' Church vestry

...for the Calling of Banns of Marriage; Holy Baptisms; Marriages etc.

WEDNESDAY: 5.30 – 6.30pm

SATURDAY: 9.00 – 10.00am

CHURCH OFFICE, in the Kingsway Community Centre

SATURDAY: 11.00 – 12.00 noon

www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley

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