

## Thought for September 2024

By Revd. Claire Claxton



As I write this I am looking forward to travelling to Yorkshire for my nephew's wedding. Then, early in September, I will be taking a wedding at Forest Church. That and the fact that my wedding anniversary has just passed has turned my thoughts to weddings. It is a delight to be involved in the joy and excitement of an upcoming wedding. I was pleased to be invited to the Guernsey 'hen-do' for my nephew's fiancée. That was quite an experience!

As I meet with couples who are getting married at Forest Church it reminds me of the amount of planning and decision-making that is necessary. I am involved with organising the ceremony but that is often the least of their worries and I hear about the challenges of booking reception venues, invitations, table seating plans, outfits, flowers, transport etc.

When I think back to my own wedding, I recall setting off for the Town Church with my father in the wedding car and having to stop in Doyle Road for ten minutes to prevent us arriving at the church too early. My father and the driver chatted about greenhouses and growing and it felt quite surreal! The ceremony itself is a bit of a blur but Chris and I then went to the Town Hospital to visit my Gran and we ended up walking through all the wards so everyone could see us in our finery! The reception at the OGH was memorable due to the appearance of Oliver Reed wearing a scout uniform and jumping into the swimming pool!

However meticulously we plan an event there will always be something unpredictable to contend with. In the words of Proverbs 16:9, We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps. Over the past few months I have been reading a Psalm each day and have found them very comforting. One of the most common themes is the assurance that God is with us in everything. A couple of verses from my favourite psalm:

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. Psalm 139: 9-10.

I pray that you will know God's reassuring presence and strength in all that you do.

*CMClaxton*

# Ste Marguerite de la Foret



## September 2024

## Contacts

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## **Church flowers in September**

Sept 1st Debbie Dorey

Sept 8th. Fatima Freitas

Sept 15th. Fatima Freitas

Sept 22nd Katie Blampied

Sept 29th. Katie Blampied

## **Greeting**

Sept 1st Nancy

Sept 8th. Brenda

Sept 15th. Debbie

Sept 22nd Dorothy

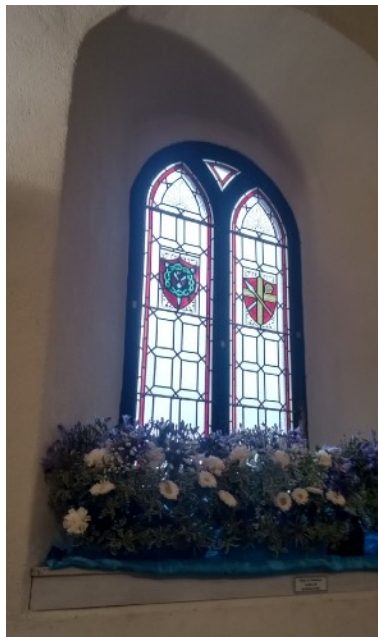
Sept 29th Rose



A lovely afternoon in July enjoying cream teas in the beautiful garden at the home of Dorothy and Mark. Congratulations to Robert the gardener for his well deserved awards. This is one of our small fundraisers for the church and our charities and we are grateful for the support of the States Dairy towards this event.



Some details of the Flower Festival arrangements, watering cans in the arch, blue roses at the door, lobsters in the net and a working fountain hidden away.



Do you hear and see our dedicated team of bell-ringers every Sunday?

When I was young and toiled up the hill to the Castel church there were only three bells rung then and my father used to tell me they were saying “come on Nan”.

It is such a joy to hear the bells reminding us of the continuity of church worship, of the times when no one had watches, when the days were marked by morning and evening bells and reminders across the land on momentous occasions. I can imagine the joy in Guernsey when they were rung after the occupation ended.

We have a very good team who come together every Sunday some having already rung at St Peters and often joined by ringers from elsewhere, some on holiday from the U.K. where ringers try to travel the land to ring at as many church towers as possible.

If you would like to try you would be very welcome, just contact Peter Gallienne who will show you the ropes!

## Dates and Church News

Wednesday 4th September

Knit and Natter in church 2-4pm

Wednesday 11th September 10.30-12.00

Coffee morning in church. All welcome.

Thursday 5th & 19th September Solace meetings

10.30-12noon. At St Martins Community Centre.

A friendly support group after bereavement.

## Looking

### Forward.....

Sunday September  
1st 11am

We once again support  
our overseas charity

**Tumaini.** Tumaini is the  
Swahili word for Hope.

It is also the name of  
a charity that seeks to  
alleviate the terrible  
suffering of

AIDS widows and  
orphans in Kagera, the

most north-west province of Tanzania. Figures are unreliable,  
but average life expectancy there is 43 years. Education is  
essential for the future of these children and without it they will  
never be able to break the cycle of poverty. The Tumaini  
Funds supplies AIDS orphans with a school uniform, books  
and pencils, and everyone in the household gets 2 sets of  
clothes and a life-saving mosquito net. Find out more on  
[tumaini.fund.org.uk](http://tumaini.fund.org.uk)

*There will be a retiring collection after the service.*

Sunday 6th October Harvest Sunday

We bring gifts of food suitable for the food bank for the needy.  
This will be followed by a Harvest Bring and Share lunch,  
details to follow.



## Welcome to Forest Parish Church September 2024

Sunday September 1st 11am. Tumaini Service

Reader: Peter Gallienne

Deuteronomy 4 v1-2,6-9

James 1 v17-end

Prayers. Nicola Holland Birch

Sunday September 8th 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Katie Blampied

Isaiah 35 v4-7a

James 2 1-10, 14-17

Prayers: Nancy Smith

Sunday September 15th 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Vivian Rees

Isaiah 50 v 4 - 9a

James 3 v 1 - 12

Prayers: Keith Bienvenu

Sunday September 22nd 11am Parish Communion

Reader: Philip Ozanne

Jeremiah 11 v18 - 20

James 3 v13, 4 v3,7-8a

Prayers: Katie Blampied

Sunday September 29th. Parish Communion

Reader: Linda Archard

Numbers 11v4-6,10-16,24-29

James 5 v13-end

Prayers: Peter Gallienne