



News from St Clement's

St Clement's Church, Bridge Street, Cambridge

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Sung Mass: Sundays at 10am

Taizé service: Once per month, Fridays at 7.30pm

Building work about to start

We are working hard to bring new life to your parish church which has been in a state of disrepair for some years, most noticeably in the south aisle where water leaking through the roof has caused several large holes to appear in the ceiling. The good news is that thanks to a grant from a government funded scheme (see logo) building work on the roof will start in the week commencing 7th November. Scaffolding will be erected on the south (Portugal Place) side of the church, including a temporary roof level with the nave roof which will allow the work to continue through the winter. If all goes well and not too many nasty surprises are lurking below the slates the work will be finished in March.

The builders will work from 7:30 to 17:00 Monday to Thursday and to 16:15 on Friday, and I hope no-one will be unduly disturbed. There should not be any activity around the scaffolding outside those hours, and if anyone is concerned about any aspect of the work or out of hours activity they are welcome to contact Barry Johnson, one of the churchwardens, via our website.

Future projects

For St Clement's to survive as a parish church it needs to start a new period in its life with much more use made of the building and more income generated. The Greek Orthodox congregation that shared our church for many years has moved into a place of their own and we are currently forming new partnerships. We are hoping to have more involvement with the local community, and have already started forging links with the Park Street Residents Association and Park Street School.

Apart from returning the church to a good state of repair we are also planning new facilities such as toilets, a kitchen and meeting rooms. We are trying to keep the church open as much as we can, and we welcome a steady stream of visitors who appreciate the beauty and atmosphere of the building. Why not come in one day and find out more?

Services

We have a Sung Mass at 10:00 every Sunday. This is a traditional Church of England Communion service with chants and hymns led by our growing choir and the beautiful language of the King James Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. If you might like an old fashioned service please give us a try. A number of different priests take turns to celebrate and preach with occasional guest appearances, including Bp Rowan Williams celebrating with us on Advent Sunday, making the short walk from Magdalene College to take our service.

Wednesday Lunch Club

A new venture for us will be launched on 16th November with the first of a variety of lunchtime events to be held each Wednesday from 1pm-2pm. The first will be a free concert “*All that Jazz*” with Helen Orr and Chris Pountain. The concert will last about 45 minutes, those attending are welcome to bring their sandwiches, and donations for the upkeep of the church would be particularly welcomed.

This will be followed on 23rd November by “*The Jesus Prayer*”, praying the most ancient of meditative prayers first practiced by the Desert Fathers. Come and join in the stillness and join us for soup and rolls afterwards. Twenty minutes of prayer and forty minutes of breaking bread together.

Look out for notices of future events.

Upcoming dates for your diary

Fridays 11th November and 9th December, 7.30pm: Taizé service, a simpler, meditative service with prayers, chanting and silence.

Sunday 13th November, 10am: A service for Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 20th November, 10am: St Clement’s Patronal Festival

Sunday 27th November, 10am: Advent Sunday (Bp Rowan Williams celebrating)

Sunday 18th December, 5.30pm: Festival of Lessons and Carols, mulled wine and mince pies to follow

Do keep an eye on our website for our latest news, and we hope you are able to visit us at St Clement’s and perhaps become a part of our community.