

Open Space

SAINT STEPHENS SOUNDWELL

MAY 2023

The Coronation of King Charles III



THE Coronation will be a historic moment in the life of our nation, a time to reflect on our history, celebrate who we are and look to our future.

AT ITS CENTRE is a Christian service in which His Majesty will be anointed as King. It will be rooted in longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism, and is a historic moment in the life of our nation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will lead the Coronation ceremony which will be steeped in centuries of tradition and rich in Christian symbols and values, as well as reflecting on The King's role today and looking towards the future.

His Majesty the King is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, and therefore, he appoints archbishops, bishops and deans of cathedrals on the advice of the Prime Minister.

At his Coronation he will also assume another title: **Defender of the Faith.**

During the service, King Charles will be asked, as his mother was, in 1953, to affirm these two questions from the Archbishop of Canterbury:

“Will you to your power cause Law and Justice, in Mercy, to be executed in all your judgements?” and “Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel?”

These are significant oaths, so please do pray for our new King, because we know, don't we, that defending or sharing our faith doesn't always come naturally.

THE Coronation Service will take place on the morning of Saturday 6th May 2023 at Westminster Abbey.

The ceremony is rooted in a tradition that can be traced back to 973 and the coronation of King Edgar by St Dunstan, but will also reflect the way the monarchy continues to evolve and the role of the King today.

Continued overleaf>

Open Space

MAY 2023



Mission Partners with St Stephens:

Beloved
Bristol City Centre Soup Run
Bristol Schools Connection
Bristol/Uganda Link
Christian Aid
Community of the Sisters of the Church
Emmaus
Harvest for The Hungry
One25 Project

St Stephens

Church Road
Soundwell
Bristol BS16 4RH
0117 956 6257

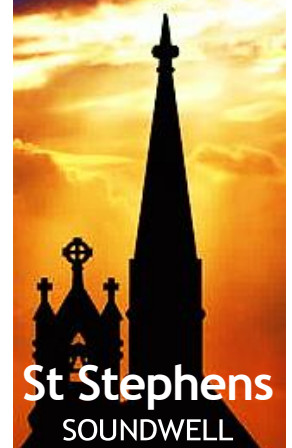
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soundwell

@SoundwellChurch

CHARITY NUMBER
1131503



Readings & Collects

FOR MAY 2023

SUNDAY 07 MAY 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55–end; Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16
1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14
RISEN CHRIST, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SUNDAY 14 MAY 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22–31; Psalm 66:7–end
1 Peter 3:13–end; John 14:15–21
RISEN CHRIST, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THURSDAY 18 MAY Ascension Day

Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15–end; Luke 24:44–end
RISEN CHRIST, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and for ever. Amen.

SUNDAY 21 MAY 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6–14; Psalm 68:1–10, 32–end
1 Peter 4:12–14; John 17:1–11
RISEN ASCENDED LORD, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SUNDAY 28 MAY Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21; Psalm 104:26–36, 37b
1 Corinthians 12:3b–13; John 7:37–39
RISEN CHRIST, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Coronation of King Charles III

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Throughout the Coronation Weekend, themes of community life, volunteering and service will be high-lighted and celebrated both nationally and locally.



Broadcasting live from the grounds of Windsor Castle, the Coronation Concert in the evening of Sunday 7 May, will bring together music icons, contemporary stars, a world-class orchestra and art performances in celebration of this historic occasion.

We hope that this might be a moment for the nation and many around the world to encounter the person of Jesus Christ, the servant King, and hear His call to each of us to serve others.

After having spoken to a good number of our Church family, we have decided to allow time for each of us to join in the Coronation Service from our own homes.

Don't forget to sing with gusto and join in a loud Amen at appropriate times.

Coronation Big Lunch

AT 1pm-ish on Saturday, after the service on TV, we can gather in the grounds of the church for a picnic – our *Coronation Big Lunch*.

Please bring your own food and drinks and something to sit on!

If the weather isn't so great, then we will picnic in the church hall instead.

This leaves you free to join your neighbourhood parties and gatherings that may well take place later or the next day.

We offer our prayers for King Charles III and the Royal Family for this important occasion.

Every blessing! **LISA**

A message from the Archbishops

Dear sisters and brothers,



THE CORONATION will be a historic moment in the life of our nation, a time to reflect on our history, celebrate who we are and look to our future.

At its centre is a Christian service in which His Majesty will be anointed as King. It will be rooted in longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism.

We pray that this might be a moment for the nation and many round the world to encounter the person of Jesus Christ, the servant King, and hear His call to each of us to serve others.

