

Children's Sunday Groups at St John's

These are the groups we run for children and young people during the 9.30am service each Sunday:

Rising Stars - Ages 0-5 in the Pauling Room

The Big God Space - Ages 5-10 in the Jubilee Hall

Streetwise - Age 11+ in the Lodge

We'd love to see you, come and join in the fun!

Attention families!

For services where there are no Sunday Clubs, or if you come to church without your child, please use the 'sign in' book at the back of church so that you are registered as attending. Thank you.

Contacts at St John's Church

Vicar: Revd Giles Carpenter
01323 739679
email: vicar@stjm.org.uk

Assistant Minister & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Revd Jill Preece
01323 638020
email: jill@stjm.org.uk

Children & Families Minister: Tristram Peattie
01323 738671
email: tris@stjm.org.uk

Church Administrator: Joanne Naunton
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

Church Wardens: Margaret Kowszun & Tony Mottram
contact via the office on:
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

Office opening hours
Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 12.30pm

19 March 2017

The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding & Preaching: Revd David Maddock
Assisting: Dick Thwaites & Chris Sneath

Readings: Exodus 6 : 1 - 9
Luke 11 : 14 - 23

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Canon Michael Cole

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Canon Michael Cole
Assisting: Diana Guthrie, Pam Lade, Sheila MacNicol

Hymns: 16, 67, 32, 689

Reading: Exodus 5: 22 - 6:9
Read by: Christine Symes

Reading: Ephesians 4: 17 - 24
Read by: Elaine Montgomerie

4.00pm Connexions
Tea at the Vicarage (invitation only)

7.00pm Streetwise Table Tennis Evening
(Jubilee Hall)

Next Sunday 26 March 2017 - Mothering Sunday

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding : Revd Peter Pickett
Preaching: Sarah Hassell

10.00am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Catherine Butcher
Assisting: Rowena Adams, Sheila O'Hanlon, David & Jenny Barker, Clive & Kate Dilloway

6.00pm Evensong
Leading: Sarah Hassell
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 20 March**
 9.00am Morning Prayer (back of church)
 10.30am Holywell Home Group
 10.30am PARCHE at Alma House
 2.00pm Parish Hall Meeting (Parish Hall)
 2.00pm CAMEO (Jubilee Hall)
 5.30pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
- Tuesday 21 March**
 10.30am Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
 7.00pm PCC Meeting & Supper
- Wednesday 22 March**
 9.30am Quiet Prayer (chapel)
 2.30pm Diana Guthrie's Home Group
 6.00pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
- Thursday 23 March**
 10.00am Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
 11.00am Holy Communion (chapel)
 Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
 Preaching: Revd Peter Pickett
 2.30pm Maddocks' Home Group
 3.00pm Sunnymead Home Group
 7.30pm Peatties' Home Group
 7.45pm Choir Practise
- Friday 24 March**
 10.00am Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)
 2.30pm Funeral - Betty Brazier (Crematorium)

APCM/APM Meeting Tuesday 4 April, 7pm



ELECTORAL ROLL NOTICE

We are revising the electoral roll ready for the Annual Meeting on 4 April. If you are on the electoral roll already, you don't have to do anything (there's a list of names already on the roll, at the back of the church if you need to check). If you would like your name to be added, please pick up an application from the back of church and return the completed form to the church office. You are eligible if you have been baptised, live in the parish or have worshipped here for six months. If you have any queries, please contact Jo in the church office.

Festival & Summer Fete 2017 Thursday 8 June - Sunday 11 June



As 2017 marks the 60th anniversary of the consecration of the new church building, our Festival this year will be themed around photography, primarily photographs of people through the years from 1957 onwards. So with this in

mind, if you have any photos dating back through the years of people (not posed photos) that would help us to tell a story through the years we'd love to see them. They don't have to be church related.

We already have lots of amazing photographs of the church just after it was bombed so we'll be setting up a display of these too.

Please bring your photo/s to the church office, we'll ensure they're clearly marked as to who they belong to and will return them to you once we've made our decisions.

