

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 738671
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 & Jeremy Daniels
contact via the office on:
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

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

6 March 2016

The Fourth Sunday of Lent - Mothering Sunday

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jill Maddock
Assisting: Dick Thwaites & Richard Wells

Epistle: Galatians 4: 21 - end
Gospel: John 6: 1-14

10.00am Contemporary Service - Mother's Day
Leading: Revd Jill Preece/Tris Peattie
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

No 11.15am service

Next Sunday 13 March 2016

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

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Peter Pickett
Assisting: May Harris, Rowena Adams, David & Jenny Barker, Jorj & Margaret Kowszun

11.15am Morning Prayer
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Peter Pickett

4.00pm Connexions - Tea at the Vicarage
(by invitation)

Attention Distribution Team!

Our Easter Edition of the Parish Magazine are now available on the tables at the back of church for collection and distribution.

Please pick up your batch on the way out today.
Thank you.

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 7 March
 9.00am Morning Prayer (back of church)
 11.00am PARCHE at Camelot
 12.00pm Lunch Club (Parish Hall)
 2.30pm Holy Communion at Elstree Nursing Home

Tuesday 8 March
 10.30am Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
 12.30pm Lent Series # 4
 2.30pm Moulands' Home Group
 7.00pm Kemps' Home Group
 7.30pm Blands' Home Group

Wednesday 9 March
 9.30am Quiet Prayer (chapel)

Thursday 10 March
 10.00am Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
 11.00am Holy Communion (chapel)
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
 2.30pm Maddocks' Home Group
 3.00pm Dennis Fowler's Home Group
 7.15pm Rustington Court Home Group

Friday 11 March
 10.00am Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)

Saturday 12 March
 10.00am Mad March Fayre (Jubilee Hall)

After the 9.30 service today

Prayer Ministry

After the service members of the prayer ministry team are available in **the chapel** to pray with you, or any issue you wish to bring before God, or simply for a fresh touch of the Holy Spirit.

Points for Prayer this week

- The new team leading preparations for the next Meads Magic
- Effective distribution of the Easter edition of the Parish Magazine
- Success for the 'Mad March Fayre' fund-raiser on Saturday 12 March
- Continued distribution of aid to Syria, and especially in Aleppo

Men's Breakfast

The next meeting will be on Saturday 26 March at the Holywell Café. We will be focusing on the Eastbourne Food Bank and it's expanding ministry in the community, with updates from a few important representatives from our local centre.



Our support at St John's emanated early on from an initial introduction to the Food Bank at one of our first Men's Breakfasts 3 - 4 years ago. Can we go further? Come and see!

Eastbourne Food Bank



The Food Bank is always in need of provisions, especially at this time of year. Please remember to add an extra tin or two when you're shopping and bring your donations to church for the Food Bank crate, situated in the cloister. Thank you.

Postcards

I am still collecting postcards to be sold at auction to raise money for the church in Sudan and South Sudan. The money supplements meagre or non-existent salaries for pastors, many of whom are playing a vital role in reconciliation. All postcards have a value: new, used, coloured, black & white or sepia, individual or in albums. I am happy to pick up any or they can be left in the pigeon hole under R. Thank you very much.



Helen Roe



New Wine Summer Camp

Saturday, 23 July to Friday, 29 July 2016
 Royal Bath & West Showground,
 Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

This year a group from St John's will be attending the summer 'New Wine' camp at the Royal Bath and West Showground. The week-long programme includes morning and evening celebrations, seminars, teaching, and a great opportunity to get to know other members of the church family both here at St John's and from our Deanery partner church of St Elisabeth's who we will be pitching camp with.

For more information and to book go to The New Wine website: <https://www.new-wine.org> and book under St Elisabeth's (NOT St John's) or alternatively contact Giles or Jill Preece for more information.

Spring Conference of the Chichester Diocesan Fellowship

"Tongue-tied? Having Confidence to speak for Jesus" is the theme of the Spring Conference of the Chichester Evangelical Fellowship on Saturday 12 March, at St Andrew's Church, Cants Lane, Burgess Hill, RH15 8AJ from 9.30am to 1pm. Speaker: Glen Scrivener. All welcome. Further details: www.chichesterdef.org.uk or Sue Murray 01293 533727



Bible By The Beach

DISTINCTIVE - the power of transforming grace
29 April - 2 May 2016,
Congress Theatre,
Eastbourne.



Come for a weekend of spiritual refreshment and growth in Eastbourne with an international line up of speakers including David Cook, Tim Lane, Jonathan Lamb, Mike Ovey, Emma Scrivener, Ray Evans, Paul Mallard & Chris Sinkinson. Bible By The Beach 2016 will focus on what the Bible teaches about being distinctive as Christians, and will challenge us all to live for Christ. Music by Andy Fenton & Stuart Townend. A full youth programme runs alongside the adult seminars, celebrations and bible readings, making this a great weekend for the whole family. Visit www.biblebythebeach.org for all the latest updates and book tickets at: www.thegoodbook.co.uk/biblebythebeach2106.



BIBLE BY THE BEACH

Side by Side - Faith Movement for Gender Justice

Some will probably have seen on Facebook that Geoffrey Daintree is retiring from Christian Aid at Easter. He is, however, continuing as one of the leaders in a world-wide effort for Gender Justice, on which he has been working for some time. This is a multi-faith movement, and already regional workshops have been held with many representatives, in Nairobi for East Africa and Sao Paulo for Latin America, as well as in London. Others are planned in South Africa and Europe. You may be interested to discover more about this movement on their website. www.sidebysidegender.org

Celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday

We are planning to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday with a Thanksgiving Service at St John's on Sunday 12 June, followed by a street party. On the same day 10,000 people will be guests of Her Majesty at a street party in The Mall and communities around the country will be celebrating. If you would like to be involved in the planning, please come along to an initial discussion meeting in the Pauling Room at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd March or contact Catherine Butcher or Tony Mottram. There is a Facebook page 'The Queen's 90th Birthday in Meads, Eastbourne' to keep in touch with plans as they progress.