The Coronation weekend presents a unique missional opportunity for the Church to reach out, gather together with those we know, and establish new links and relationships.

As we prepare for The King's Coronation, may we seek to serve others, connect with our neighbours, and give thanks to God for the wonderful unity we find in the great diversity of our nation.

Yours in Christ,



The Most Reverend and Right Honourable **Justin Welby**
The Archbishop of Canterbury +



The Most Reverend and Right Honourable **Stephen Cottrell**
The Archbishop of York +

How many crosses in St Stephens?

THE QUESTION posed above was asked in last month's Open Space. How did you get on?

IT STRUCK me as an interesting inquiry, to try and come up with the correct answer and even if you didn't respond last month you might want join in on the challenge now!

I did a quick photo survey to record my findings and found the fifteen crosses pictured on the page quite readily – but there are MORE!

Should have gone to Specsavers.

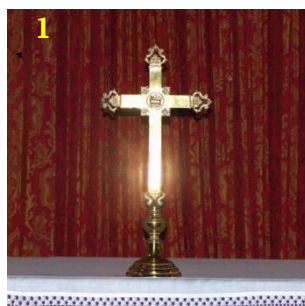
Several more in fact, and as a quick quiz, if sat in church, can you also identify where these crosses are located?

They are of course the more easily spotted crosses but what other ones do you know the location of?

Answers on the proverbial 'postcard' please, with your name and total number of extra crosses, to me before the end of the month!

We'll publish the names of the eagle eyed winners in next month's edition of Open Space!

David Packe



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

Foundation Governor

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS have a particular responsibility within Church Schools to preserve and develop the Christian character and ethos of the school.

OUR Church School, St Stephen's Junior School, is in need of another Foundation Governor.

Without Foundation Governors, we, St Stephens Church, are not supporting our Church School in its Christian character and ethos. Foundation Governors are normally practising Christians, but as a school governor, a Foundation Governor is more than a Church representative. They are a full governor, with an equal say and input into the life of the school in all areas.

Being a school governor is an expression of vocation to service within our community. Just as Jesus came to serve and not be served, we do likewise. Might you like to serve your community and follow Jesus in this way?

If you'd like to know more, please seek me out for a chat. I am already a Governor at St Stephen's Junior School and not only is it required of us as a Church, but I would welcome some support from our Church family.

Thank you and bless you as you ponder this.

Lisa x

Join us for some
**COFFEE/
CHAT &
COMPANY**

Every first Wednesday
of the month at 11 AM
in the Turnpike
on Soundwell Road.

A time to be, be known,
and be together!



KING'S CORONATION
PICNIC!

**SATURDAY
6 May 1'ish-3PM**

*In the church grounds**

**Bring your own food,
drink & seating**

FUN FOR EVERYONE!

There will be a quiz, crown
making, maybe some games
or singing and more..!

** Or in the Church Hall
if the weather is poor!*

**PLANT
SALE
20 MAY 2023**



COUNTDOWN to the Plant Sale at **10.30am** on **Saturday 20th May**.

Now is a good time to plant some seeds indoors, just keep them warm, damp and covered in polythene or cling film until they start to show.

Or perhaps think about taking cuttings from your house plants and hopefully they will all be ready for the sale.

I would also be grateful for items for prizes for the raffle: perhaps you have an unwanted Christmas gift or two?

Thank you! **Gill Mayo**

Regan's Ordination as Priest

REGAN will be Ordained Priest on **Saturday 1st July 2023** in Bristol Cathedral at **3pm**.

IT will be a fabulous occasion! Plus, we are all invited! It will be great if we, his church family, can be there to support him & cheer him on.

A 49-seater coach has been booked for us to be there before the service starts. *Meet outside the Church Hall for a 1.30pm departure.* It will bring us back after the service after we've had time to congratulate Regan of course.

The cost per person is **£8** return, *which includes a tip for the driver.*

It means only a short walk for you from the coach stop to the Cathedral rather than you driving and having a longer walk, and having the stress of finding a parking space anywhere remotely nearby.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church – please book your space that way. Payment in advance is preferable as we have to pay the coach company and not the driver. Please give your monies to Lorraine or myself. However, if you need to wait until the day, we can work with that... just let us know in advance.

Then on Sunday 2nd July, Regan will be presiding at the 10am Service of Holy Communion in Church for the first time. After that service there will be a celebration lunch in the Church Hall – you are all welcome.

