

SUNDAY 3rd March 2024

**Staple
Hill
Bulletin**

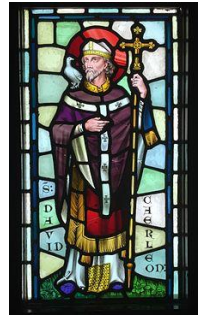


**Local ...
Lively ...
Loving**

St David

Although only Rose proudly speaks with a Welsh accent within our worshipping fellowship, there are sure to be many others who hail from that country within our on-line community – and if you are one of those – bore da!

As I was writing this on Friday afternoon, we were celebrating St David's day, the patron saint of Wales. St David was the grandson of the King of Ceretica (modern day Cardiganshire) who became an Archbishop in the early to mid 500's. As with all saints, he is reputed to have performed miracles: restoring the sight of his master, Paulinus and, whilst preaching to a large crowd at the Synod of Brefi, it is said that the ground on which he stood rose up to form a small hill where the village of Llanddewi-Brefi now stands.



Rev. Alban Butler in his great work: "The lives of the fathers, martyrs and other principal saints' says of St David: 'like the Baptist out of the desert, he preached the word of eternal life to the Britons.' In doing so, he was responsible for many chapels and churches being built – across Wales and also in the West Country (e.g. at Glastonbury Abbey).

St David's legacy has been wide-reaching. Through his saintly life and passionate preaching hundreds were inspired to follow the way of Christ within his own life-time. Our calling today is no different – to preach the gospel message.

Paul Heath

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People

Our thoughts continue to be for the Nettie, David and those in our fellowship who have been bereaved of a loved one. Please continue to uphold them in your prayers.

Peter is still in hospital, and has been appreciative of visitors and we also understand that Carol is in Southmead. There are a number of our fellowship who are living with long-term health conditions and they remain in our prayers.

Employment Plus

As mentioned in previous bulletins, Employment Plus are intending to locate one of their advisors with us once a week. They start with us this week on Wednesday. As you may know, this area of South Gloucestershire has one of the highest levels of unemployment and it is good that we are able to offer this service.

Building

For those attending in-person worship over the weekend, you will see that the glass partition doors are partially fitted. We are hoping that this work will be completed by Tuesday, If you are able to help move chairs after worship to enable the work to continue, that would be helpful.

Cleaning

If you are able to help with cleaning on Friday, that would be good. We start at 4pm for those able to come.

Employment opportunity

The Salvation Army are looking to recruit a Regional Accounts Assistant in this area – if you are interested, please take a look at the advert on the noticeboard.

Flowers

We thank Becky for the flowers in the hall today, given for Beryl's upcoming birthday and as an early Mother's Day gift. Becky is not well at the moment, so we hope you are feeling better soon!

The flower list is now on the notice board. If you would like to add your name to it, that would be great! It doesn't matter if you need a date that has already been booked – we all love to see the displays at the front of the hall.

Open Doors – New Initiative!

As the installation of the glass doors will be completed this week, we are commencing a new initiative – *Open Doors*. It will be a time when the building is open for anyone to drop in to have a tea/coffee/cake and a chat. Linda James is coordinating this so please ask her for more details or if you can offer any help. It will take place at the following times:

- Tuesdays 12pm – 2.30pm (Soup also available Tuesday only)
- Fridays 10am – 12.30pm

Please pray that this will be a space where people feel welcome and it will be a springboard for other things.

Easter programme

Easter is early this year so it is fast approaching. It's always a special time of the year so we look forward to everything that is planned:

- Sunday 24th March: Palm Sunday
 - 10am - All Age Worship
 - 4pm – 6pm Messy Church
- Tuesday 26th March
 - 7pm - An Evening of Easter Music
- Wednesday 27th March
 - 2pm – 4pm
 - 7pm – 9pm } Walk Through Easter (drop-in)
- Thursday 28th March
 - 11.15am - Easter Worship (anyone welcome)
 - 7pm - Fellowship Meal & Reflection
(sign-up sheet to book)
- Friday 29th March: Good Friday
 - 10am - All Age Worship
 - 11.30am - Band on the Square
- Sunday 31st March: Easter Sunday
 - 8.30am - Easter Breakfast (sign-up sheet to book)
 - 10am - All Age worship

Sign-up sheets will be available next week – but please put the dates in your calendar now! There are also leaflets available if you want to take a few to give out on your Frontline!

CAMEO Change of date

Please note that the March CAMEO is changing to Monday 18th March.

Recycling

On the Songs of Praise website, there is a big report on a new centre in Kettering that the Salvation Army have opened to recycle clothing. The facility is one the largest of its kind in the UK and is helping to drastically reduce landfill waste. If you would like to find out more, see the link below (you will need a BBC iPlayer account to view).

[/www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001wkrf/songs-of-praise-caring-for-creation](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001wkrf/songs-of-praise-caring-for-creation)



There is one of the Salvation Army collection units for clothes recycling in the 'Tesco' car park in Staple Hill - so that we also play our part in this as well.

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Sunday 10 th March	Mothers' Day Divisional Youth Section
Monday 18 th March	Pastoral Care Council Meeting CAMEO Craft Group
Sunday 24 th March	Palm Sunday Messy Church
Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th March	Holy Week & Good Friday - see <i>earlier in Bulletin for details</i>
Sunday 31 st March	Easter Sunday Clocks change
Saturday 13 th April	Coffee Morning



The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 3rd March:

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| 10am | All Age Worship
<i>Including the Self Denial Altar Service</i>
<i>'Shaped for a Purpose: The shape of your gift'</i> |
| 11.30am-12:15pm | Children's & Youth Activities |
| 4pm | Youth Section Praise Party <i>at Bridgwater Corps</i> |

Tuesday 5th March:

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| 10am | Keep Fit Class |
| 11am-12noon | Extra Slice Group
- (leader: Kelvin) – <i>10:30am for coffee</i> |
| 12pm-2:30pm | Open Doors |
| 6:30pm | YP Band Practice |
| 7:15pm | Singing Company Practice |
| 8pm | Senior Band Practice |

Wednesday 6th March:

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| 9:30am-11am | Tots on the Hill |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry) |
| 7:45pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group at Kelvin & Linda's house |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth) |

Thursday 7th March:

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| 12.30pm | Lunch Club |
| 7:45pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel) |

Friday 8th March:

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| 10am-12:30pm | Open Doors |
| 4pm | Cleaning Hall |

Sunday 10th March: ***Mothers' Day***

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| 10am | All Age Worship
<i>No Children's or Youth activities today</i> |
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