



### Collect of the day

**Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
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**

### Walk Through the Bible

Often we look at small passages in the Bible and apply them to our daily lives, but how often do we lose our way? Walk Through the Bible Ministries bring the Bible to life and offer a most enjoyable way to learn about the Old and New Testaments. On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February we will be 'walking through the Old Testament' at Christ Church from 9.30 – 5.00 and the cost is £14 per person, which includes the event workbook. Booking forms will be available shortly.

### Diary

Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.45pm DCC in the church.
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Walk through the Bible at Christ Church.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Messy Easter.
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Messy Church.
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Messy Church.
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Messy Church.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Messy Christmas 2014.
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Diocese Children's Training - Worcester.

Contact:

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**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

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

### Support for the Kigezi Water & Sanitation Project

On 5<sup>th</sup> January we announced that St John's church has pledged £1000 p/a to the Kigezi Diocese Water & Sanitation project which operates in the hilly Kabale District of SW Uganda. The money will be sent through Tearfund to be used in their Connected Church programme. A number of churches in the UK have pledged over £50k for this project which will help people living in rural areas of Kigezi Diocese obtain clean safe water for drinking, improve sanitation, HIV education and practical support to the communities affected. The churches in Kigezi play a direct part in the project and provide training in agriculture, environmental conservation, health and hygiene education. The project has already helped provide rainwater tanks, water pipes and taps. This has improved the health and livelihoods of many people and allowed more children to attend schools regularly. St John's supported another water project 15 years ago in Uganda, when we helped fund wells in Bulenge, in the Busoga Diocese, so its really good news that we are able to give to churches in another part of Uganda to provide safe clean water to local communities.

Please support this project in your prayers, giving and interest; there are a number of ways to get involved. More details can be found on the display board in church, on Tearfund's website or talk to Andy Bevington.

### **Pastors Piece**

#### **Happy New Year to all at St John's!**

Each new year dawns with hope, and especially for those who name Jesus as Lord and Saviour. In him alone can we face and move into a brand new year with peace and spiritual confidence in God, and in all his plans and purposes for us and for St John's.

Whatever fears or doubts or plans or changes we may be experiencing, we know that, in Christ, all these things are brought within the scope of God's love. So we encourage you to place yourself, as we have done, into God's hands, and pray that trust and peace in him may be the hallmark of 2014.

With our love and blessing,

**Gary and April**

Dear friends and family,

A very happy new year to you.

This morning we received the results of the scan Denise had just before Christmas and I am delighted to report good news. Praise God, the tumour has continued to shrink since her previous scan in October. We are hugely thankful: it is a real answer to prayer and we are immensely grateful for all the prayer that has been offered. If you like numbers, the dimensions in August were 14.2 by 9.4 by 10; in October they were 11.1 by 8.5 by 8.1 and then in December 10.7 by 7.5 by 6.3 - all centimetres. As you see from these figures, the shrinkage has been considerable but the sarcoma is still large and much prayer is still needed.

The oncologist is not proposing any further chemotherapy at present, about which we are very relieved. He will review the situation with another scan in three months' time and we hope and pray that it will have shrunk very significantly by then. In the meantime, Denise continues to feel much better as the debilitating effects of chemo fade - so much so that we were able, last minute, to book a bargain week in the sun in the Canary Islands after Christmas. Having not been able to take a family holiday last year it was wonderful to be able to relax together in the sun for a week.

Thank you so much for all your prayer which has carried us through this last very testing year. It really has had a tangible effect and we would be so grateful if you were able to continue to pray in the months ahead.

May God bless you in 2014.

With our love,  
John

Dr John Inge  
Bishop of Worcester

### **Parish Life Worth Living Course**

The Life Worth Living Course is an 8-week Alpha follow on course and is based on Paul's letter to the Philippians. The course started at Christ Church last week but there is still an opportunity this Wednesday to join. The evenings start at 7.30 with coffee/biscuits, and the format will be worship, short talk and then discussion and prayer in small groups. Everyone is welcome even if you did not attend the Alpha course.

### **Today – Baptism of Christ**

10.30am Joint service of recommitment at Ipsley Academy.

6.30pm Evening worship with Pastor Gary Noyes. Hebrews 1:1-12 and Joshua 3.

### **Next Sunday - Epiphany 2**

10.30am Morning worship led by Rosemary Humphrey 'Come and See'. Pastor Gary Noyes will be speaking on John 1: 29-42 and 1 Corinthians 1:1-9.

6.30pm Evening worship led by Pastor Gary Noyes. Alison Davies will be speaking on Ezekiel 2:3-4 and Galatians 1:11-end.

### **Next week**

Monday 1.30pm

Tuesday 10.00am

Wednesday 7.30pm

Thursday 10.00am

Saturday 9.00am

10am-12noon

Bowls.

Parents and toddlers.

Standing committee at Vicarage

Alpha group meet at Matchborough

Parents and toddlers.

Prayer in church.

Messy church

### **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.
- ❖ Gary, April and family.
- ❖ Kathleen Powell and family.
- ❖ Jo, Grace, Sophie and Lydia Adams.
- ❖ Lynda and Geoff Adams
- ❖ Eileen and Rob Truman
- ❖ Peggy Snellgrove.
- ❖ Sylvia Czink and family.
- ❖ June Young and family.
- ❖ Allison, Rosie and Maureen undertaking ministry training.
- ❖ Children's groups, Bowls, Jump and Parent and Toddlers.