

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.



4 March 2018

The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun

Epistle: Isaiah 61: 1 - 2a
Gospel: Mark 8: 27 - 29

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun
Assisting: Trevor Salmon & Diana Guthrie

Hymns: 16, 327, 718, 352

Reading: Isaiah 61: 1 - 2a
Ready by: Patricia Kelley

Reading: Mark 8: 27 - 29
Ready by: Elaine Montgomerie

Sunday 11 March 2018 - Mothering Sunday

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

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Phyllis Hall, Catherine Butcher, Clive & Kate Dilloway
Jorj & Margaret Kowszun

11.15am Choral Matins
Leading: Nick Pendry
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday	5	March
9.00am	Morning Prayer (back of church)	
12.00pm	Lunch Club (Parish Hall)	
5.30pm	Beavers (Jubilee Hall)	
7.30pm	Scouts (Jubilee Hall)	
7.30pm	Rehearsal for Confirmation Service (church)	
Tuesday	6	March
10.30am	Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)	
7.00pm	Kemps' Home Group	
7.30pm	Springfield Home Group	
Wednesday	7	March
9.30am	Quiet Prayer	
12.30pm	Lent Reflections # 3 (back of church)	
6.00pm	Cubs (Jubilee Hall)	
7.00pm	Confirmation Service (church)	
Thursday	8	March
10.00am	Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)	
11.00am	Holy Communion (church)	
6.30pm	Living Faith Course (Jubilee Hall)	
7.45pm	Choir practice	
Friday	9	March
10.00am	Paperback Library & Coffeepot Computing (Parish Hall)	
Saturday	10	March
9.30am	Safeguarding CI training (Jubilee Hall)	
10.30am	Mothering Sunday posy construction (Pauling Room)	

Points for Prayer this week

- For the elderly and vulnerable in our church, Parish and beyond during the current cold weather
- For St John's Meads School, that the right person will come forward for the position of head teacher
- For the residents of East Ghouta in Syria, that the recently agreed humanitarian ceasefire will hold, for the desperately stretched medical staff working in makeshift hospitals and that no further children or other civilians will be killed or injured

Sunday Club Messy Church

Today, 4th March, during the 9.30 service, Sunday Clubs will be running a joint Sunday Club Messy Church in the Jubilee Hall. There will be something for everyone from tots to teenagers and also something to engage the adults too. We shall be looking at what it means to be a family of God through music, craft, activities and food.

If you are a parent with children in a Sunday Club feel free to come and join us, and your children, to see what we are all getting up to!



Bible by The Beach 4 - 7 May 2018

'Faithful in a changing world'

Bible By The Beach this year will be held at the Devonshire Park Theatre from 4th to 7th May. There will be lots of guest speakers including, Jeremy McQuoid, Emma Scrivener and Jonty Allcock. The weekend will also have a full programme for all ages with lots of kids and youth events.

Application forms are available in the Cloister or go online: www.biblebythebeach.org

The Children's Society

We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated their spare change through the Christingle candle boxes at Christmas. The Children's Society has received £434.95 from the money raised.



Hospital Service at the DGH

Our next hospital service at the DGH will be held on Easter Sunday, 1 April, 4.30pm for a 5pm start. Please let Derek Moulard know if you wish to attend. Parking tickets available from the church office.

Summer Fete 2018

This year our Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 9 June between 12 noon and 4pm. As usual we would like volunteers to help with various aspects, from setting up tables and chairs, to manning a stall or helping with refreshments. If you'd like to help, even in a small way, then please contact Jo in the office to discuss how you can get involved.

We're doing things a little different this year!

We shan't be asking for bric-a-brac or books but here's a list of things to start looking out for.

Unopened bottles for the bottle tombola

Anything and everything PURPLE as long as it's either in very good condition or brand new - for our PURPLE STALL!

Clothes in excellent condition for our Pre-Loved Clothes stall

Unopened toiletries & 'smellies' gift sets

Plants

Cakes - as always, for our popular cake stall



NEWS & EVENTS

Mothers Sunday posy prep

Please join us for a get together in the Pauling Room on Saturday 10th March at 10.30am, to construct Mothers Sunday posies. Even if you're not part of the Flower Team but would be willing to come and help we'd love to see you there. Thank you very much.

