

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.



7 January 2018

The First Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Richard Wells

Epistle: I John 3: 1 - 3
Gospel: Luke 10: 38 - end & 11: 1 - 4

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

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Patricia Kelley,
Robert & Peggy Millett

Hymns: 49, 114, 552, 359

Reading: I John 3: 1 - 3
Read by: Patricia Kelley

Reading: Luke 10: 38 - end & 11: 1 - 4
Ready by: David Oakenfold

3.00pm Epiphany Meditation
with The Renaissance Singers

Sunday 14 January

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun
Assisting: Dianne Barrett

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun
Assisting: Sheila O'Hanlon, Rowena Adams,
Diana Guthrie, Phyllis Hall & Margaret Kowszun

EVENTS THIS WEEK & NEXT

Monday	8	January
9.00am		Morning Prayer (back of church)
11.00am		PARCHE at Camelot
12.00pm		Lunch Club (Parish Hall)
2.30pm		Scrabble Club (Jubilee Hall)
5.30pm		Beavers (Jubilee Hall)
7.30pm		Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
Tuesday	9	January
10.30am		Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
Wednesday	10	January
9.30am		Quiet Prayer
6.00pm		Cubs (Jubilee Hall)
Thursday	11	January
10.00am		Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am		Holy Communion (church)
7.30pm		Alpha Course #1
7.45pm		Choir practice
Friday	12	January
10.00am		Paperback Library & Coffeepot Computing (Parish Hall)
Saturday	13	January
8.00am		Men's Breakfast at Holywell Café

Points for Prayer this week

- For God's blessing on the Alpha Course, beginning in the New Year, that there will be a good take-up
- For all those suffering with illness at this time and for those who have been unwell over the Christmas and New Year period
- For all the wonderful work the NHS doctors and nurses are doing, especially at this very difficult time

Parent & Toddler Group

Our Parent & Toddler Group begins again next Thursday, 11 January at the usual time of 10am in the Jubilee Hall.



INTO 2018...

Men's Breakfast



The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday 13th January when Dennis Thompson will be sharing his Thought for the Day. The sign up list is in the Cloister and please remember if you sign up and cannot attend, cross your name off the list or call Dennis on 749329. The list will be removed the Tuesday before the event.

Future dates for your diary are, 10th February and 24th March when Richard Wells and John Haydon will be sharing their Thoughts for the Day.

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. 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.



Lunch Club

Our next Lunch Club at the Parish Hall will be tomorrow, Monday 8 January at 12 noon. Come along and join us 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!



CAMEO - Monday 15 January, 2pm, Jubilee Hall

Ladies, join us on Monday 15 January when we look forward to welcoming Jill Parker from the JPK Project (Providing Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities) telling us about her new exciting work in Old Town.



Children's Society candle money boxes

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

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.

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

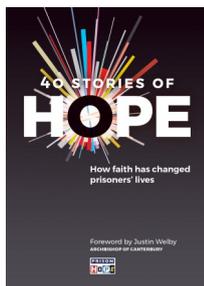
Thank you



We'd like to send our thanks and appreciation to Jean Tucker for all her hard work as the Flower Team leader. Jean is stepping down from the role so we now have a vacancy in that area. If you're a keen flower arranger and would like to take over the reigns from Jean, then please contact Giles, Jill Preece or Jo in the office.

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.



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.

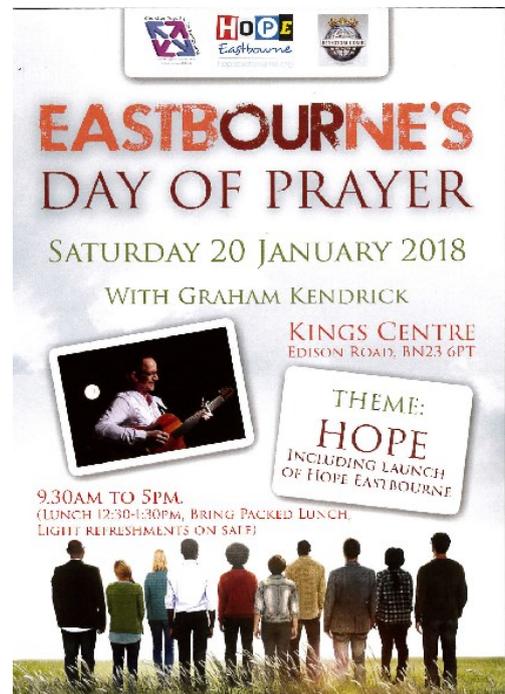
Another way in which we like to reach people is through our 'Keeping In Touch' email list. To be included in the mailing list please sign one of the forms on the Welcome Desk or complete a Welcome card. You'll then receive updates and news.

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

Eastbourne's Day of Prayer

Theme - HOPE including the launch of HOPE Eastbourne.

Saturday 20 January 2018, 9.30am - 5.30pm, Kings Centre, Edison Road, BN23 6PT. Everyone welcome, please bring your own packed lunch - refreshments are available.



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.

Clarinet virtuoso

Aurélie Tropez started the clarinet at the age of 8 in the south of France. Only five years later, she made her debut in jazz! The National

Conservatory in Nice awarded her a gold medal in classical saxophone, for both the instrumental

ensemble and chamber music categories. She decided to pursue her jazz studies in Paris, with André Villéger. After studying the great clarinet masters; Barney Bigard, Benny Goodman and Buddy de Franco, Aurélie developed her own very personal style, which is a combination of New Orleans and Swing, and began to establish her reputation as one of the most eloquent and respected clarinetists on the European Jazz Scene today. Aurélie now lives in suburban Paris, performing regularly in many different groups, from duets to big bands all over France and Europe; Germany, Switzerland UK, Netherlands, Hungary, Sweden, Denmark and China, as well as appearing on many recording projects.



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.



Mark Edwards has performed with Aurelie on her visits to the UK over the last few years, is a huge fan of hers, and is delighted to present this concert. Mark has performed and recorded with a wide array of artists over a thirty year

career; from Paul Weller, Aztec Camera, Chris Rea, Dave Stewart, Daryl Hall, KT Tunstall and Katie Melua, to Johnny Dankworth, Scott Hamilton, Roy Castle and Bruce Forsyth. He has performed around the world, appeared on film soundtracks; including the Oscar winning 'An Education' and played on several hundred albums. He performs as a jazz pianist around the UK and regularly in London at such venues as Ronnie Scott's.

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