

There is an Iraq resource page on the Church of England's website which has been refreshed to help the Church respond prayerfully and faithfully to the unfolding emergency.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-views/international-affairs/north-africa-and-the-middle-east/iraq.aspx>

Diary

Thu 16 th Oct	WARM Day at Holland House.
Fri 24 th Oct 1-2.45pm	Card making with Lynda
Sat 8th November	Signs of the Kingdom Day.
Thu 20 th Nov 7.30pm	Living Faith Lecture – Gavin Calver.
Sat 29th Nov	Messy Christmas 2014.
Sun 30 th Nov 6pm	Gary's ordination by the Bishop of Dudley.
Tue 2 nd Dec 7.30pm	Parish Prayer meeting at St John's.
Fri 12th Dec	Cinderella at the Palace Theatre,(booking September).
Sat 5th Apr	Diocese Children's Training – Worcester.

Please pray for:-

- Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.
- Those who are mourning.
- Kathleen Powell and family.
- Jo, Grace, Sophie and Lydia Adams.
- Lynda and Geoff Adams.
- Eileen and Rob Truman.
- Sylvia Czink and family.
- June Young and family.
- Bishop John and family.
- Our visiting speakers George Tadros and Gavin Calver.
- Signs of the Kingdom day at St John's.
- John Beasley, having an operation this Thursday.
- Peggy Snellgrove as she moves into a care home.
- Claire and Paul Burnham.
- Those without enough to eat.
- Our countries response to Iraq and Syrian conflicts.
- Persecuted Christians around the world.
- Those without clean water to drink.
- Allison and Maureen undertaking ministry training.

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Sunday 5th October 2014

A very warm welcome to St John's and all who are visiting today!

Thought for the week

When you think of 'church' what comes to mind? The place where you go on a Sunday? Or, to use St. Paul's illustration, a body of which you are a vital part?

The Bishop of Worcester says that 'The Church is God's gift to the world. It is called to be an effective sign of God's Kingdom'

Is St. John's God's gift to the people around us? Are we an effective sign of God's Kingdom? As a church do we 'seek his face, long to know more of his truth, and ask to share in his risen life - not for our own sakes, but that the love of God in us may overflow to the world and the kingdom of praise for our God be extended' (Peter Lawrence)

On Saturday 8th November from 9.30 - 1.30 we have an exciting opportunity to spend time together thinking, talking and praying about how effective we think we are at being a 'sign of God's Kingdom'. How could we be better at being a Kingdom People and letting God's love overflow to the world around us?

Gary will be back at St. John's that weekend and Revd. Christine Worsley, the Bishop of Worcester's representative for 'Signs of the Kingdom' will be with us. She has a great deal of experience in facilitating discussions and helping Churches to identify both strengths and areas where improvements can be made.

Everyone is invited. We all have something to offer, with our different ages, personalities, talents and experiences. Every part of the 'body' is important and has a part to play, so do come if you possibly can, we need you!

Ann.

Living Faith lecture –this Thursday evening.

We hope you have this Thursday in your diary, to attend the first in the series of Living Faith Lectures. Deacon George Tadros from the Egyptian Coptic Church will be speaking on 'Health and the Holy Spirit'. A few of the congregation have heard George speak on previous occasions and feel sure you will enjoy the message and delivery, so please make a point of coming along and supporting these meetings; bring a friend or two if you can. There will be a time of sung worship and refreshments will be served in the interval.

We will try and get the talk recorded if we can, as a reminder you can hear past Living Faith speakers Bishop Michael Ali-Azir and Matt Summerfield on the St John's website under 'teaching talks'.

If you haven't been onto the website take a look around it, Barry does an excellent job in adding regular content. You will find talks from a wide range of Ministers and Lay Ministers also visiting speakers from across the Parish and beyond.

Gary's ordination.

Sunday 30th November is the date set for Gary's ordination as priest by the Bishop of Dudley; it will be an evening service 6pm at St John's, where Bishop Graham will also preach.

Christian Institute

The Christian Institute is a charity helping people make a stand for the truth by discussing topic's facing us in our country today, such as religious liberty, GM Babies and 'Named person scheme'. The next meeting in Birmingham is at Kings Norton Wednesday 15th October. Please see Amanda or the leaflet on the notice board .

Card making

The next card making afternoon will take place at Lynda's on Friday 24th October 1-2.45pm, the theme will be Christmas. The cost is £1.50, please see Lynda if you would like go along.

Prayer Fellowship Teaching (PFT)

The house group at Peter and Eileen Bishop's continues on Thursday's at 7.45pm, other than this Thursday when the group will be attending the Living Faith lecture. New members welcome.

Today – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

- 10.30am Worship For Everyone with Dot Bevington 'Tenant Trouble'
Matthew 21:33-46.
- 6.30pm Evening Worship and Holy Communion with Reverend
Richard Harding.

Next Sunday –Trinity 17

- 10.30am Morning worship with Rosemary Humphrey, Reverend
Gary Noyes will be speaking on 'Closed minds'
Matthew 22: 1-14 and Philipians 4: 1-9.
- Children's groups and Sunday Jump.
- 6.30pm Evening worship with Vicki Quarton.
Reading: 1 John 3: 1-15

This week

Monday	1.30pm	Bowls.
Tuesday	10-12noon	Parent and toddlers.
Wednesday	7.45-9pm	Jump in the hall.
Thursday	10-12noon 7.30pm	Parent and toddlers. Living Faith talk - Deacon George Tadros.

Collect of the day

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
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

November Living Faith lecture

On Thursday 20th November we will be welcoming Gavin Calver, National Director for Youth For Christ, Gavin has a national reputation as an excellent speaker. So do please put these two dates in your diary and come along to what will be two great evenings.