Easter Flowers

If anyone would like to do a flower display for Easter, then please come along to church on Saturday 31 March between 10am - 12pm to create your display.

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday 24 March, 8.00am at Holywell Cafe, when John Haydon will be sharing his Thought for the Day. The sign up list will be in the Cloister and please remember if you sign up and cannot attend, cross your name off the list or call me on 749329.

The list will be removed the Tuesday before the event.

Future dates for your diary:
Saturday 5 May - Robert Millet
Saturday 23 June - Neil Cumming



Notice for St John's ladies

CAMEO - Due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to change the date for our March CAMEO meeting. This will now take place on **MONDAY 26TH MARCH 2pm**. Our guest speaker will be our very own Toni Lawrence with a talk entitled - My Friend 'Esther'! Look forward to seeing you then.

Lunch Club

Our next Lunch club at the Parish Hall will be on Monday 5 March 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.



Prayer Triplets

If you would like help in forming a Prayer Triplet then please add your name to the sheet at the back of church.



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.



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.



CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL NOTICE

We are revising the Church Electoral Roll ready for the Annual Meeting on Tuesday 17 April. If you are on the Church Electoral Roll already, you don't have to do anything (there's a list of names already on the Roll, at the back of the church if you need to check).

If you would like your name to be added, please pick up an application form from the back of church and return it completed to the church office.

You are eligible to be added if you have been baptised and live in the parish or have worshipped here for six months. If you have any queries, please contact Jo in the church office.

Lent Course 2018

This year's Diocesan Lent Reflections are entitled '**Inspiring Vision**'. Contributors, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, will reflect on a chosen painting. We will listen to the reflections together via specially produced weekly podcasts (of around 15 minutes).

During their reflections, each of the contributors raise questions for all of us about our own prayer life and how our prayers develop as we mature, journey on our pilgrimage and discover more about the divine mystery as God speaks to us in good times and bad.

The Reflections continue every **Wednesday** at 12.30pm at the back of church, until Wednesday 28 March. Everyone is welcome, just bring yourselves and a packed lunch to enjoy while the podcast is playing. After each podcast there will be an opportunity to explore the sessions together. With the aim that, by the end of the six weeks, our prayer life will have been invigorated and challenged as a key aspect of our Year of Prayer. Each session finishes at 1.30pm.

Our reflections on this Year's course will be facilitated by **The Reverend Brian Richards**. Brian began his pastoral ministry in the Baptist church before being ordained as an Anglican Priest in the Guildford diocese. He served for several years on the staff team at St Paul's Howell Hill before retiring to Eastbourne. Brian and his wife Meg have been a worshipping part of our church family since last year and I am delighted that Brian has agreed to lead these sessions as we explore his pastoral and teaching ministry among us.

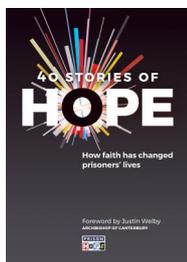


Giles

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 can be ordered online at www.cwr.org.uk/hope



Our Lent Appeal for 2018

tearfund

It is 50 years since The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund became TEARFUND, determined to link Christian compassion with practical action. The Rev. George Hoffman was appointed to oversee this work and said,

"One person cannot change the world, but you can change the world for one person."

Can you help to change the world for one person this Lent? It's not too late to collect a Lent box from the back of the church.

Going Deeper

Some members of the Church Family have expressed the wish to explore the teaching of Scripture in greater depth than is possible within a Home Group or during a 15 - 20 minute sermon on a Sunday. To meet these wishes, Bible Studies have been arranged for the second Wednesday afternoon of each month from October 2018 through to June 2019. The first such Bible Study will be held at 2.30pm on Wednesday 14 **March** for not more than an hour in The Pauling Room, when we shall commence studies in Paul's 1st Letter to the Thessalonians. All are welcome to attend. For further information, please contact Robert Millett 01323 723689.

Alpha Bereavement Journey Group.

This is becoming available again in the week beginning **16 April 2018**. It will consist of 6 sessions, each with a video presentation and associated group work. 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? Then if you are willing to talk about it in this kind of programme and would like to know more, please speak with Sheila Smith.

Email smith63@uwclub.net

We need the provision of a suitable venue and Sheila Smith would be grateful to hear from a host/hostess able to consider offering this please.

