

KIDS CLUB: ST JOHN'S JUNIOR CHURCH EXPLORERS

'St John's Junior Church Explorers' comprises four different age groups split into four different areas of Church each Sunday. All will return back into the service during The Peace.

Live Wires Creche: Age 0-3 in The Baptistry. This is an unsupervised crèche where parents will have to stay. Toys and books will be provided.

Pathfinders: Age 4-7 in The Pauling Room.

Trailblazers: Age 8-12 in Jubilee Hall.

Streetwise: Age 11+ will remain in church. At the present time they will be welcome to join the Trailblazers until a part time Youth Worker is appointed when they will be hosted in The Lodge.

Contacts at St John's Church

Vicar	Revd Giles Carpenter Vicarage: 01323 739679 Email: vicar@stjm.org.uk
Assistant Minister & Pastoral Care Coordinator	Revd Jill Preece 01323 638020 Email: jill@stjm.org.uk
Curate	Revd Ben Sleep 01323 738621 Email: curate@stjm.org.uk
Children & Families Leader	Kim Leach 01323 738671 Email: kidswork@stjm.org.uk
Church Wardens	Tony Mottram and Diana Guthrie 01323 738671 Email: warden@stjm.org.uk
Office Administration & Parish Hall	Lindsay Small & Rachael Bishop 01323 738671 Email: office@stjm.org.uk or parishhall@stjm.org.uk

Office opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 9.30am to 12.30pm **only**.

If you need to visit outside these times, please call ahead to arrange a convenient time. Thank you.



News sheet 1st March 2020



ST JOHN'S
Welcome to St John's

United in what we believe – The Apostle's Creed

"I believe in the forgiveness of sins"



Today's reading is Ephesians 1: 3-8

The gospel reading is Matthew 18:21-35

PRAYER POINTERS

- ⇒ For the Lent course, starting 4th March, that there will be a good attendance, that it will be a blessing to us, and that we will use these Lenten weeks well to deepen our discipleship and grow closer to our Lord.
- ⇒ That the Beachy Head Chaplaincy will attract new recruits, particularly through the Coffee Morning at East Dean Village Hall on Saturday 7th March, and for God's continued blessing on this work with many more distressed people being brought to a place of safety.
- ⇒ For all those involved in attempting to stem the spread of the corona virus; for those who are ill that they make a full recovery, and for those mourning the loss of loved ones.
- ⇒ For construction workers and those who rely on an income from work outdoors, which has been badly affected by the past few months of wet weather

Sunday 1st March 2020

- 8.00am Heritage Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9.30am Contemporary Service
11.30am Classic Communion (Common Worship) Hymns 190, 165, 516

Sunday 8th March 2020

- 8.00am Heritage Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9.30am Contemporary Communion
11.30am Matins (Common Worship) Hymns 467, 487, 315, Psalm 121

A WARM WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS!

A very warm welcome from all of us here if you are new to St John's, or just visiting. We hope you enjoy worshipping with our church family. If you are looking for a church and would like to find out more about us, our vicar Giles and his wife Rachel regularly host an informal "Connexions" event 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. Please speak to our Welcome Team at the back of Church if you're interested in attending. If you want to be kept in touch with us, please complete one of our Welcome cards or register your interest using the tablet located at the Welcome Desk. Our website at www.stjm.org.uk has a lot more information about what's going on in the life of St John's.

PASTORAL CARE

If you are aware or you know of someone needing a pastoral visit then please contact Jill Preece on jill@stjm.org.uk or 01323 638020.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about the safety of your children or a vulnerable member of the congregation please contact a member of the ministry team or our Safeguarding Officer, Lindsay Small, by email to safeguarding@stjm.org.uk or on 07951 889275. If you feel you need to contact someone outside the parish then the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted at Church House, Hove on 01273 421021.

An offering will be taken during each service. This is principally for regular members of the church. Visitors and guests should feel under no obligation to give but, of course, you are welcome to do so if you wish.

GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

We are being blessed by seeing more people come to St John's to worship God each week. As we grow, so the need grows for our church family to help in St John's mission, both through giving time and through generous giving to our work, on Sundays and across the week. We receive no central funding, meaning that everything we do has to be funded by our own congregation.

