

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of "Christ the King" team ministry**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2nd Sunday after Trinity.**  
**Carnival Thanksgiving Service**

*Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. John 1 v 11*

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[Helen Laird Mission Enabler](#)

**Nb** Wearing of face coverings is now voluntary in all churches in the benefice.

**Today's service is a service of the word at 10.30 am**

*Weekly services this week are at:*  
-10am, Tuesday June 28<sup>th</sup> Traditional Language Eucharist at Ss Matthias & George, Astwood Bank.  
-10 am, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>, Mass at St. Peter's, Crabbs Cross.  
-Next Sunday 4pm, July 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion at Astwood Bank.

**Additional online services.**

- Accompany Fr Glenn as he streams Sunday Evening Prayer on our Facebook page. **This service is uploaded on line from 3pm each Sunday, but should you wish to join in the feel of a communal service, then we suggest you watch and listen with others at 6pm.**
- Mthr Victoria offers live Compline on **Thursdays**; just press Ctrl + Click on the following link which will take you straight to the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/victoria.barlow.750>

**We pray for those who are sick:** Alex, Jean, Margaret Emms, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret Savage, Carol, Carla, Carole, Tim, Jon & Naomi, Steven, Christopher, Arthur, Michelle Bonner

We pray for the soul of **Canon David Salt** recently departed and hold his family and friends in our prayers. **A memorial service** will be held at 2pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July, at St Stephen's Church, Redditch.  
We also pray for the soul of **Diane Lloyd**, recently departed, whose funeral takes place on Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>, and hold her family and friends in our prayers.

**Foodbank:** Any food or toiletry donations to be given to families supported by Redditch Homestart, should be placed in the blue box at the rear of church.

**The monthly pattern of services at Ss Matthias & George is as follows.**

*1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (and occasional 5<sup>th</sup>) Sunday 4.00 pm, Common Holy Communion*  
*3rd Sunday 10.30am, Common Holy Communion*

**Carnival:** Did you know that the word *Carnival* is of Christian origin, and in the Middle Ages, it referred to a period following the Epiphany season that reached its climax before midnight on Shrove Tuesday, often now referred to as Pancake Day. The various practices were, despite some appearances, Christian in character, and they were medieval in origin: although it has been widely supposed that they continued some kind of pre-Christian cult, there is in fact no evidence that Carnivals existed much before 1200. Because Lent was a period of fasting, Carnival represented a last period of feasting and celebration before the spiritual rigors of Lent. In the last few days of Carnival, known as Shrovetide, people confessed (shrived) their sins in preparation for Lent. In 1605, a Shrovetide play spoke of Christians who painted their faces to celebrate the season.

In many countries the Carnival season opens on Twelfth Night (January 6) and climaxes with the **Mardi Gras** festivities commencing 10 days before Shrove Tuesday. The French name **Mardi Gras** means Fat Tuesday, from the custom of using all the fats in the home before Lent. The most famous modern Carnival is perhaps that of Rio de Janeiro. Masked balls, elaborate costumes, parades, and various other festivities mark such celebrations.

Whilst we celebrate **Astwood Bank's Carnival** on July 9<sup>th</sup>, if you're reading this prior to Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, why not pop along between 1- 5 pm to the **Feckenham Wake** on the Green and at the Recreation Ground.

**"Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcome Refugees"**

If you are aware of any Ukrainian Refugees being hosted by individuals/families in Redditch and surrounding villages, please ensure that the hosts are aware of the weekly get togethers for Ukrainian refugees held at Redi Centre, 54 South Street, Redditch B98 7DQ on Tuesday mornings from 9am - 2pm. Please let Linda Fleming know at [linda.fleming@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.fleming@btinternet.com) if new people are coming or if they need a lift.

At Redi Centre there is the opportunity for mutual support, to ask advice, talk with people, play table tennis or pool, or play a board game,

Please give notices for inclusion in next week's Spotlight to Richard Porteous by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at [richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Reading for 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Astwood Bank Carnival Thanksgiving Service**

**John 2 v 1-11** On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.