

## 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.

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## 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.



# NEWS SHEET



## 3 & 10 December 2017

### The First Sunday of Advent

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

Epistle: Romans 13: 8 - 14  
Gospel: Matthew 21: 1 - 13

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

**11.15am Classic Communion**  
Presiding: Revd David Maddock  
Preaching: Jill Maddock  
Assisting: Pam Lade

Hymns: 128, 703, 691, 480

Reading: Romans 13: 8 - 14  
Read by: Elaine Montgomery

Reading: Matthew 21: 1 - 13  
Read by: Sheila MacNicol

**3.00pm Renaissance Singers Advent Meditation**

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### Next Sunday 10 December 2017

**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: Phyllis Hall, Catherine Butcher, Nick Pendry, Clive & Kate Dilloway

**11.15am Choral Matins**  
Leading & Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

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### Sunday 17 December 2017

**8.00am Heritage Communion**  
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter  
Preaching: Jill Maddock

**9.30am Family Nativity Service**  
Leading: Revd Jill Preece  
Preaching: Catherine Butcher

**11.15am Classic Communion**  
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter  
Preaching: Revd Peter Pickett

**6.00pm Carol Service**  
Lead by Revd Giles Carpenter

## EVENTS THIS WEEK & NEXT

<b>Monday</b>	<b>4 December</b>
9.00am	Morning Prayer
5.30pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5 December</b>
11.00am	Movement to Music Christmas Party (Jubilee Hall)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6 November</b>
9.30am	Quiet Prayer (Chapel)
6.00pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Gathering for Children's Leaders (Vicarage)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7 November</b>
10.00am	Parent & Toddler Group Christmas Party (Jubilee Hall)
10.45am	Funeral - Derek Brady (Crematorium)
11.00am	Holy Communion (chapel)
3.00pm	Sunnymead Home Group
6.30pm	Living Faith Course (Jubilee Hall)
7.15pm	Rustington Court Home Group
7.45pm	Choir practice
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8 December</b>
10.00am	Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)

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<b>Monday</b>	<b>11 December</b>
8.40am	St John's School rehearsal (church)
9.00am	Morning Prayer (in Jubilee Hall)
11.00am	PARCHE at Camelot
2.30pm	Scrabble Club (Jubilee Hall)
5.30pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Margrys' Home Group
7.30pm	Kowszuns' Home Group
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12 December</b>
9.00am	St Andrew's School Rehearsal (church)
6.00pm	St John's School Carol Service (church)
7.30pm	PCC meeting (Pauling Room)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>13 November</b>
9.30am	Quiet Prayer (chapel)
10.30am &	
2.00pm	Robin Hill Nursery Rehearsals (Jubilee Hall)
6.00pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm	Springfield Home Group
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14 November</b>
10.00am	Robin Hill Nursery Christmas Show & Party (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am	Holy Communion (chapel)
7.45pm	Choir practice
8.00pm	Beer & Carols at The Ship, Meads Street
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15 December</b>
10.00am	Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)
11.15am	St Andrew's School Christmas Service (church)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16 December</b>
8.30am	Prayer Plus (back of church) - <i>no breakfast</i>

### '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](mailto:smith63@uwclub.net)



### Tree of Light



A special Christmas tree in front of the Townner 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.

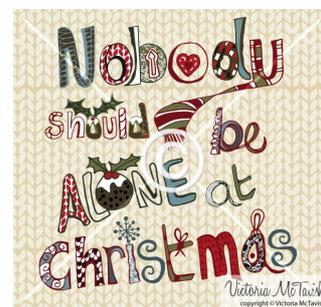
Should you have any questions please call Dennis Thompson on 01323 749329.

### 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.

### 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.



### Christmas message from Peter & Effene Lomas

We would like to send all our friends at St John's our very best wishes for a blessed Christmas and good health and God's richest blessings for 2018. We'd also like to thank you for the good wishes and cards for our new home and the get well cards to Effene....and of course your prayers too which have been wonderfully answered.

God bless you all, we miss you, Peter & Effene.

# 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



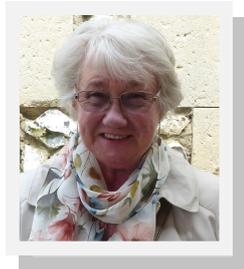
On Friday 22 December we'll be making our Christingles for the 4pm service on Christmas Eve. We would love as many people as possible to come along to the Jubilee Hall at 2pm and help with their construction. We'll have mince pies, mulled wine and some festive music to help us along!

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](http://www.tearfund.org) or look at the church noticeboard.

## \*\*Attention Distribution Team\*\* Parish Magazines

Batches of the parish magazine are now available to pick up, together with a free Christmas HOPE magazine, from the back of church. If you are already part of the delivery team, thank you for your continued help with delivering these. If you're not but live in a flat with an entry system and can take copies for the other flats in your building, we would very much appreciate your help.

# 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.

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### 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.



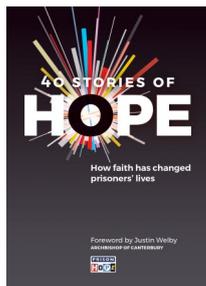
### Family Nativity, 17th December

On Sunday 17th December, the 9.30 service will be our Family Nativity service. This year the service will be a 'Pop - Up Nativity' and there will be lots of opportunities to join in.

It would be lovely to have lots of people dressed as characters from the Nativity story, so do come along dressed as Mary, or Joseph, a shepherd, a wise man (or woman!) an angel or even one of the animals around the manger. This applies to children and adults alike!



## 40 Stories of Hope



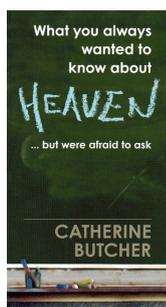
40 Stories of Hope has been compiled by Catherine Butcher and includes our vicar's story – story 19. The foreword is by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the book includes stories from prisoners, prison chaplains and ex-prisoners, together with 40 daily readings and prayers. It is the 2018 Lent book for 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](http://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.

## Heaven

Following Jill Preece's sermon last Sunday, you might like to read 'What you always wanted to know about Heaven ... but were afraid to ask' by Catherine Butcher.

Rowena Adams, who has read it says: "It's a book everyone should read." Copies are available new from Catherine for £5 or second-hand online from £0.01 plus p&p.



## Advent Meditation, Sunday 3 December, 3pm

The wonderful Renaissance Singers will be performing their Advent Meditation here this afternoon, Sunday 3 December at 3pm.

## 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.



## CAMEO



To all Ladies at St John's - come and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas festivities, fun, mince pies and tea! Monday 18th December, 2pm in the Jubilee Hall.

## Points for Prayer this week

- For ourselves as we journey through Advent and sing the well-loved Christmas carols, that our hearts will thrill to the message of Advent and Christmas
- For the Parish magazine as it goes out to many households in our Parish, that people will be touched by God's Spirit and that they will be drawn to the Christmas services
- For the work of the Beachy Head chaplains amongst vulnerable people particularly at this time of year

# 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