It costs over **£4,000 per week** to run St John's, approximately **£18 per week** for everyone on the Parish Electoral Roll. Here are some examples of how we put your generosity to work:-

£350 will fund our children's and families' work for a week

£650 is the weekly cost of our behind the scenes administration and cleaning of the church

£270 is the cost specifically for the upkeep of services throughout the week

£200 is the average weekly cost of providing gas and electricity

£90 is the weekly cost of catering and hospitality

£300 per week goes to our mission giving to causes at home and abroad

Most of these costs are fixed costs, which means that it is wonderful when people choose to give on a regular basis. If you are not already a regular giver, you can find information about how to do so by talking to a member of our Stewardship Team (David Scott-Ralphs, Clem Jackson, Phil Wickens or Nicola James) or picking up information from the back of the church.

We also welcome one-off gifts towards the work of St John's, either by cheque, cash or direct bank transfer. There is also a contactless machine at the back of the church.

Thank you for the blessing of your gift.

Boost your gift by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

If you are a taxpayer you can increase your gift by completing a Gift Aid declaration form which can be found on the Finance Desk at the back of the church.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020—Praying with Zimbabwe—Friday 6th March

There are two events planned for World Day of Prayer 2020 on Friday 6th March.

Salvation Army Citadel, Langney Road, Eastbourne, BN22 8AG

2pm service followed by refreshments in the hall.

Salvation Army Old Town, Royal Sussex Crescent, BN20 8RG

6pm Celebration Cage (food, activities and informal worship for all ages).

All are welcome! Come to either/both!

SAFEGUARDING CI TRAINING—Saturday 4th April, 10am-12noon

We have arranged a CI Safeguarding Training session here at St John's for Saturday 4th April. The course is for anyone who has not completed CI training during the last 3 years and is particularly aimed at members of the Open the Book, Kids work and Pastoral Visiting Teams, as well as anyone on the PCC or who hopes to be on the PCC next year. Please contact the Church Office to let us know if you want to book a place.

There is online training available at this level, but it's not nearly as effective as this taught course, which Rachael and Lindsay have been on and highly recommend. This course really helps you to understand what safeguarding means in a church context and highlights what we need to be aware of to ensure that we and those we minister to are all kept safe.

ARTLESS THEATRE COMPANY ARE BACK

Good Friday—10th April, 7.30pm

Do you remember the excellent performances of To War With God and also Will They Remember Me? during the Festival of Remembrance? The Artless Theatre Company will be back at St John's on Good Friday evening with their new production. 'Centurion' follows the passion story but through the eyes of the Centurion who at the cross declared that Jesus was the Son of God. Using theatre, multimedia and an immersive sound design this new take on the classic passion play offers a fresh perspective on the Easter story. Tickets at £10 for adults and £2.50 for 11-16s are now available via our website on the Events page. Age guidance 11+. This event will be marketed across all Eastbourne churches, so act quickly and don't miss out.



Events this week

Monday 2nd March

- 9.00 Morning Prayer
- 12.00 Meads Lunch Club (Parish Hall)
- 5.30 Beavers (Jubilee Hall)
- 7.30 Scouts (Jubilee Hall)
- 7.30 Finding My Place

Tuesday 3rd March

- 10.30 Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
- 1.30 Diocesan Safeguarding Training (C2)
- 7.30 Alpha @ Judy & Pete Stone's home

Wednesday 4th March

- 9.30 Quiet Prayer (Chapel)
- 12-1 Lent Course (Jubilee Hall)
- 2.30 Scrabble (Jubilee Hall)
- 6.15 Cubs (Jubilee Hall)
- 7.30 Harmonia

Thursday 5th March

- 10:00 Babies and Toddlers (Jubilee Hall)
- 11.00 Holy Communion (Chapel)
- 2.00 The Moorings Home Group
- 3.00 Homeglade Fellowship (in the Homeglade lounge)

Friday 6th March

- 10-1.30 Coffee Pot Plus (Parish Hall)

Saturday 7th March

T LOOP: Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Church Mission Society (CMS) supports people in mission

REVIVE



all over the world, and of particular relevance to us at St Johns is their support of Andy and Rose Roberts to whom we were introduced as a church by our former vicar, Alyson Lamb.