To give us an idea of numbers, adding your name to the separate sign-up sheet at the back of church would be helpful... but if you don't, you won't be excluded.

Thank you! **Lisa xx**

FLASH of inspiration...

FOR PALM SUNDAY we had a special guest – a four legged one who graced proceedings in the morning, beginning a stint outside the church grazing on the grass, and then later entering church during the service.

Donkey's name was **Flash** (Whoo oohh!) and seemed to be something of a handful to control and possessing a mind of its own, evidenced by pushing and pulling the handler as she explained to us a little bit about the donkey's history.

We were told that Flash was originally employed giving rides on the Weston Beach but so say did not actually take to it very much and so was eventually released from duty into the care of a sanctuary!

Of course we might imagine that had Flash been one of the original donkeys in Jerusalem requisitioned and required to carry our Lord and Saviour on the hot and dusty road journey from the Mount of Olives into the city, then Flash would have presumably behaved perfectly!

Surely...?

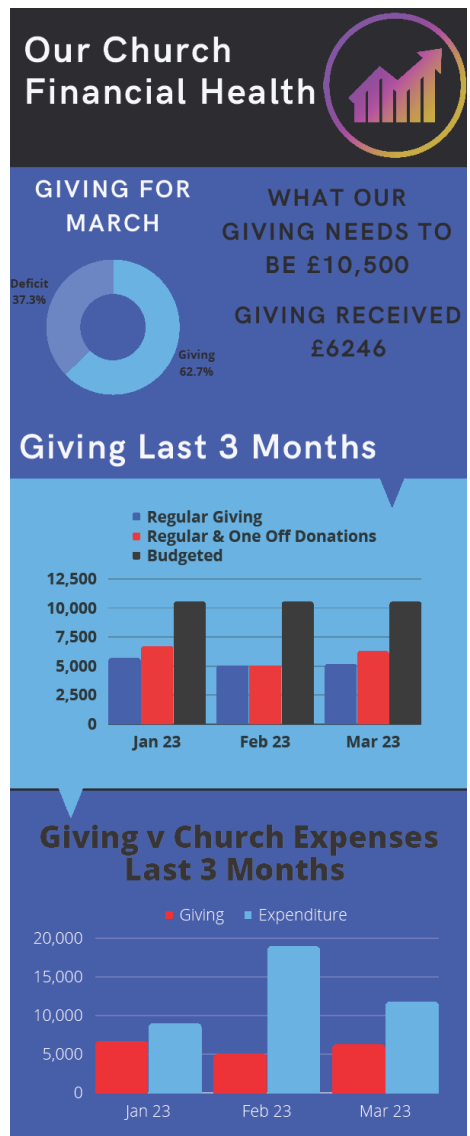
David Packe



Photo by Suzanne Parker



Photo by Julia Merrifield



Kingswood Brownies

VOLUNTEERS who currently run the 7th Kingswood Brownies here at St Stephens are unable to continue running the group due to work commitments and so the group may close if new volunteers cannot be found.

Brownies is full of firsts for many girls, she might grow her first plant, cook her first cake, put up (and take down) her first tent, or light her first fire. With a helpful hand from our encouraging volunteers, she'll explore her creative side, get out into the great outdoors, and start learning to look after herself, others and the world we live in.

Brownies gives young people a space to be themselves and discover new things.

Girlguiding provides many opportunities for volunteers too, from getting to know more people in the

community and making friendships locally to gaining new skills and increasing confidence.

You don't need to have any knowledge of Girl Guiding to get involved and we can offer you the support and training to ensure it is as fun for you as it is the young people.

There are plenty of ways you can still make an impact in a supporting role too, whether that's digitally or on an ad-hoc basis. No commitment is too small – every role is vital to running our charity.

If you would like to know more about the group and discuss how you can get involved contact us:

• **Jo** on 07774 640229 or email

jo@girlguidingbsg.org.uk

• **Stacy** on 07774 631627 or email

stacy@girlguidingbsg.org.uk

Thank you!

A thank you:

WE would like to thank all our lovely friends at St Stephens for all their get well wishes, lovely cards, beautiful plants and flowers and very welcome cakes and treats received while Gwen was poorly. A big thank you too for all the lovely prayers and kindness.

God bless you all! **Gwen & Derek**

Youth Church helpers

WOULD you like to help our young Christians learn more about Jesus?

The Youth Church leaders are looking for some more people to join them with our young people for the sessions during Sunday morning services, as often or as little as you wish.

It's great fun and we learn so much from the children!

