

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

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:

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

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



21 January 2018

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Dick Thwaites

Epistle: Exodus 17: 8 - 13
Second reading: Romans 8: 26 - 27

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Patricia Kelley, Pam Lade & Diana Guthrie
Hymns: 105, 636, 609, 188

Reading: Exodus 17: 8 - 13
Read by: *Christine Symes*

Reading: Romans 8: 26 - 27
Read by: *Elaine Montgomerie*

Sunday 28 January

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Nick Pendry, Clive & Kate Dilloway, Phyllis Hall, Margaret & Jorj Kowszun

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Sheila MacNicol, Diana Guthrie & Pam Lade

4.00pm Connexions (at the Vicarage)

6.00pm Evensong
Leading: Nick Pendry
Preaching: Jill Maddock

EVENTS THIS WEEK & NEXT

Monday	22 January
9.00am	Morning Prayer (back of church)
10.30am	PARCHE at Meads House
5.30pm	Beavers (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Confirmation Class # 1
Tuesday	23 January
10.30am	Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
7.00pm	Kemps' Home Group
Wednesday	24 January
9.30am	Quiet Prayer
6.00pm	Cubs (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Jazz Evening (back of church)
Thursday	25 January
10.00am	Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am	Holy Communion (church)
3.00pm	Sunnymead Home Group
7.30pm	Alpha Course #3
7.45pm	Choir practice
Friday	26 January
10.00am	Paperback Library & Coffeepot Computing (Parish Hall)
12.00pm	Funeral - Betty Taylor (Crematorium)
Saturday	27 January
7.45pm	Noteworthy Voices Concert (church)

Foodbank says 'thank you'

Howard Wardle, Manager of Eastbourne's Foodbank, writes: 'It's been amazing over this Christmas period to see the overwhelming generosity of donors.

The giving started with Harvest festivals from schools & some churches. This year was without doubt the most generous of any year. We then held our annual food collection at three Tesco stores and the incredible giving continued. In the weeks before Christmas we had to empty the 20 collection bins around town three times a week as they were overflowing.

As the food came in we prepared 185 Christmas hampers of 3 days food plus Christmas goodies & a Christmas present for each child. Families were nominated by a number of professional agencies such as children's services, Swift & family key workers who then took the food to the families. We also provided food for 800 people during December. We were also able to provide bulk food to YMCA, Matthew 25 Mission and Cafe Waste Not.

We have only been able to make such a difference to so many people due to the incredible generosity of the people of Eastbourne. Thank you to everyone who has contributed food or Christmas presents this year.

Wanted!

Transport drivers to drive the Chaseley bus plus residents to church on Sundays. Would you be willing to form part of a team to go onto a rota to assist residents of Chaseley to get to church? Contact the church wardens for more information.



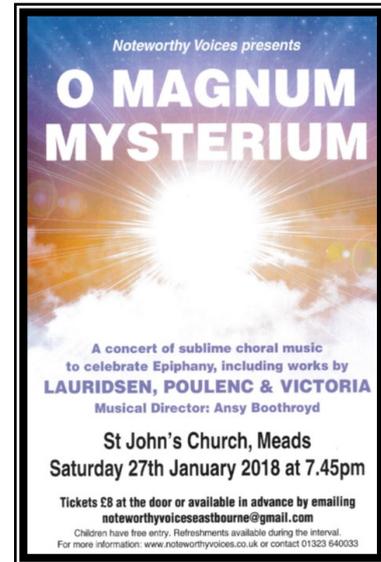
Children's Society candle money boxes

Please remember to return your filled Christmas Candle money box by Sunday 28 January. Thank you!



Noteworthy Voices

We are delighted to welcome back Noteworthy Voices for another concert here at St John's on Saturday 27 January 2018 at 7.45pm. Tickets are £8 on the door or available in advance by emailing: noteworthyvoiceseastbourne@gmail.com



Pigeon holes in the Cloister

This week I have removed a large number of envelopes from the pigeon holes in the Cloister which appear to be uncollected Christmas cards. Lots of cards had addresses on but no stamps, some had just a first name on the envelope and others have been left for members of the congregation who are either unwell or infirm who cannot get to church.

May I please ask EVERYONE to check the pigeon holes on your way in or out of church regularly, as lots of things are put there for you to pick up.

If you are leaving something in the pigeon holes for someone else to pick up could you please let them know they need to look there.

Thank you, Jo (office)

Points for Prayer this week

- For all those preparing for confirmation in March, and taking part in the Confirmation Preparation Course which begins on 22nd January
- Thanksgiving that the Diocesan Advisory Committee has approved our application for the re-ordering of the Church with final approval awaited early in March
- For the work of the Syrian American Medical Society rescuing desperately ill children from the war zone in Syria, and that all sick children will be brought out

NEWS & EVENTS

New Year Thoughts

A friend shared these 'Five Helps for the New Year' with me. They were written by former Archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey. I found them such a wonderful Spiritual health check for the New Year. Hope you find them helpful too.

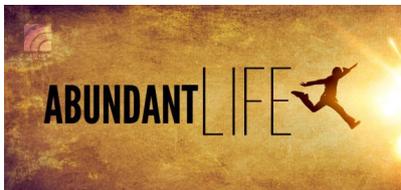
1. Thank God. Often and always. Thank him carefully and wonderingly for your continuing privileges and for every experience of his goodness. Thankfulness is a soil in which pride does not easily grow.
2. Take care about confession of your sins. As time passes the habit of being critical about people and things grows more than each of us realises...
3. Be ready to accept humiliations. They can hurt terribly but they can help to keep you humble. [Whether trivial or big, accept them he says.] All these can be so many chances to be a little nearer to our Lord. There is nothing to fear, if you are near to the Lord and in his hands.
4. Do not worry about status. There is only one status that Our Lord bids us be concerned with, and that is our proximity to Him. "If a man serves me, let him follow me, and where I am there also shall my servant be". (John 12:26) That is our status; to be near our Lord wherever He may ask us to go with him.
5. Use your sense of humour. Laugh at things, laugh at the absurdities of life, laugh at yourself.

