

Diary

- 28th January 7.45pm-9pm JUMP in the hall.
18th February Ash Wednesday service at St Peter's.
21st March 10-12noon Messy Church.
22nd March Prayer partner event after the morning service.

Please pray for:-

- Gary and April, Garth and Jenny, Richard and Sally, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.
- Our countries response to Iraq and Syrian conflicts.
- Those without enough to eat.
- For all who are yet to know the Gospel.
- Week of prayer for Christian Unity.
- Those without clean water to drink.
- The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
- Persecuted Christians around the world.
- The NHS and other public sector workers.
- For our Borough, county council decision makers and MP.
- For those who manage people within their places of work.
- For children living in care.
- For refugees.
- For orphans of war.
- For charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry.
- 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.
- Peggy Snellgrove.
- Claire and Paul Burnham.
- Allison and Maureen undertaking ministry training.

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Sunday 18th January 2015

Welcome to all visitors at St Johns today.

Messy Church

A terrific time was had by all yesterday at Messy Church, thank you to all the volunteers, the next meeting is Saturday 21st March. Please pray the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ will grow in those who attended.

Thought for the week

One of the congregation gave me this picture last week, and I would like to share it with you, as I feel it is important for us: 'God has given me a picture of a fire; we are on the outside, and the embers need to be stoked in the middle into flame. I believe that God wants to stir up the church and pour out his Spirit.'

This has great implications for us as a church; for example, how do we lovingly and pastorally care for each other? What is our vision as a church? What should be our priorities? My heart, as your pastor and vicar is this: to see us...growing in trust....aiming at wholeness and reconciliation...discovering where we fit in and what gifts we can contribute...growing in our personal prayer life and discipleship....putting Jesus firmly at the centre, and then telling others about him. These are the sort of things we all need to be thinking and praying about during this year, especially the DCC and I as we work through the implications of the 'Signs of the Kingdom' day and the work of the Vision Group. I hope our aspiration is to live in the power of the Spirit daily, where-ever we are, despite our limitations, weaknesses and imperfections. As I have said in the past, we will always need courage to change, and to allow God to bring about that change. As one church leader said: 'I'm not here to do this for you, but to nurture and equip and release you to do it yourself.' After all, we are the 'priesthood of all believers', and we are the Church together. My task is to lead and facilitate all that...with, I trust, spiritual discernment and your prayers. These are some of the challenges for the year ahead, but our ultimate aim is to encourage each other into a deep and genuine worship of Jesus Christ. Are we all up for that?

Every blessing,
Gary

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The season of Epiphany provides an opportunity for the Church to pray for the worldwide mission of the Church. The week of Prayer for Christian Unity falls appropriately in the Epiphany season.

This Wednesday 21st January there will be an evening service at St Peters Church entitled 'Prayer- Action –Impact: Redditch Churches Working Together' to learn about and pray for the Redditch Foodbank, Open the Book, Messy Church and other cross church activities in Redditch. Do come and hear what God is doing in our town.

Refreshments and displays in the Huband room will be from 7.30 to set the scene and provide information for the service which will start in church at 8pm. It will be led by Richard Sturdey (a Foodbank trustee) and many others will be contributing. It is part of the events for the Week of prayer for Christian Unity. For more information please contact Liz Mitchell: liz.mitchell@blueyonder.co.uk

Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a joint Ash Wednesday service on 18th February at St Peter's.

Lost

A rather nice ladies watch has been found in St John's, with an inscription to 'Doris Sealy' on the back. Please see Gary or April if you have lost it.

Blessings from Kigezi

Please read the message on the board in the foyer from Kenneth who works for the Kigezi Diocese. Kenneth provides an update on the Water and Sanitation project we are supporting in prayer and money here at St John's.

Meeting at Peter and Eileen's

The Prayer and Fellowship gathering at Peter and Eileen Bishop's will meet this Thursday at 7.45pm.

Today –Epiphany 2

10.30am Morning worship with Vicki Quarton. Vicki will be speaking on 'A conversation'.

Readings: John 1:43-51 and 1 Samuel 3:1-10.

6.30pm Evening praise with Reverend Gary Noyes, Rosemary Humphrey will be speaking on Hebrews 6:13-7:10 and Psalm 96.

Next Sunday –Epiphany 3

10.30am Morning Worship and Holy Communion. Rev.Gary Noyes will be leading and preaching. 'A quiet beginning' Mark 1:14-20 and Psalm 62.

6.30pm Evening worship with Maureen Hughes. Rev.Gary Noyes will be speaking on Col 1:24-2:7 and Psalm119:41-56.

This week

Monday	1.00pm	Bowls
Tuesday	10am-12noon	Parent and toddlers
Wednesday	7.30pm	Prayer, Action, Impact event.
Thursday	7.45pm	PFT at Peter and Eileen Bishop.

Prayer partners Easter Craft Event

Just to give all prayer partners and children advanced notice of our Easter Craft Event on Sunday 22nd March in the church hall after the morning service. Please put it in your diary now so we can get as many pairs of you there as possible. We would love those now at JUMP and their prayer partners to come and join in too. This should be a lovely opportunity to spend some time together. We will have a range of craft activities for you to make together, there will be plenty of time to chat and will have a bring and share lunch. We will send out personal invitations with more details nearer the time. But please do put it on you calendar now!

Can I take this opportunity to say a big thank you again to all the prayer partners, the children really appreciate it that you pray regularly for them and really enjoy having a special adult in church who cares about them and is interested in their daily life and spiritual growth.

Finally we are always getting new children in our church family so if you would like to be a prayer partner or are just curious about what it actually is, please come and have a chat to Vicky Skelton and find out if it is something you would like to get involved in.