Andy and Rose have visited us at St Johns a couple of times at least, their OST recent visit being in August 2017. The good news is that they will be visiting us again this year, on Sunday 27th September. It will be useful, therefore, as our Mission for the month of March, to give some information about them and their work in Brazil, especially since St Johns, as a Church, and quite a number of our church family individually support the work of Andy and Rose both by prayer and financially.

Andy first arrived in Brazil in February 2004 as a South American Mission Society short term volunteer. He is still there, and married to Rose, with a family of 2 girls, Sophie and Julia.

In 2010, when Andy and Rose were working with a boys' home, they became aware of the number of girls in horrific situations of abuse, trafficking and exploitation in the city. They felt led by God to do something about it, and Andy says 'wow, what a lot has happened since then! Raising up a prayer group, leading them to the streets, and eventually pioneering the first ever home for girls in the city.' And so, Revive House was opened in Olinda to provide a safe home for up to 24 girls at any one time and Revive International came into being with the aim of freeing the children and teenagers from their abuse situations and restoring their lives and renewing their hope for a better future. In July 2019 a second house was opened as a safe house for up to 12 boys and girls up to the age of 6.

A new activity at Revive is a Mission Training Course for selected CMS mission couples to work for CMS in Olinda. The final semester of the training has been entered, and Andy says that "it's really fun and a privilege to study and learn together".

There is more information about the work of ReVive and CMS and sponsorship forms on the notice boards as you come into the church. Do take a look and prayerfully consider whether you can support this work either through regular sponsorship or a one-off donation. Thank you.

VICAR'S SABBATICAL

Many of our congregation will be aware that, after more than 10 years in ministry, 6 of them here at St John's, our Vicar Giles Carpenter will be taking a 3-month sabbatical from 23rd March until the beginning of July. Such sabbaticals are actively encouraged by the Diocese, to enable our church leaders to gain spiritual refreshment and to reflect on their ministry.

Giles will be taking some well-earned time out and will be doing some travelling, to the Holy Land and other places. However, he also wants to use this break to research and reflect on two key issues engaging the Church of England – the mental health and wellbeing of those in the clergy, and apostolic ministry.

We want to encourage and enable Giles in his research during his time out and to that end we are creating a fund to help defray some of the expenses he will incur. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, please get in touch with our Treasurer Frank Kelley at frank.kelley@btinternet.com, or via the Church Office. Alternatively, there will be some envelopes on the Finance desk at the back of church with the label 'Sabbatical Gift', for you to leave with a member of the welcome team or to put in the donations box.

Reader Selection

The annual Reader selection conference will take place this year on 13th June 2020. Any candidates for Reader selection will need to be in the discernment process by 10th April 2020 and must have completed their application by 4th May, so please be in touch with Jayne Prestwood as soon as possible if you wish to put forward a candidate for Reader ministry in 2020.

Lay Ministry Conference 2020

Empowering Lay Ministry

On 14th March 2020 we will be holding a day conference for those in Reader and ALM ministry at the University of Sussex.

Full details of the conference and sign up details can be obtained from Sam Grennan. Please email Sam.grennan@chichester.anglican.org Or visit the diocesan website events page. www.chichester.anglican.org/events



Sarah Hassell will be attending the Lay Ministry Conference on Saturday 14th March, and could give 2-3 people a lift if they contact her – 07904-302887.

EASTBOURNE FOODBANK Eastbourne Foodbank's stock of the following items is extremely low at present and they urgently need these items to enable them to maintain the service they provide to those in real need. They have particularly requested donations of the following items: Nappies size 5, Nappies size 4, Shaving foam, Mugshots, Tea bags 40s and 80s only, Cleaning products (Mr Muscle or similar), Tinned carrots, Tinned sweetcorn, Razors, Small bags of sugar. Could you, perhaps, add these to your shopping list? Donations are always gratefully received and the drop-off bin is to the left of the exit doors. Please note that they **do not need** tinned tomatoes, feminine hygiene products, pasta, baked beans, tinned soup, tinned fruit at the moment.