Alternatively, you can send us a jpeg via email to: office@stjm.org.uk

During May we'll be picking the best to be hung in church for the Festival.

We're also looking for five or six people who have an interesting story of hope, again through the years from 60 years ago and onwards. These will each be condensed down to five minute segments. Please submit your story to Jo in the church office either via email or written by Friday 31 March.

Summer Fete - Saturday 10 June, 12 noon - 4pm

It's that time of year again when we begin to ask for donations to various stalls for our ever popular Summer Fête.

We shall need the following...

Bottles - for our very popular 'bottle tombola' stall so please feel free to pop into the office with any spare, unopened, bottles.

Plants - cuttings, plug plants, house plants or outdoor plants *lots needed!*

Bric-a-brac

Pre-loved clothes in good condition

Cakes - on Friday 9 June please, for our fantastic cake stall, plus jam, preserves, chutney, marmalade. Please bring your donations to the church office. We look forward to receiving them, thank you.

NO BOOKS NEEDED THIS YEAR - thank you



CAMEO

Ladies of St John's on Monday 20 March 2017 at 2pm, in the Jubilee Hall come and join us for an afternoon of Sharing a Poem or Prose. If you have one to share please bring it along. Refreshments to follow.

Rotary Club of Eastbourne's Annual Jazz Concert

The Storyville Strutters will be performing at the Eastbourne College Theatre on Wednesday 5 April. Doors open at 7pm, performance begins at 7.30pm.

Tickets £15 available from Dennis Thompson 749329

Gardening Team meeting

The lovely gardens at St John's Church are a tranquil space for all to enjoy, we are currently in need of a few volunteers to help keep it looking beautiful. So if you love gardening and would like to volunteer, or you know someone who would be interested, then please come along to the Pauling Room on Monday 27 March at 11am for a get together. Please contact Karen on 07779793096 or email: karen.fletcherwright@gmail.com for more information.



Lunch Club, Monday 9 January

Monday 3 April 2017, 12 noon. Come and join us at the Parish Hall for a light lunch and good companionship! No need to book just turn up. Last orders for food is 1.30pm, £3.50 per head. See you there.



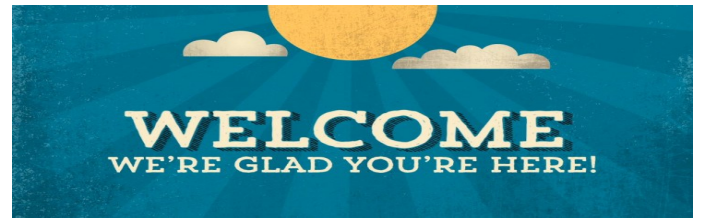
Attention All Flower Arrangers

On Saturday 25 March at 10am we will be meeting in the Jubilee Hall to assemble the Mother's Day posies for the following day.

This will also be an ideal opportunity to discuss exactly what we are able to achieve by way of floral decorations for the church during the Festival & Summer Fete, which begins on Thursday 8 June.

As per last year there will be coffee and biscuits and the pleasure of chatting with each other. Can you please let me know if you can help on Saturday 25 March and also whether you have any ideas or are available to help during the Festival. Please contact me on: 01323 370760. Thank you..

Jean Tucker



CONNEXIONS

New to St John's? - Connexions

A very warm welcome from us all if you are new or visiting St John's for the first time. We hope you enjoy being part of our church family. If you are looking for a church and would like to find out more about us, Giles our vicar, and his wife Rachel, regularly host an informal afternoon with tea and cake at the vicarage. This is a great chance to find out more about the vision of St John's church and our mission to make disciples and to serve the community of Meads. For more details please complete one of the Connexions/Welcome cards (usually available in the pews) and return it to one of our welcome team. Another way in which we like to reach people is through our 'Keeping In Touch' email list. To be included in the mailing list please sign one of the forms on the Welcome Desk. You'll then receive regular updates and news.

DAC Comments on our Application for Reordering at St John's

Following on from our initial application to the Diocesan Advisory Committee, the following observations and feedback were made.