Have a chat with **Peter Robbins** or **Lisa Wigmore** for more information.

Thank you!

07 Bristol Brunel Academy	See & Know: Adeiyin Odutola, Florence Pearce, Naomi Reef Sophie Tarbuck, Teddy Williams	James Road Jubilee Road Kerr Close
14 SGS College Filton	Congregation: Margaret Archer, Cheryl Ashwin, Derek and Gwen Beek Bill and Jenny Bishop, Edward Bishop	Lansdown Close Lansdown Road Larch Road
21 Soundwell Academy	William, Jess & Beatrice Bishop Grace Blackburn, Jackie Blackwell Geoff Blowfield, Rosemary Boulton	Lees Hill Leicester Square Middle Road
28 Local industry and people who work there	June Brain, Karen Brasier Mary Britton, Bill and Jan Brookshaw Brian Brown	Midland Road Morley Close Morley Place

SUNDAY Community Worship Service at 10am.

Sunday 8am BCP Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays.

WEDNESDAY Service of Holy Communion at 10am.

MAY DIARY

02 Tuesday	1.30-3.30pm	Knit & Natter weekly in the Church Room
03 Wednesday	11am	Coffee/Chat/Company Turnpike Pub
04 Thursday(s)	10-11.45am	See & Know in Church Hall then weekly
	2-4pm	Ladies Group in Church Hall then fortnightly
05 Friday	7pm-9pm	Outburst Youth Group in Church Hall
06 Saturday	On TV!	CORONATION of King Charles III
	1'ish-3'ish pm	Coronation PICNIC in Church grounds or Hall
09 Tuesday	7.30pm	PCC in Church Room
11 Thursday	2-4pm	Men's Group in Church Room then fortnightly
12 Friday	2-4pm	Pensioner's Group in Church Hall
13 Saturday	9am-12 noon	Baptism Preparation in Church
14 Sunday	11.45am	APCM in Church
18 Thursday	7.30pm	Ascension Day Service in Church
19 Friday	6.30pm	FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE in Church
20 Saturday	10.30am	PLANT SALE in Church Hall
21 Sunday	6.30pm	MEMORIAL SERVICE in Church
28 Sunday	10am	PENTECOST Service in Church

APCM: Sunday 14 May 11.45AM

IT WOULD be great to see you at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (**APCM**) which will take place following on after the end of the usual 10am Service.

AS we do every year, at the meeting we will receive nominations for:

A) Two Church Wardens for the year ahead.

B) Parochial Church Council (PCC) members for a 3-year term: *this year we have space for three.*

C) Deanery Synod Representatives: (3 year term) *we hope to elect three.*

We will also receive nominations for those who wish to continue or to become Assistant Church Wardens.

If you would like to know more details about any of these positions, then please do be in touch and discuss without any obligation.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, please ask me for an application form by phone, email or in person.

The written **APCM** report will be available as a hard copy about a week or two before the meeting.

For those attending the **APCM** there will be an agenda available on the day.

Please do prayerfully consider being one of these active members of your Church.

Thank you! Lisa x

FROM THE REGISTERS

SINCE MARCH 2023

Funeral:

• **APRIL 03: Peggy Hill (88).** The celebration of Peggy's life was held at St Stephens Church, Soundwell, followed by the burial at Kingswood Remembrance Park.
Please hold Peggy's daughter, Dawn, all Peggy's Grandchildren, their families, and the wider family in your prayers.

Wear something red:

to church for 10am on **Sunday 28th May** as it is **Pentecost** and wearing **red** symbolises the **Holy Spirit**, and the original **Pentecost** was all about the coming of the Holy Spirit. (ACTS 2:1-4)



Listen to this week's Sermon on your phone:

0117 456 2090

(Cost is the same as a local call)

OR

Click-a-SERMON



Visit our website and use the audio link to listen on-line

<http://saintstephensoundwell.org>

SAINT STEPHENS SOUNDWELL



• **Revd Lisa Wigmore**
Vicar, 52 Gladstone Street
Soundwell, Bristol BS16 4RF
Telephone 0117 957 4297



• **Revd Sandy Cooper**
Associate Minister, 1 Deerpark
Soundwell, Bristol BS15 1XH
Telephone 0117 967 2621



• **Revd Regan Meares**
Curate
Telephone 07769 704270



• **Peter Robbins**
Lay Minister, 13 Wood Road
Kingswood, Bristol BS15 8DT
Telephone 0117 967 9576



• **Gill Mayo**
Church Warden
Telephone
0117 956 9796

