



## Diary

Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7.30pm	SPICE meeting in church.
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov 6.30-8pm	Fish and Film.
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Signs of the Kingdom Day.
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7am-1pm	Prayer day at St Johns.
Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7.30pm	Living Faith Lecture – Gavin Calver.
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Senior Citizens Tea in the hall.
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Parish service at Christ Church
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 9-1pm	Church work in.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Messy Christmas 2014.
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 6pm	Gary's ordination by the Bishop of Dudley.
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec 7.30pm	Parish Prayer meeting at St John's.
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Fayre in the hall
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Cinderella at the Palace Theatre.

Please pray for:-

- Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.
- Reverend Richard Bubbers as he commences his new role.
- 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 speaker Gavin Calver.
- Signs of the Kingdom day at St John's.
- Peggy Snellgrove.
- 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 26th October 2014

### Signs of the Kingdom Day

You should all be in receipt of your personal invitation to this meeting on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Just as we move forward in our walk with God, moving forward as a church is always a positive thing to do and this is what Signs of the Kingdom Day will help us with. Revd. Christine Worsley, the Bishop of Worcester's representative for 'Signs of the Kingdom' who has a great deal of experience in facilitating discussions will be helping to make the morning go smoothly. You may have thoughts you wish to share on the day, or just want to come along and listen, there may be things other churches do, that you think would be a great idea for St John's or there may be things that use to happen that no longer do and you would like to see them take place again. Whatever your thoughts, please do come along, the aim is to have an enjoyable time. Please let's also help Ann out, who is away today celebrating her birthday, by giving a response to the personal invitation Ann gave us all, as soon as possible. In Ann's absence today, please let Annette know your response. Thank you.

### **Thought for the week**

We live in a nominally Christian country, and are free to believe and worship. However, that does not mean that all here are Christian. One of the most commonly voiced objection to the Christian faith is "why does God allow suffering?" Surely, being God, He could prevent it. We see suffering on a global scale, at community level in local disasters of many kinds and at an individual level.

It affects us all. But God is not indifferent and He loves us. I thank God that when I suffered a cardiac arrest He had put in place people to help me and I survived. It was hugely comforting to know that, through the church contacts, many people were praying.

As part of the ministry team, where we pray for an ever-increasing number of people weekly, we offer prayer for all who come. I believe God does respond and wants us to bring our suffering to Him. God did not create suffering, that's down to us (in Genesis), and there will be no more suffering when God creates 'a new Heaven and a new earth (in Revelation). The whole Bible is there to move us from one to the other.

God bless, Mike.

Blessings

Sue

### **Prayer Day**

There will be a Prayer Day here at St John's from 7am - 1pm - stay for 10 minutes or 6 hours - all welcome! Breakfast will be available. Open to all so do invite anyone who may be interested. See separate leaflet for further info.

### **November Living Faith lecture**

Please come along on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm when we will be welcoming Gavin Calver, National Director for Youth For Christ, Gavin has a national reputation as an excellent speaker and will be speaking on being a Christian in the secular world. This isn't just for young people but for all ages to hear how his faith has helped Gavin and others he has come into contact with and how we might answer questions about our faith in Jesus. Please let people know about this event, you can signpost people to the St John's facebook page or website [www.ipsley.org/st-johns](http://www.ipsley.org/st-johns). The October Living Faith Lecture with Professor George Tadros has been loaded onto the website <http://www.ipsley.org/media/> and can be downloaded and listened to.

### **SPICE MEETING**

Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 at St John's - spice update meeting for anyone who wants to be involved with praying for and inviting thanksgiving families to Christmas events and praying about and putting into practice the ideas we had at the last meeting. People with evenings and weekends to give at your convenience are needed, not just during the day activities. Come along to pray and find out more, even if you are too busy to offer time. It may be that what we need is not what you can give, but you can still pray. All welcome.

Dot (hot drinks and biscuits to keep us on track!)

It's Shoebox time again, there are leaflets available in the foyer or details can be found on the Samaritan's Purse website. Eileen and others have kindly wrapped the boxes, so all we need to do is take one, decide on whether we are buying for a boy or girl and their age and then fill the box with appropriate toys, gloves, hats, toothbrush, toothpaste and other items you can think of (no food). If this is new to you, please see Eileen or pick up a leaflet. Please return the boxes by 10<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you.

### **Today – Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity – Bible Sunday**

- 10.30am Morning Worship and Holy Communion with Reverend Richard Harding. Readings Matthew 22:34-46 and Leviticus 19:1-34. 'Kingdom questions'
- 6.30pm Evening worship with Maureen Hughes. Reading Isaiah 55:1-11.

### **Next Sunday –4<sup>th</sup> before Advent**

- 10.30am Worship For Everyone.
- 6.30pm Evening worship and Holy Communion with Rosemary Humphrey.

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### **Gary's ordination.**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Church work in**

There will be breakfast before a work in to improve the grounds and inside of the church ready for Gary's ordination and Christmas services, all welcome, please leave a note if you have preferred jobs you like to do. Come for as little or as long as you can.

### **Christmas Fayre**

The Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December; your donations of bottles or chocolates for the tombola's would be appreciated. Please leave them in the church foyer in a box that will be labeled up, Christmas Fayre.

### **Afternoon Tea**

There will be a repeat of the afternoon senior citizens tea for the local community on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. If you know of anyone you would like to see invited to this enjoyable afternoon, please speak with Eileen.

### **Children's social**

There will be a Fish and Film night on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm-8pm at Sharon and Simon's for Explorer and Pathfinder children; bring a friend if you would like. Please return the permission slip asap. Call Sharon 01527 541492 for directions or a lift.