PRAYER AND PRAISE WALK ALONG THE SOUTH DOWNS WAY

Churches Together are advertising a Prayer and Praise walk along the South Downs Way between Eastbourne and Winchester, 13th -18th July 2020. See southdownsawakening.com

There is to be a gathering of those who want to find out more at St Barnabus Church, Langney on Tuesday 10th March at 7.45pm. Many are believing that this is the year for an awakening of the church, for a breaking in of heaven to earth. Come and join in for as little or as much as you can over these five days followed by a unique prayer and worship gathering on Saturday 18th July at Chanctonbury Ring. Please email Dave and Julie Smith, elders at The Well Church Langney to let them know if you can come on 10th March.

CAMEO - Monday 16th March 2pm. All Ladies are very welcome to join us when Sue Lockhart and Geraldine Booker will be sharing with us the amazing work of the Quicken Trust in Kabubbu Uganda. There will be slides, video and exciting story how Peter & Sue have supported a young girl "**Medina**" through her education. Come and hear about their visit to Uganda to meet her last October. Sue will have some of her beautiful cards for sale in support of this charity. Followed by tea and biscuits.

JOINT SERVICE FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY

On Sunday 22nd March at 10am we will be having a service to thank God for mothers and carers and for all that they do and have done to help us. Please invite any mothers and carers you know to this special service.



PRAY FOR OPEN THE BOOK tomorrow

One of our wonderful Open the Book teams is making their first presentation tomorrow, 2nd March, at South Downs School which is a special school for pupils with significant complex needs. They will be presenting the story of the boy Jesus at the temple during school assembly at 10.30. Please pray that the pupils will both enjoy and receive the message of the story and will be blessed by it. Thank you.

PARISH MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION

The next issue of the St John's Parish Magazine will be ready for distribution on 1st March. We need to distribute over the 2,500 copies of the magazine around the parish with your help.

If you have a street or two you would like to sign up for (and perhaps prayer walk whilst delivering) please speak to Simon Earnshaw or let the office know. The more people who get involved the easier the load. **Clem Jackson**

ROTA FOR EVENSONG

If you enjoy coming along to Evensong services on the 4th Sunday of the month, would you like to take part in them by reading a lesson, being a sidesman, or operating the sound system? You would only be needed about once every 3 months, unless you wanted to do more. If this is something you could help with, please contact the church office by 5 March. **Diana Guthrie**

REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is being updated ready for the Annual Church Meetings in late April. Are you on the current roll? (take a look at the list at the back of the church). If not, and you would like to be, fill in an Electoral Roll form and hand it to one of the wardens or in to the church office, by 23 March.

To be on the electoral roll, you need to be (a) 16 or over (b) baptised, (c) live in the parish or have worshipped at St John's for the last 6 months. If your name is already on the list, you don't need to do anything.

Diana Guthrie, Electoral Roll Officer

MEADS LUNCH CLUB is a wonderful community lunch that takes place on the first Monday of each month from 12- 2pm in the Parish Hall. We offer a three course cooked meal for £4 a person which is all served by a fantastic team of volunteers. It is a great opportunity to catch up with friends or meet new members of the Meads community. Everyone is very welcome and it would be lovely to see some new faces. Our next lunch date is 2nd March and the dates for the rest of the year are: 6th April, 4th May, 1st June, 6th July, 7th Sept, 5th Oct, 2nd November and the 7th Dec. which will be our Christmas lunch.

COFFEE POT PLUS could do with some more people from St. John's coming along to chat with the often lonely folk who come week by week. Could you offer a couple of hours once a month? The Hospitality team could use a few more people. Please let Sarah Hassell know, if you could help. Thanks so much.

FINDING MY PLACE

Finding My Place is a 3-week course for people who wish to explore what their spiritual gifts are and how they can be used in and around the church. It would suit people who are new to the church, but it would also benefit people who have been Christians for a long time. If you want to explore your gifts and your options then this course might be for you.

