

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

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## Diary Time

Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Institution by Bishop John of Glenn Reading as Vicar in the Christ the King team in Redditch;
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Standing committee at the Vicarage.
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Parish Clergy Retreat to Barnes Close.
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7.45pm	Cloverley Planning at Vicarage.
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm	PCC AT St John's
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb 10am	Clergy/Churchwardens meet at Huband Room.
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Columbia evening with Ann Donovan
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm	Parish Ash Wednesday Service- Christ Church.
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7.45pm	Church as the family of God at Peter and Eileen Bishops
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	DCC away morning at Inkberrow.
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb 8pm	Prayer ministry team meet in church.
Tue 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Gary to Deprived Communities meeting at Old Palace
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm	Parish lent course starts in the Huband Room
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Standing committee at the Vicarage.
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar 7.45pm	DCC at St John's.
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Messy Church at Woodrow Community Hall.
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar 4pm	Dedication of Ella Rose Turner; St Johns.
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Messy Church at Woodrow Community Hall.
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> May 6.30pm	JOINT PENTECOST SERVICE AT ST PETER'S.
Thu 27 <sup>th</sup> Jun 7.30p	Parish Prayer meeting S Peter's
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Messy Church at Woodrow Community Hall.
W/E 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Church weekend away - Cloverley Hall.
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 7.30pm	Parish Prayer meeting at Christ Church
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov 10.30am	Christ the King at St John's; 10.30am

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**St. John's Church**  
FAITH • COMMUNITY • ACTION



## Parish Prayer meeting

Please put the date in your diary to attend the Parish Prayer evening this Thursday it is the turn of St John's to host the meeting.

## The real Easter Egg

Time to order your Real Easter Eggs - first and only Fairtrade chocolate egg to explain the meaning of Easter. £3.99 each which includes a donation to charity. Traidcraft Exchange received a cheque for £21,475 last year as part of the giving. There is a poster and a sign up form in the church foyer. Dot will be taking orders until Feb 3rd so we can have free postage on delivery

## Pastors piece

### **A very warm welcome to St John's!**

Welcome also to Richard Harding, who is presiding at our service of Holy Communion this morning.

I have been thinking a lot about our worship in St John's lately, and what God is asking of us as a church. Music is a wonderful gift, along with the hymns and songs that we have at our disposal, and we are blessed with some very gifted musicians here. We remind ourselves that worship involves the whole of our lives, though, because we are never out of God's presence! Worship is our highest calling... God is to be worshipped, loved and praised, and he rejoices in our singing.

The Spirit brings all this together when we connect with God, and it is in those moments when we really begin to see that understanding God's love and a desire for action takes root.

2 questions for us: 'Am I marked by a desire for more of Jesus in my life?' 'Do we truly believe that our worship and our mission as a church are as one?'

Every blessing,  
Gary

Pastor Gary Noyes. The Vicarage 29 Sheldon Road, Greenlands, Redditch,  
Worcestershire. B98 7QS.  
Telephone 01527 501092. Day off Friday.

When I started my training for ordination into Anglican ministry I had very little idea of what to expect, and yet as I start my second term at the Queens Foundation Theological College in Birmingham it is beginning to feel as though I have been undertaking training for ages. As many of you will know I currently work full time, so my training programme is being carried out on a part time basis. This means I attend college every Tuesday evening for a three year period, in addition to doing 6 residential weekends a year and a week at Easter. The Tuesday evening consists of a full Eucharistic worship service and a shared meal which everyone in college attends, and then three hours of lectures. Queens Foundation is an Ecumenical college with mainly Anglican and Methodist students, and the service is a wonderful opportunity for all the students to come together, valuing through the worship, the diversity of church communities and traditions from which we come.

Last term the lectures were on the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, and this term we are studying a Basic Introduction into Theology. The course is very challenging taking me into new areas of thinking, but what is particularly enjoyable is the opportunity to make friendships and discuss issues with other trainees on my course. This is especially true when we have our residential weekends when we have the opportunity to get into our subjects in greater depth, and as these sessions tend to be more practical, we get to practise some of the skills that we will need as we go into ordained ministry.

Prayer is obviously central to everything that I am doing, and I really value the prayers of St John's as I go through this course. Working full time and studying at the same time is hard, as the amount and complexity of work is challenging. I therefore ask for prayer to help me juggle my time so that I can get done all the things I need to. Secondly, I have to undertake an Observation Placement this term, at a church which is not of my own denomination. I have consequently chosen to spend two weeks at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic church in Redditch, where I shall be comparing the similarities and differences between our church traditions. Please pray that this will go well and that I will learn and understand more of the Roman Catholic tradition. Finally I ask prayer for Bob and Megan as I undertake this course. The course means that I am away from home quite a bit of time, and when I am at home I have a lot of studying or assignment work to do. Their support is therefore critical to me as I go through this journey, and so I ask you to pray for us as a family over the next three years.

Therefore training so far has been challenging, emotional, stressful and very exciting, and I am only in term 2 !! God calls us to trust in Him and His ways, and I know that although the road is often unclear and difficult at times, there is a joy in doing what He delights in. So on this journey of ministry, "**in Christ I Stand**", whatever lays ahead.

***God Bless you all and thank you for your prayers. Allison***

#### Today - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10.30am Morning worship and Holy Communion with Revd Richard Harding, Pastor Gary Noyes will be speaking.

6.30pm Evening worship with Pastor Gary Noyes.

#### This week

Monday 1.30pm Bowls in the Church Hall.  
7.30pm Bishops Certificate.

Tuesday 10.00am Parents & Toddlers in the church hall.  
7.45pm Children's leader's meeting at Skelton's

Wednesday 7.30pm Jump Youth Group in the hall.  
7.30pm Parish Prayer meeting at St John's

Thursday 10.00am Parents & Toddlers in the Church Hall.  
7.45pm The church as the family of God - Peter and Eileen Bishop's house.  
7.30pm Clergy/Reader's meet at St Peter's

#### Next Sunday

10.30am All age worship with Vicky and Ron Skelton

6.30pm Evening worship with Pastor Gary Noyes, Revd Garth Nathaniel will be speaking.

#### **Church as the family of God**

A new 6 week course has started on Thursday evening at Peter and Eileen Bishop's in Studley if you would like to come along or find out more call Peter for more information 01527 857209.

#### **PRAYER Please pray for:-**

- ❖ Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy.
- ❖ Those who are mourning
- ❖ Those known to us who are suffering ill health.
- ❖ Those without enough to eat.
- ❖ Those trying to find work.
- ❖ Messy church.
- ❖ Planning for this year's Ventures.
- ❖ Jump leaders at Soul Net next weekend
- ❖ Allison and Rosie as they undertake ministry training.

