

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

26 March 2017

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

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

Readings: Exodus 40: 34 - 38
Ephesians 2: 19 - 22

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

Next Sunday 2 April 2017

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Nick & Rosemary Bland

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Jorj Kowszun
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Canon Michael Cole
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Peggy & Robert Millett, Pam Lade & Patricia Kelley



Tuesday 4 April 7pm

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.

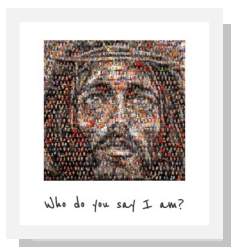


EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 27 March**
9.00am Morning Prayer (back of church)
10.30am PARCHE at Meads House
11.00am Gardening Team meeting (Pauling Room)
5.30pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
- Tuesday 28 March**
9.00am St John's School Rehearsal (church)
10.30am Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm Blands' Home Group
- Wednesday 29 March**
9.30am Quiet Prayer (chapel)
2.30pm Scrabble Club (Jubilee Hall)
6.00pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm Adams' Home Group
7.30pm Springfield Home Group
- Thursday 30 March**
10.00am Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am Holy Communion (chapel)
2.30pm St John's School Easter Service (church)
7.15pm Rustington Court Home Group
- Friday 31 March**
10.00am Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)

Who Do You Say I Am?

'Who Do You Say I Am?' takes readers on a journey of discovery using evidence and experience to help verify that Jesus was a real person who lived in the Middle East 2,000 years ago. This illustrated paperback explains why Jesus died and what the resurrection can mean for people today. Written by St John's Reader Catherine Butcher, it includes Adrian Butcher's story of finding faith as a student on a gap year in Israel, and also quotes Art Historian Helen Rufus-Ward, also a member at St John's. Visit www.easterhope.org.uk/film to watch Helen talking about Jesus – the interview was filmed at St John's.



Copies of 'Who Do You Say I Am?' are available in packs of 10 for £11.50 (plus p&p) from www.cpo.org.uk/hopeshop Phone: 01903 263354 to order copies – or sign the list in the church foyer to order your copies to give away to friends and family members as an Easter gift.

Martha Weatherill

We are looking forward to welcoming Martha, Jonathan and Amy back to St John's on Palm Sunday, 9th April, where she will be leading prayers at the 9.30 and 11.15am services. Martha is being ordained at Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 1st July so if you would like to go and support her tickets will be available either from Martha herself on Palm Sunday or from the church office after that.



St John's Diamond Jubilee Year

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

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

Helpers Needed - Refreshments & Stewards

The church will be open to the public at various times during the Festival so we shall need some helpers to steward/welcome visitors and we'll also be providing refreshments at those times too. If you are able to help with refreshments or stewarding at any point during our Festival, then please add your name to the sign up sheets on the noticeboard in the Cloister. Thank you.

Church Electoral Roll Notice

We are revising the church 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.

NEWS & EVENTS

Gardening Team meeting - tomorrow

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 3 April

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.



Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday 8 April at 8.00am, returning to our normal venue of the Holywell Café, please tick your name on the list on the notice board in the church porch. Keith Adams will be sharing his thought for the day at the breakfast.



Future dates for your diary, all at Holywell Café,

27 May - Clive Dilloway

8 July - Byron

23 September - Derek Moulard

Thank you!

A big thank you to everyone who has kindly donated tea towels to Open The Book. No more are required as we now have more than enough.

Bible by the Beach, 28 April - 1 May 2017

'Firm Foundations - Reformation for Today'

Great speakers will be joining us over the weekend and Mark Ashworth and his team will be running a youth programme for the under 18s. Don't miss it!

Children's Volunteers Cream Tea

We have a wonderful team of volunteers serving the children at St John's. Over the past few weeks we have heard about the ongoing need for more volunteers. If you would be interested in joining this wonderful team then come along to a Cream Tea at the Vicarage on



Sunday 2nd April at 4pm to find out more. Please let Tris or Hannah know if you are planning to attend.

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. 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)

A few tickets still 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.

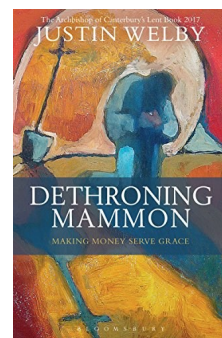


Points for Prayer this week

- For all who read the Spring edition of the Parish Magazine as it is distributed to the households of Meads
- Those planning the new look Alpha Course and for all who will take part once the Course is up and running
- All who live in the many Care Homes in our Parish, and for God's blessing on the services that our held in those Homes
- For all those involved and affected by last Wednesday's atrocities at Westminster, especially the families and friends of the victims

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

A Musical Treat!

You are warmly invited to the Town Hall this Tuesday, 28th March, at 7.30pm to hear the Concert Orchestra playing the Mozart Jupiter Symphony, Beethoven Egmont, some Bizet and even something rather macabre....! You may even recognise two string players as members of the St John's family! Do come - everyone welcome.

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