

Thought for June 2025

By Revd. Claire Claxton

I think there is nothing nicer than going to a concert on a summer evening. I find my soul is fed by many different things: a walk through the countryside, a visit to an art exhibition, sitting in the garden listening to the birdsong. But listening to beautiful music in a beautiful ancient church is hard to beat for nourishing the soul. We at Forest Church are going to provide you with four such occasions in the next few weeks.

I recently had the privilege of taking part in a concert at Beau Sejour. It was a special celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Guernsey but what made it even more significant for me was the performance of 'Maynine,' a piece of music that my husband, Chris, wrote for the 65th anniversary of the Liberation. It was an emotional and poignant occasion for my family and me, and many other people too, I suspect. The evening began dramatically with the drums and trumpeters of the band of the Royal Marines and continued with a joyful and soulful combination of music for choir and orchestra which included the players of the Biberach Youth Orchestra.

A line from a poem by William Congreve tells us, 'Music has charms to sooth a savage breast, to soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.' Music is certainly powerful. It can make you laugh, cry, dance, clap along and even send you to sleep! Music brings people together, improves our health and wellbeing and can improve confidence and resilience. It is a real gift from God!

We sing together in church every Sunday morning. Why not come along and join us. And I hope, too, that you will come along to our concerts and find nourishment for your soul.

God bless you.

Ste Marguerite

de la Foret



June 2025

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Dementia awareness

Acclaimed speaker, campaigner, and author Ian Donaghy will be visiting Guernsey on Wednesday, 4 June to give a presentation (2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.) at the Peninsula Hotel aimed at improving understanding and support around dementia. Aimed at carers, family members, and loved ones, this session will focus on the emotional journey of supporting someone with dementia, offering practical guidance, encouragement, and shared experiences to help them feel less alone. No charge, but book a place by calling 263132 or emailing info@dementiafriendly.org.gg

Raising Faith: A 6-week course for parents and carers who want to nurture their child's faith. This 6-week course features expert advice, real-life experiences from fellow parents, and plenty of opportunities to share and encourage each other. You'll gain valuable insights through videos, discussions, and activities that will inspire you as you raise children in faith. Starting Wednesday, 4 June, 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at Trinity Church - everyone is welcome! Sign up here: [Raising Faith Course \(04-Jun-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

Church flowers in June 2025

1st June. Nancy Smith

8th June. Viv Rees

15th June. Viv Rees

22nd June. Brenda Tostevin

29th June. Brenda Tostevin

Greeting

1st June Sara Dorey

8th June Anne Roland

15th June. Rose Marquand

22nd June Brenda Tostevin

29th June Debbie Dorey

Thank you to the staff and pupils of the Forest School who produced poetry for display in church at Liberation. The use of such interesting and meaningful work was very much admired and showed the children had thought about the consequences of war.

Bishop Andrew's letter:

Jack Spratt's scrap heap clock

To St Andrew's, Wootton Rivers, and an invitation to place the first signature in their new visitor's book, after the sixty-year service of its predecessor.



These volumes are found in most village churches and remain a quiet record of the thousands who call into our places of worship, usually unseen, and leave their appreciation with a word or two and, often as not, a coin in the box or a tap on the e-reader!

In Wootton Rivers, they will find in the porch a beautiful board telling the story of local character Jack Spratt, who achieved fame by constructing a church clock entirely from local scrap to commemorate the coronation of George V in 1911. As a new installation was too costly, handyman Jack invited villagers to leave him their spare bits and bobs and proceeded to make a clock that ran (and still runs) with pin-point accuracy. Instead of numerals on its face, the tower clock reads 'Glory be to God'.

This eccentric and appealing project bears witness to the steady Anglican faith and resourcefulness vital for our churches to thrive and survive. Also, to the creator God whose spirit can work within us to make something wonderful from the scraps and times of our lives. To him be the glory.

**Music for summer evenings
in June and July at Forest Parish Church.**



FOREST PARISH CHURCH

PRESENTS

**A SUMMER
CONCERT
SERIES**



**06
JUNE**

MARIPOSA
STRINGS

**14
JUNE**

GU10

**25
JUNE**

ORGAN RECITAL
by Andrew Cooper with guest
Claire Claxton (clarinet)

**05
JULY**

STATE of
HARMONY CHOIR

**All concerts
start at 7:30pm**

Refreshments will be served

Retiring collection for charity

Parking in church field
and Forest Stores

Church Events in June

Wednesday 4th June 2pm-4pm

Knit & Natter in church

Wednesday 11th June ACC meeting

7.30pm in church

Wednesday 11th June 10.30-12.00

Coffee morning in church. All welcome.

Concerts in June

We look forward to four musical events in church in June - see poster. These are always very well attended evenings with refreshments afterwards.



Date for your diary:

The annual church Flower Festival will be from Thursday 3rd of July - Sunday 6th July. The theme this year is "Our Island". This will be part of the judging for Floral Guernsey.



Welcome to Forest Parish Church

June 2025

Sunday June 1st 11am. Parish Communion

Reader: Katie Blampied.

Acts 16: 16-34

Prayers: Katie Blampied

Sunday June 8th Pentecost

11am Family Service + Baptism

Reader: Syd Bowsher

Acts 2 v1-8

Prayers: Nancy Smith

Sunday June 15th Trinity Sunday

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Steve Le Poidevin Proverbs 8 v1-4,22-31

Romans 5 v1-5

Prayers: Keith Bienvenu

Sunday June 22nd 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Vivian Rees

Isaiah 65 v1-9

Galatians 3 v23-end

Prayers: Peter Gallienne

Sunday June 29th 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Linda Archard

Kings 19,v15-16, 19-end

Galatians 5 v1, 13-25

Prayers: Vivian Rees