THE QUEEN'S
90TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION

Mid Week Lent Reflections

A series of five weekly reflections continuing on Tuesday 8 March at 12.30pm (bring lunch to eat together at 1.15pm). I'd like to invite you to take a step through the 'Door of Mercy' this Lent!

Following Bishop Martin declaring 2016 a Year of Mercy, our midweek Lenten reflections will explore what it means for us to live generously, reflecting the mercy that God has shown to us to others.

Whether you have made time for Lenten reflections in the past or considering it for the first time, you are invited, through a quiet act of worship, bible reflection and prayer, to walk through this 'Door of Mercy' to go deeper in your faith and your response to God's extravagant mercy. **Giles**



Coming up this term!

The season of Lent (starts on 10th Feb) marks a pivotal point in the history of the church, when Jesus prepared to give himself up as a sacrifice. Traditionally we mark Lent by giving something up, but what if it could be more than that? What if Lent was a preparation for a lifetime of **big-heartedness**? With this thought in mind, both in the build-up and during Lent, we will be embarking on a different take this season by focussing our teaching on a series of sermons about generosity. Alongside the series each of us is invited to participate in a **generosity challenge** to undertake forty simple acts of generosity, which will challenge us to 'do Lent generously' in 2016. Small acts of generosity, performed by thousands of people across the UK and beyond, have the power to make a big change to our communities, to our churches and ultimately, to our world.

Resources, including a daily prompt to your smart phone, are available at www.40acts.org.uk but we will also have paper resources available nearer the time.

Home groups that would like to reflect more on the series can also access small group resources on line or get paper copies via the church office. Using the material in a small group setting, people can examine each sign by looking at some study questions that build to a recurring vital question: 'What do these signs say about Jesus?'

God has given so much to each of us so let's all do Lent generously this year! **Giles**

Lent Box Appeal

This year's appeal will be in aid of the charity "Open Doors" which supports persecuted Christians in many countries and particularly those in Iraq and Syria who have shown the faith and courage to remain in those countries.

Please collect a Lent Box from the back of the church and return a full box at Easter. Thank you.



Open Doors
Serving persecuted Christians worldwide



New to St John's? - Connexions

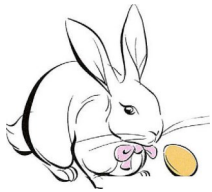
CONNEXIONS

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 (by invitation) with a cream tea 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.

Mad March Fayre, Saturday 12 March, 10am - 2.30pm



A 'Mad March Fayre' will be held on Saturday 12 March in the Jubilee Hall between 10am - 2.30pm. There will be a gift stall, "Katie's Marmalade", "Bargain Hunt" area, and refreshments also available. Most of what is on offer is provided from Katie England's estate. The proceeds will be supporting

Katie's two dearest wishes, ReVive and the cross installation at the front of church. Please come along and spend generously! NB: please don't bring items along to sell as it's not a bring and buy sale. Monetary donations will be very gratefully received though!

'Green fingers' needed!

Do you have any house or garden plants that you could take cuttings from, pot up and grow on in readiness for the Church Summer Fete on Saturday 4 June?

The garden stall is generously supplied every year by Maurice Taylor and despite other donations we sold out in record time last year. Thank you. **Neil Waterston**

Chaseley Services

Our next short service is on Tuesday 15 March at 2pm.

We are looking for volunteers from St John's to support this, and possibly future events. There is a list in the porch, if you are able and willing to support us, sign up or speak to Vic on 417113, and come along. **Vic Lawrence**

Renaissance Singers Concert

Followers of the Renaissance Singers may be interested to know that they will be giving a concert entitled "Music for the Lenten Season" at St. Saviours Church, South Street at 3pm on Sunday 13th March. Admission is free.

Can you help?

Our distribution team is in need of some help. We have lots of gaps where certain streets/flats are not being delivered to. If you can help and are happy to pound the pavements of our parish delivering magazines or even just being able to drop a batch off at a block of flats, then please, please get in touch with Jo in the office.

Can you help with: Ascham Place, The Dentons, Denton Road, Wells Close, Hyde Tynings Close, Lordslaine Close, Hill Court, Rustington Court, Endcliff Court.



Children's News

Friends of St John's Meads Quiz Night

Friday 11 March at 7.30pm for 8pm start

St John's Meads School Hall

Teams of 6 people needed – all welcome!

Raising money for school playground equipment.

Ticket details to follow.

Coming up!

May Camp 27 May - 30 May 2016,

Plumpton Race Course.

Weekend camping trip for

Streetwise coming up.

For more information speak to

Tris Peattie or email him:

tris@stjm.org.uk



Lunch Club 2016

Come and enjoy a light lunch with us at the Parish Hall, for just £3 per head, on Monday 7 March from 12 noon with last orders for food at 1.30pm. There's no need to book, so if you're on your own, don't get out much or would just simply like to come and have a chat and a bite to eat then come along, we'd love to see you. Everyone welcome!

See Cloister noticeboard for 2016 dates.



Jany from Aleppo

Jany, who is John Caroe's friend from Aleppo will, we trust, have managed to leave during this truce for a prearranged trip to UK. He is due to speak about his trials in Aleppo at Gateway's new church in Frenchgate Road, Hampden Park on Saturday 12 March at 7pm. It will be an unforgettable eye-opener. All are welcome!