

St John the Evangelist

1st Sunday after Trinity

Signpost Weekly

23rd June 2019

Dear Friends,

Please join me this week as we remember all who are preparing for ordination and for significant new steps in ministry. We especially pray for Rev Dan as he prepares for his priesting on Saturday and his first Eucharist on Sunday.

Dan will now be able to take the whole of a service and will soon be taking his first weddings. He remains at St John's for the rest of his curacy which is up to another three years. He will be receiving significant support during the vacancy, although you are fortunate to have Dan with you to offer some continuity. We are also welcoming two more curates to our Deanery, Jo and Margaret, who will be deaconed on Sunday. So please do keep them in your prayers as they begin ordained life. *Rev Sharon*



We all have something to offer

There is a story told about Sir Michael Costa who was an Italian-born conductor and composer who became well known and popular in England during the nineteenth century. It is said that one day he was conducting a rehearsal in which the orchestra was joined by a great chorus. About halfway through the rehearsal, with trumpets blaring, drums rolling, and violins singing, the piccolo player muttered to himself, "What good am I doing? I might just as well not be playing. Nobody can hear me anyway." So he kept the instrument to his mouth, but he made no sound. Within moments, the conductor cried, "Stop! Stop! Where's the piccolo?" Michael Costa could tell that the piccolo was not playing. Something was missing and because of that the performance was incomplete.

I am sure there are times when we can all identify with that piccolo player. There are times when we may feel insignificant and useless. Whatever age we are there is the temptation to look at other people who seem to have more talent than we have, who are better at things than we are, who are more confident or skilled than we are - and to think we don't matter or that our contribution doesn't count. Perhaps we are tempted sometimes just to settle back and let somebody else do the work. We reason that what we have to offer won't make much difference anyway, or that because other people can do it much better than we can, that there is no point in us joining in.

I take heart from the story of the feeding of the five thousand. In the middle of that story we read of Andrew, Peter's brother saying: 'There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?' (John 6:9). This is a story of someone giving what he has to the Lord and about Jesus then using what is offered to feed a multitude of hungry people (John 6:1-14).

What do we learn from that? Surely one thing we learn is that each of us has something important to offer which God can take and bless and use. Whether our talent is great or small, the performance isn't complete until we do our best with what we have and until we offer our lives and our gifts to God and ask him to use us for his glory and to serve others.

With warm greetings,

The Right Revd Peter Hancock
Bishop of Bath and Wells

COLLECTS AND READINGS

23rd June Isaiah 65.1-9; Galatians 3.23-end; Luke 8.26-39

Collect: God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Post Communion: Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

30th June Acts 12.1-11; Matthew 16.13-19

Collect: Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life: grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, 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.

Post Communion: Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Liz in the office know by noon on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage

Couples preparing for marriage, and including Marie & Cameron who were united in marriage yesterday.

Baptisms:

We pray for all preparing for baptism, parents, & godparents,

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Betty Player, Christine Marston, Val & George Crawford, Maureen & Ian Thompson, Pete, Brenda

For those who have died:

Sheila Pople, Violet Maidment

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Eric Jenkins, Bertram (Roy) Porter, Margaret (Pat) Carpenter

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Give thanks for the gift of creation and pray for wisdom and perseverance for wise stewardship of that gift.

Monday:

For the volunteers working in charity shops

Tuesday:

For Wade House, and all who need emergency accommodation

Wednesday:

For those seeking work

Thursday:

Give thanks for Little Angles, Toddlers and our ministry with all young families

Friday:

Pray for all preparing for ordination this weekend.

Saturday:

Pray for Rev Dan and others to be priested today



Next Week

**Rev Dan will be ordained priest at Wells Cathedral next
Saturday 29th June at 3pm.**

**All are welcome –
the cathedral is a big space - and Rev Dan would love your
support!**

**Rev Dan will preside at his first communion on Sunday 30 June at 10am at
St John's. Please stay for tea/coffee and cake with Dan and his family to
celebrate this important occasion**

Supporting Suzy!

**Suzy Kirkham is a student at Trinity
Theological college in Bristol and will
be with us on her summer
placement until
Sunday July 7th**

**Suzy will be sharing in activities
with Rev Sharon and Rev Dan and
experiencing the realities of parish
ministry!**

Thank you

**Many thanks again to all who
performed and helped at the mini
music marathon last week.**

**With a massive thank you to all who
came to watch, support and donate.**

We raised a fantastic £520

Somerset Sight is looking for a reliable and friendly volunteer to befriend a lovely elderly lady who is blind and lives near Highbridge. The visits would be once a fortnight for a couple of hours for company for her, reading and possibly doing crosswords together. Please contact Claire Packwood, Volunteer Visitor Co-ordinator on 01643 842972 who will introduce the volunteer and set up the visits. *(mileage will be paid)*

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Rev'd Preb Sharon Crossman 789290
Training Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194
Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

JUNE

Sun 23rd 8am Communion 9.30am Communion

Tues 25th 10.00am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 26th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 27th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

**Sat 29th 3pm Priesting of Rev Dan in Wells cathedral – all welcome.
Please arrive before 2.45pm**

Sun 30th 10am Rev Dan presiding at his First Eucharist *Please note there is no 8am service*

JULY

Tues 2nd 10am Toddlers in church hall

7.30pm Baptism Preparation

Wed 3rd 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 4th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 7th 8am Communion 9.30am Communion 3pm Baptism

Tues 9th 10am Toddlers in church hall

7.30pm Guild of Servers

Wed 10th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 11th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sat 13th 4pm Renewal of vows service

Sun 14th 8am Communion 9.30am Communion

Tues 16th 10.00am Toddlers in church hall – Last session before summer break

Wed 17th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 18th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall - Last session before summer break

To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail:

stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com or leave a message on 01278 780633

by noon on Thursday

Parish office opening hours

Wednesday 9.30am -2.30pm, Thursday 12 noon - 2.30pm, Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Term time only

Please ring in advance