The interactive course will be conducted on three consecutive Monday evenings in March, namely 2nd, 9th and 16th of March, 7.30 - 9pm, in the church. The course will be followed up with meetings with a team member who will work with you on an individual basis to help you explore your gifts and options. This will include a review of your current activities as well as exploring potential activities that you could be involved with.

The course will aim to help people find their niche instead of slotting them into vacant slots. The course is limited to 15 people and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If this is of interest to you please ask KJ Duursma for more details, or sign up on ChurchSuite or call the church office.

LENT COURSE 2020—LIVING THE WILDERNESS LIFE—STARTS WEDNESDAY

The Lent Course for this year will take the form of a reflection on five paintings produced by Stanley Spencer. These five paintings appear in a booklet entitled, 'Christ in the Wilderness' by Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York. In his own reflection on these paintings he sees them as depicting something of the internal experience of Jesus in his time on earth in being in a place of wilderness compared to the place of his origin in heaven. Hence the title of the course, 'Living the Wilderness Life.' The Course will take place on Wednesdays commencing 4th March at 12noon until 1pm. The following dates are 11th, 18th, 25th March and 1st April. The venue will be the Jubilee hall and hot drinks will be available on arrival.

BEACHY HEAD CHAPLAINCY TEAM NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

BHCT was started 15 years ago to reach out to the lost and broken that come to Beachy Head to end their lives. Since then the team have dealt with over 6,000 people. In 2019 the Chaplains were involved in 1020 searches and dealt with 499 people who were in distress and despair. Each year gets busier and the demand on the team gets greater.

BHCT is hoping to expand the team and is hosting an Information Coffee Morning at East Dean Village Hall on 7th March 2020. Drop in anytime between 10am and 12 noon if you're interested to find out more (without any obligation).

TAKE ON THE 40ACTS GENEROSITY CHALLENGE!

With Lent having started on Wednesday 26th February, have you thought about what challenge you might take on? What about if Lent could be a time of radical generosity and spiritual discipline instead of just giving things up?

40acts is a generosity challenge for Lent created by Christian charity Stewardship. It's an online and social media-based challenge for both individuals and groups. You can sign up to the challenge at 3 different levels, or a combination of these. Once signed up, you will receive a daily email throughout Lent (not including Sundays), with a generosity challenge (an 'act') and a short Bible-based blog from a range of interesting Christian writers sent straight to your inbox. Each act is designed to sharpen your awareness and give you practical ways to stretch your faith as well as your generosity.

The 40acts challenge itself is completely free to sign up to and, as noted already, you can commit at different levels. Giving may be about time, energy, skills and prayers, but some of the challenges can be about giving money, albeit at a level determined by you. As well as the daily email blogs you can also follow 40acts on social media, via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. There are also short videos which you can download.

Why not find out more by logging on to 40acts.org.uk, where you can sign up?

Don't worry if a daily challenge is too much – the key is to be inspired by all that Lent signifies for us as Christians, for the world to encounter Jesus through the generosity of His church.

David Scott-Ralphs

MEN'S BREAKFAST—14th March 2020

The next Men's Breakfast is the 14th March, 8.00 at Holywell Cafe when Peter Stone will be sharing his Thought for the Day. If your name is not on the list in the church entrance, please do add it and we will look forward to seeing you on the day. I will be away for this breakfast, but if you have any questions, please contact Clive Dilloway on 412426 who will be pleased to help. The following breakfast is the 11th April when David Garlick will be speaking.

PASSOVER SUPPER—MONDAY 6TH APRIL 7-9PM

We are holding a Passover Supper 7-9pm on Monday 6th April, where the significance of this special meal will be explained and parts of the ceremony re-enacted. The evening, led by guest speaker Ziggy Rogoff from Jews for Jesus, includes a two-course hot meal. Come as a homegroup and invite guests. Places can be booked on the events page of the church website stjm.org.uk/events

WARDEN DUTIES whilst Tony Mottram is away

Maggie Gibson will be assuming Tony's duties whilst he is away. We are very grateful to Maggie, and for all the support given by George, for serving the church in this way.