

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

There will be no supervised children's groups next Sunday 9th April. Rising Stars will be open for parents to use.

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

9 April 2017

Palm Sunday

8.00am Heritage Communion

Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Martha Weatherill

Epistle: Philippians 2: 5 - 11
Gospel: Matthew 27: 38 - 44 & 55 - 56

9.30am Contemporary Communion

Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Dan Inman
Assisting: Roy Orchard, Pam Lade,
Phyllis Hall, Nick Pendry,
Jorj & Margaret Kowszun

11.15am Choral Matins

Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Dan Inman

6.00pm Prayer & Praise

Lead by Catherine Butcher

Next Sunday 16 April 2017 - Easter Sunday

8.00am Heritage Communion

Presiding & Preaching: Revd David Maddock
Assisting: Dick Thwaites & Richard Wells

10.00am Family Communion

Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Catherine Butcher
Assisting: David & Jenny Barker,
Peggy & Robert Millett,
Clive & Kate Dilloway

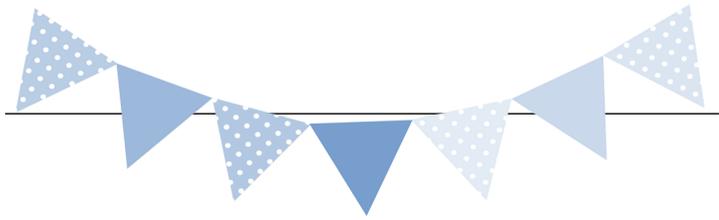
4.30pm for 5pm Easter Service at the DGH

Lead by Derek Moulard

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.





EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 10 April**
 9.00am Morning Prayer (back of church)
 11.00am PARCHE at Camelot
 2.30pm Scrabble Club (Jubilee Hall)
- Tuesday 11 April**
 10.30am Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
 7.00pm Kemps' Home Group
- Wednesday 12 April**
 9.30am Quiet Prayer (chapel)
 10.45am Funeral - Audrey Creed (Crematorium)
- Thursday 13 April - Maundy Thursday**
 11.00am Holy Communion (chapel)
 6.30pm Passover Meal (Jubilee Hall)
- Friday 14 April - Good Friday**
Office Closed
 10.00am The Messy Easter
 12 noon Three Hours At The Cross
 7.00pm Service with Monologues
- Saturday 15 April**
 8.30am Prayer Plus

Monday 17 April - Easter Monday
Office Closed
 No Morning Prayer

Message from Martha Weatherill

Dear St John's family,
 On Saturday 1st July 2017, God willing, I will be ordained as a deacon at Chichester Cathedral. Jonathan and I would like to invite you all to the service at 15.00 and to tea and cakes afterwards at the Alexandra room in the Cathedral grounds. It would be great to see as many of you as are able to make it. Please let me know (or Jo in the church office) if you can come. We're hoping to organise a coach for the journey. Although, I'm the one being ordained from St John's, you have all supported me and some of you have had to put up with me, so this ordination service is a gift from God to all of us as a church family not just to me. Please do remember us in your prayers and be rest assured of my prayers for you all. Every blessing, Martha.

No Paperback Library or Coffee Pot Computing on Good Friday

Hospital Service at the DGH

Our next hospital service at the DGH will be held on Easter Sunday, 16 April, 4.30pm for a 5pm start. Parking vouchers are available from the church office. Please let Derek Moulard know if you wish to attend. Parking tickets available from the church office.

St John's Diamond Jubilee Year

Summer Fete - Saturday 10 June, 12 noon - 4pm

It's that time of year again when we need donations to various stalls for our ever popular Summer Fête.

Please keep bringing in your donations...

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



As 2017 marks the 60th anniversary of the consecration of the new church building, our Festival this year will be themed around photography, primarily photographs of people through the years from 1957 onwards. So with this in mind, if you have any photos dating back through the years of people (not posed photos) that would help us to tell a story through the years we'd love to see them. They don't have to be church related. Please bring your photo/s to the church office, we'll ensure they're clearly marked as to who they belong to and will return them to you once we've made our decisions.

Alternatively, you can send us a jpeg via email to: office@stjm.org.uk

During May we'll be picking the best to be hung in church for the Festival.

We look forward to seeing your photographs.

NEWS & EVENTS

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New Wine Summer Camp

Sunday 30 July to Saturday 5 August 2017, Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

Billed as an 'unforgettable week with acclaimed teaching, passionate worship and life-transforming prayer', can you afford NOT to be there?!

A group from St John's will again be attending the summer 'New Wine' camp again next year, 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. There are plenty of fun activities and groups for children and young people of all ages.

For more information see The New Wine website: <https://www.new-wine.org> or contact Giles or Jill Preece.



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."

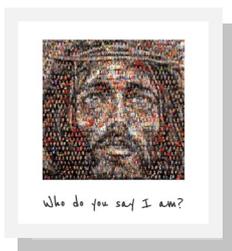
The visit is planned for Thursday 27 April.

Points for Prayer this week

- For us all as we start Holy Week, that we might make time to draw closer to our Lord in his sufferings
- For the next Hospital Service at the DGH, at 5.00pm on Sunday 16th April
- For all those affected by the recent mud slides in Columbia; for the bereaved, the injured and the homeless

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.

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!

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.



Helpers needed

Our popular monthly Lunch Club at the Parish Hall is in need of some extra helpers. We have two teams who work alternate months, so you'd only be asked to help once every two months. If you feel you are able and willing to join our team of hard working helpers then we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Jo in the church office for more information.



Seedling for Solomon

Hi Everybody

Please stop by after church and buy a 'Seedling for Solomon'.

Solomon lives in India and is sponsored by our family through CMCT in Chennai. The funds I raise will go to help the work of CMCT and if I am successful in my fundraising I will have a chance to nominate CMCT as part of a bigger school charity project. Please help me to help Solomon and children like him.

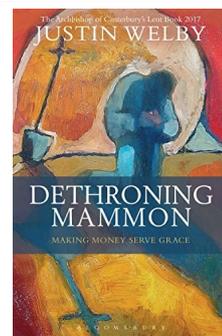


Thank you for your support.

Charlie Carpenter

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

St Wilfrid's Hospice

An excellent way of disposing of your obsolete £1 coins would be to use them to fill a Lent Box in aid of the St Wilfrid's Hospice. There are still a few boxes remaining at the back of the church and more can be supplied if needed.

Please return all Lent Boxes with all your contributions either on Palm Sunday, Good Friday or Easter Day. Thank you!