Through the year people will thank God for you. And let the reason for their thankfulness be not just that you were a person whom they liked or loved but because you made God real to them.

Giles

Diocesan Day of Healing

Saturday 17 February there will be a Diocesan Day of Healing taking place at Victoria Baptist Church, Eldon Road Eastbourne.



LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Everyone is welcome

Non-returnable booking fee of £10 per person

Apply on-line via www.chichester.anglican.org/events
Alternatively use the booking form in the Cloister
Or contact lifeinallitsfullness2018@gmail.com

Drinks will be provided but please bring your own lunch.

NEWS & EVENTS



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.

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 or complete a Welcome card. You'll then receive updates and news.

For more details please complete one of the Welcome cards (usually available in the pews) and return it to one of our Welcome Team.

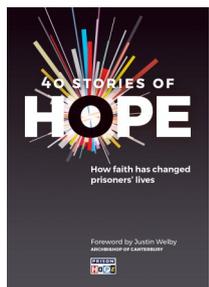
Magazine distribution - thank you

Thanks to all who distributed the Christmas HOPE magazine with the Parish Magazine last month. Nationally more than 470,000 copies of the magazine were delivered to homes by local churches, and distributed at carol services in cathedrals as well as village churches. The niece of one of the people featured received a copy in a door-to-door delivery and went to her local church carol service as a result. She hadn't attended church for years. She is now taking steps to rediscover faith in Jesus. And that's just one of countless stories being reported to the HOPE office. Please pray that many people in Meads will take steps of faith, having read Christmas HOPE and our parish magazine.



40 Stories of Hope

40 Stories of Hope has been compiled by Catherine Butcher and includes our vicar's story – story 19. The foreword is by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the book includes stories from prisoners, prison chaplains and ex-prisoners, together with 40 daily readings and prayers. It is the 2018 Lent book for Churches Together In Britain and Ireland. Copies are available at the back of church for £2 or can be ordered online at www.cwr.org.uk/hope where copies can be ordered as a gift for prisoners.



Confirmation 2018

In March St John's will be welcoming the Bishop of Lewes as we host a service of baptism and confirmation for the Eastbourne deanery. This is a wonderful occasion in our church calendar. Together as a family we stand in love and support with those who are wanting to mark publicly their decision to go deeper in their faith. In the New Year we will be running a course of preparation for anyone who would like to explore confirmation* (and where applicable baptism). To find out more speak to Giles or Jill or put your details on the sign up sheet at the back of Church.



*What is confirmation?

Throughout the history of the Church, Christian communities have marked the point when those who are new to the Christian faith have acknowledged publicly their decision to follow Jesus and to play a full part in the family of God. Often this has involved adult baptism as we witnessed at St John's earlier this year (Jan 2017). Many of us however may have been baptised as infants. For those who have, confirmation gives an opportunity to claim for ourselves those promises to follow Jesus that were made for us by parents and godparents. At our confirmation the Bishop lays hands on us and invites the Holy Spirit to fill us and empower us for our journey of faith.

*Who is confirmation for?

Confirmation is for anyone. There is no official upper or lower age limit although you will need to be available for a short course of preparation and be willing and able to make a public profession of faith before the Bishop and the congregation at your confirmation service. The Church of England (Anglican Church) does not have 'membership' however if you are joining St John's from a different denomination then Confirmation can also serve as a sign of your desire to make this your Spiritual home. Whatever your circumstances, if you are at all unsure, please speak to Giles or Jill.

We look forward to supporting you on your life long journey of faith.

The Confirmation Preparation Course begins on Monday 22 January at Revd Jill Preece's home. For more details please speak to Jill or contact her via email: jill@stjm.org.uk

Donations please!

Our Patchwork Love team need more wool to knit their beautiful prayer blankets. Do you have any surplus knitting wool you'd like to donate?



If you do, please bring it to church and drop it into the basket at the back of church.

Alternatively, a monetary donation can be made if you haven't got any spare wool. All donations will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Jazz Evening - don't miss it! Wednesday 24 January, 7.30pm

Following the success of last summer's Jazz Concert. Mark Edwards will be hosting another Jazz evening on Wednesday 24 January at 7.30pm. This will feature the wonderful clarinet virtuoso AURELIE TROPEZ who is visiting the UK from Paris. Aurelie is an amazing internationally renowned musician, specialising in Jazz from the 30's and 40's, who works all over Europe and visits the UK once or twice a year - so this is a very special rare chance to hear her.

Having played annual sell out concerts in Brighton for the past few years, St John's are honoured to welcome her to perform in Eastbourne for the first time!

She will again be accompanied by Mark on piano, Steve Thompson on double bass and Piers Clark on guitar.



Tickets £10, still available from the church office.
Wine & nibbles included

Clearing out your wardrobe ... ?

... the Family Support Work shop in Cornfield Road is in urgent need of adult clothes.



Sermons Online



You can find the Sunday Sermons online on our website, on Facebook or on YouTube. A great way to keep up to date with the current messages.