

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: 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

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



26 November 2017

The Sunday Next Before Advent

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Richard Wells & Dick Thwaites

First reading: Revelation 21: 1 - 4
Second reading: Matthew 4: 17 & 23 - 24

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Rowena Adams, Phyllis Hall, Jorj & Margaret Kowszun, Nick Pendry & Catherine Butcher

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: David Maddock, Sheila MacNicol & Pam Lade
Hymns: 580, 44, 340, 19

Reading: Revelation 21: 1 - 4
Read by: Christine Symes

Reading: Matthew 4: 17 & 23 - 24
Read by: Trevor Salmon

3.30pm Connexions (at the Vicarage - by invitation)

6.00pm Darkness to Light Service
Lead by Revd Giles Carpenter

Next Sunday 3 December 2017

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Peter Pickett
Assisting: Diana Guthrie

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Catherine Butcher
Preaching: Jill Maddock

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd David Maddock
Preaching: Jill Maddock
Assisting: Peggy & Robert Millett, Pam Lade

3.00pm Renaissance Singers Advent Meditation

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 27 November**
9.00am Morning Prayer
10.30am PARCHE at Meads House
5.30pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm Margrys' Home Group
7.30pm Kowszuns' Home Group
- Tuesday 28 November**
10.30am Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
7.00pm Lights of Love Service (church)
- Wednesday 29 November**
9.30am Quiet Prayer (Chapel)
2.30pm Scrabble Club (Jubilee Hall)
6.00pm Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm Adams' Home Group
- Thursday 30 November**
10.00am Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am Holy Communion (Chapel)
2.30pm Maddocks' Home Group
6.30pm Living Faith Course (Jubilee Hall)
- Friday 1 December**
10.00am Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)
3.45pm Funeral - Barrie Morris (crematorium service)

Please note: there will be no Prayer & Praise in November or December

Points for Prayer this week

- For the forthcoming Alpha Course, starting 11 January; as the event is increasingly publicised that people will be drawn to sign up for this
- International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians is observed this weekend; we are asked to pray for all who are suffering for their faith in Christ, particularly for church leaders, individual Christians and their families
- For the work of the Bible Society as they support local churches up and down the country, and for their valuable work in providing Bibles in China, among the traumatised in the Middle East and in Sub-Saharan Africa

'The Bereavement Journey'

A 6 - week programme to help us understand grief and an opportunity to share in confidence, within a small group.

Have you experienced the death of a loved one (or another kind of significant loss) and would like help along that inevitable and painful journey of grieving?

We are just finished our first series of this programme and plan to offer it again in the New Year. If you would like to consider this opportunity, please contact Sheila Smith: smith63@uwclub.net

“Overcoming Grief: You can't go over, under, or around it, you must go through it.”

-griefrecoverymethod.com

Advent Meditation, Sunday 3 December, 3pm

The wonderful Renaissance Singers will be performing their Advent Meditation on Sunday 3 December at 3pm and as with previous years we'd love to receive some cake donations to accompany our refreshments after the service. They will most definitely be very much appreciated!



Tree of Light

A special Christmas tree in front of the Towner Art Gallery will be illuminated by a host of white lights in memory of loved ones. Should you wish to dedicate a light in memory of a loved one or in honour of a friend or colleague please collect a dedication form from the porch at the front of the church. Whilst no payment is required from you to support the tree of light, should you wish to make a voluntary donation this will enable charities supported by Rotary to continue their valuable work.

Should you have any questions please call Dennis Thompson on 01323 749329.

Friends of the DGH

The Friends of the DGH are keen to recruit additional volunteers to their much needed trolley service to the wards of the hospital selling newspapers and sweets. Currently the service is under staffed and it is proving difficult to maintain a consistent service. Are you able to spare two hours in your day to give that added service to the patients of the DGH? If yes please contact Debbie Wicks or Sue Duffell at the Friends of the DGH office on 01323 417400 ext 4696.

NEWS & EVENTS

Tris & Hannah's last Sunday

On Sunday 10 December we shall be taking the opportunity to say a huge thank you to Tris & Hannah for all their hard work over the last two and a half years, and wish them well with their new adventure in Coventry. We'd love to send them off with a gift from St John's, so if you would like to contribute please bring your donation to the church office.



