
This Week Around the Benefice

Tue 4 - 10.30am Pause for Prayer
at The Vicarage

Tue 4 - 2.00pm **NO** 'Craft & a Cuppa'

Tue 4 - 2.30 pm Mothers' Union AGM
at St Stephen's

Wed 5 - 10.00 am Holy Communion
at St Stephen's

Fri 7 - 10.00 am Coffee Morning
at St Stephen's

Fri 7 - 4.30 pm - 6.00 pm **F.A.N. Club**
(Years 1-6) at St Stephen's

Fri 7 - 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm **S.M.I.L.E. group**
(girls, Year 7+) at The Vicarage

Fri 7 - 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm **IF group**
(boys, Year 7+) at St Stephen's

Band of Brothers. On **Sat 15 Feb** a men's day is taking place at St Stephen's Church, starting at **9 am** with a **cooked breakfast**. During the day, there will be a **trip** to catch a little of the Wydean Forest Rally and a light lunch. The day will finish with a **Pie and a Pint supper** and a **movie**. Please feel free to come along and join us for any part(s) of the day. For more info speak to Mike (822286) or Chris (719438).

Bishop Michael in the Forest. Fri 28 Feb start at 6:30 pm at Christchurch with **Evening Prayer**, followed by **Supper** (including pre-submitted questions). Sat 1 March starts with **Morning Prayer** (8.30 am) at **St Stephen's** followed by **Men's Breakfast** at 9am. The day will continue at St John's Primary, Coleford with **Teaching Sessions** from 11 am - 4 pm. The day will conclude with **Evening Prayer**.

Matthew's Gospel. Next **Sunday (9 Feb)** from **6.00 pm** at St Stephen's, a video of the gospel of Matthew will be shown. As the lectionary focuses on Matthew this year, the idea is to listen to the entire gospel. The video lasts about 2.5 hours. With a break, it is expected to finish about 9.00 pm. Contact Mike (822286).

ELECTORAL ROLL The Electoral Roll's for all three parishes are due to be revised before the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs). If your name is already on the Roll, you don't need to do anything (unless there are changes to your address and/or telephone number). If you are not on the Roll and wish to be, please take a form or ask the relevant Electoral Roll Officer for one. They need to be returned at the latest 3 weeks before the relevant APCM.

Electoral Roll Officers: St John's (and St Michael's): **Jennifer Lang**; St Stephen's (and Bilson): **Rachel Witham**; St Eth's: **Ann Ladd**.

APCMs: St John's: Sunday 6 April, 3.30 pm
St Stephen's: Sunday 27 April, 4.00 pm
St Eth's: Tuesday 29 April, 7.30 pm

Last dates for forms: **St John's:** Sun 16 March;
St Stephen's: Sun 6 April; **St Eth's:** Tue 8 April.

The **Book Library** at the back of St Stephen's has a wide variety of Christian books to borrow, the collection of books has been revamped and bookmarks for reviews have been placed on the stall. **Please do make use of this resource** and if you read a book (or have previously read one of those on offer), please do leave a review to help guide others!

There are several events planned so far during **Fairtrade Fortnight** (Feb 24 - March 9). The All Age Worship service (St Stephen's) on Feb 23 will focus on Fairtrade, the **Fairtrade BakeOff** will take place the same day. You **must use Fairtrade sugar**, and entries will be judged based on the **number of Fairtrade ingredients** and **overall taste and creativity**. Please bring along packets of Fairtrade items that you have used to showcase the variety of Fairtrade products available. Baked goods will be eaten for pudding at the Fellowship Lunch.

The **"Big Brew" coffee morning** is at St Stephen's on **Sat 8 March from 11 am till 3 pm**. Cakes, light lunches, activities, **Fairtrade displays and stalls**, a **chocolate fountain** and a **GIANT banana split** (at 1pm). Please come along and INVITE your friends! For posters, please contact Rachel (719438).

Easter Eggs and Valentine's Chocolates
2 eggs are available from **The Real Easter Egg**, one with chocolate buttons and an Easter story booklet (RRP £3.99) and a second larger egg, a bar of orange chocolate and an olive wood praying cross (RRP £9.99). Eggs will be ordered on request, the more ordered, the cheaper they will be. Contact Rachel to order.

For any **Valentine's gifts or chocolates**, please contact Rachel, there's a poster at St Stephen's with some ideas, alongside the stall which already contains some lovely gifts. If flowers are required, **Fairtrade Roses** are on sale at various shops, including the Co-op. Look for the Fairtrade logo on any chocolates you buy!