"The committee supported the principle of the proposals, noting that the reordering would involve replacing the pews with chairs, a new lighting scheme, the introduction of ramped access to the chancel and removable handrails, the creation of an additional fire exit, and the removal of the baldachin behind the altar and the introduction of a copper cross with feature lighting."

They indicated that the installation of the cross, would provide a focal point to the church. The committee were inclined to think that addressing the issue of the acoustics was a positive move. The proposed ramp will improve access to the chancel area but were inclined to think that permanently fixed hand rails should be utilised.

They have asked that careful consideration be given to the type of replacement chairs to be used, noting that this will offer flexibility of use in the church.

Their decision was that:

"The committee was enthusiastic about the reordering project and requested a site visit to discuss the specifics of the proposals in more detail."

The visit is planned for Thursday 27 April.

Passover Meal

Join the party in the Jubilee Hall at St John's Church on Thursday 13 April at 6pm for 6.30pm.
Enjoy a Passover meal together and explore its meaning.



Suggested donation - £6 per adult £3 per child or £15 for a family ticket (one adult and up to four children or two adults and two children)

Tickets available from the church office

Guests are welcome to bring their own wine

Alpha just got better!

We are looking to put together a team to help plan and deliver the new look Alpha course that we hope to run later this Spring; could this be you? Alpha has been completely revamped with options to tailor courses to suit different groups and with this in mind we are hoping to be able to run both an evening course and a daytime one aimed at 'Seniors'. If you would like to know more have a look at the website <http://uk.alpha.org> and speak to Giles, Jill, Tris or Hannah.



Children's work - helpers needed

Over the last few weeks we be explaining the needs of our children's work. On a Sunday we have three groups for different age brackets:
Rising Stars: 0-5 year olds,
Big God Space 5-10
and Streetwise for Secondary School children.

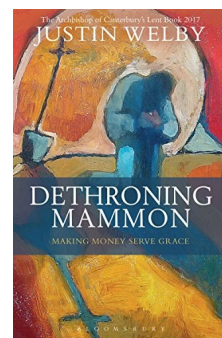


We also run a really popular Parent & Toddler Group on a Thursday morning during term time.

All of these require volunteers to serve and run these groups. You don't need previous experience skills can be learnt - all we require is people with a willing heart who could lend a hand and join the rota. We will be holding a cream tea on Sunday 2nd April at 4pm for those interested in volunteering. Please contact Tris or Hannah for more details.

Who or what do we really worship?

In the gospels we read about Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. During this time he had to wrestle with deep questions about his identity and his purpose. The 40 days of Lent that lie ahead of us, represent an opportunity for similar self reflection.



I'd like to invite you to use these 40 days to be on your own journey of exploration asking yourself a very specific question; who or what do I worship!

Like any journey it is good to set off on the right foot, to have some road map for the way and to finish well.

Rather than having a Lent course this year, I'd like to encourage us to journey through Lent using Archbishop Justin's Lent book for 2017 as our road map.

Mark Carney, the Governor of the Bank of England, was photographed on a tube train recently reading an advance copy of this book which ask that key question about who or what we worship. There are six chapters which fit nicely into Lent. Each chapter takes a key bible passage, usually from the teaching and encounters of Jesus leading to his death and burial, and puts it alongside the big questions of global finance and, crucially for us personally, the attitudes it breeds.

Lastly, this journey, which is often marked by a period of abstinence, culminates for us this year with a very special meal. Passover, the Last Supper, Holy Communion all have the same roots in a family meal, shared together.

This meal which, 2,000 years ago, Jesus said he was really looking forward to celebrating with his followers is the same meal that we will share together to mark the end of this Lenten journey. More details of this meal will be available in next week's news sheet but places will be limited by space so if you would like to share in this meal I'd encourage you to register your interest early with the church office.

With every blessing for the journey ahead.

Giles

Points for Prayer this week

- More people to volunteer in all aspects of the Children's Work
- The work of the Eastbourne Food Bank, for donations, helpers and new premises
- All those affected by famine particularly in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan, and for sufficient aid to be fairly distributed