Christingle Construction



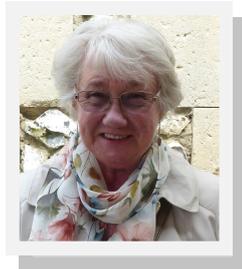
On Friday 22 December we'll be making our Christingles for the 4pm service on Christmas Eve. We would love as many people as possible to come along to the Jubilee Hall at 2pm and help with their construction. We'll have mince pies, mulled wine and some festive music to help us along!

If you can help please let Jo in the

office know if you can make it. Thank you.

Message from Jean Stuart-Grant

A big thank you from me for all the wonderful cards, messages and most of all prayers from so many friends at St John's. I miss you all very much but firmly believe that God meant me to make this move.



Loving regards and blessing to you all.
Jean

Tearfund

The UK government is giving a bonus to Tearfund this Christmas! If you make a donation between now and the new year to Tearfund, then the government will match your giving pound for pound. This means that whatever you give will have double the impact. If you donate directly, then simply indicate that it is for the Christmas Appeal. Any donations via the church will also be doubled by the government. So, why not give a donation to Tearfund this Christmas and make the government double it?

You can get further information by going to www.tearfund.org or look at the church noticeboard.

Attention Distribution Team Parish Magazines

Copies of the parish magazine will be available to pick up on Wednesday together with a free Christmas HOPE magazine for every home in the parish. If you are already part of the delivery team, thank you. If you live in a flat with an entry system and can take copies for the other flats in your building, we would appreciate your help. Anyone is welcome to join Catherine on Saturday 2nd December from 10am delivering copies. Please let Catherine know if you can help – 01323 647195.

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.

Alpha at St John's

The next Alpha course starts at 7.30pm on Thursday 11th January 2018 and runs until 8th March at Sally & David's home. Please use the invitations in the pews to invite anyone you know who might be interested in exploring what Christianity is about. There is a taster evening with supper on Thursday 7th December at 7.30pm for anyone who wants to find out more. Contact Catherine & Adrian (07850 083414) or Sally & David (01323 732504) for more information, to book a place, to join the prayer support team, or to help with catering for the course in the New Year.

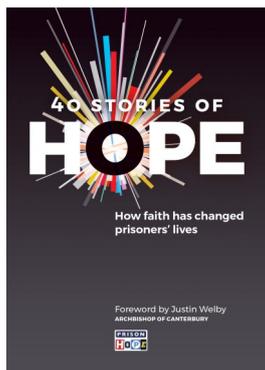


Matthew 25 Mission Christmas Bazaar

Pop down to Matthew 25 on Saturday 9 December between 10am - 12pm and join them for their Christmas Bazaar. Lots of stalls, Christmas food, gift ideas and Stix Drummers will be performing. Everyone welcome.



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. 15,000 copies have already been pledged as gifts for UK prisoners.

Darkness To Light Service

We shall be holding our Darkness to Light Service this evening at 6pm in church. Do come along and experience this very special service. Everyone welcome.



Alone at Christmas?

The Rotary Club of Eastbourne would like to know of anyone who will be alone on Christmas Day. They offer a Christmas Lunch from 12 - 4 pm at Our Lady of Ransom Church Hall. Guests will be collected from 11am - 11.30am. Please contact Dennis Thompson on 01323 749329 with any names, full addresses and telephone numbers.



Lights of Love

St Wilfrid's Hospice will be holding their Lights of Love event here at St John's on Tuesday 28 November at 7pm.

You are warmly invited to join us at our Lights of Love event, where we will come together to remember the wonderful times spent with those we have loved and lost.



Rotas

For those of you not on email, your paper rotas are now available in the pigeon holes in the Cloister. Please pick yours up today. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS at St John's

Beer & Carols

Thursday 14 December 8pm

- at The Ship Inn, Meads Street

Family Nativity

Sunday 17 December 9.30am

- for families and children

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 17 December 6pm

- with sherry and mince pies

Christmas Eve

8am Heritage Communion (BCP)

9.30am Contemporary Communion

11.15am Classic Communion

Christingle Service

4pm - for families and children

11pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8am Heritage Communion (BCP)

10am Family Communion