

Diary dates

This week.

Monday 1.30pm – Bowls

Tuesday 10-12noon - Parent and toddlers in the hall
7.45pm-DCC meeting.

Thursday- 9am Parish Prayers at St John's
-10-12noon Parent and toddlers in the hall.
-7.45pm PFT at Peter and Eileen Bishop's

22nd November – Christ The King – Joint Service at Christ Church.

28th November – 10-12noon Messy Church.

5th December – Decorating the church for Christmas.

5th December 2-4pm – Christmas Fayre.

6th December – Christingle.

10th December 11.30am – Woodrow First School

21st December – 6.30pm Carols in the car park –Greenlands.

7th –9th October 2016- Cloverley Church weekend away.

Please pray for:

Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy - our Parish clergy and wives.

Those who are mourning.

Youth service this evening.

Messy Church

Y3 lessons and a key stage 2 4U after school club on Tuesdays until Christmas. (All at Woodrow first school).

Open the Book

The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.

For refugees looking for a place to settle.

Persecuted Christians around the world.

The Alexandra Hospital and Worcestershire Acute Trust.

Those who are concerned about changes to public services.

For charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry.

Keep praying for

Roy Bush.

Claire and Paul Burnham.

Stephen Ward.

Peggy Snellgrove.

Contacts

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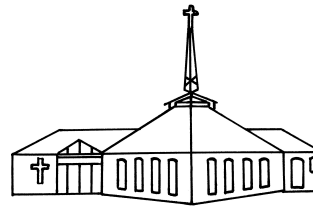
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**For recordings of talks, copies of notices etc go to
www.ipsley.org/st-johns**



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News from St John's

Sunday 16th November 2015

Dear St John's

Is 'peace' the heart of the gospel?

What is the heart of the gospel? Is the central idea of the Christian message forgiveness, or freedom, or power? Or is there a case for understanding peace—with God and with one another—as the heart of the matter? This is a significant question.

Significant because 'peace' is an important Christian word; indeed, it is a gift of God in Christ ([Luke 2.14](#)), the result of justification via Jesus' death ([Rom 5.1](#)), part of the fruit of the Spirit ([Gal 5.22](#)), and a necessity for healthy church life ([Eph 4.3](#)). But it is worth wondering whether the church has made peace and peacemaking as central to its life as it is in Scripture. The theme of peace has a significant place in the gospel story.

The New Testament writers employ the term 'new covenant' in association with the promise of God fulfilled in Jesus, especially through his death. For them, the promised new covenant that has arrived in Jesus is also the covenant of peace. And the people of the new covenant are, therefore, God's peace-filled and peaceable people.

Peace with God comes through the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is more than merely inner calm, but is the gracious gift of the Messiah it is the promised *shalom* of God?

Shalom, Peace,

Garth

This evening's service

Tonight's service will involve the local young people who attend the JUMP house group. Prior to the service 5.30pm-6.30pm, refreshments and icebreaker games to help get to know each other will take place. Please do come along to meet, support and worship together and bring any young people you know who will enjoy joining in. *If you can help set the hall up after the service this morning that would be great too.*

Mens breakfast meeting

Salt Way is affiliated with Christian Vision for Men, they hold regular breakfasts with guest speakers, The next event is Saturday 5th December 7.45pm-8am at The Why Not Inn, Evesham Road, Nr Cookhill, guest speaker Justin Marsh, a pastor, foster carer, cancer survivor and qualified relationship therapist. If you would like to find out more about the topic speak with Ron Skelton or email nash926@btinternet.com tel 07776 301469. Admission £5 to include breakfast.

Children's social

Thank you to Ron and Vicky for organising the film night Friday evening and to Jane and Colin for keeping the children entertained. The children were very patient and understanding when we didn't start on time, well done to them all.

Our Finances

On Sunday 18th October we had an update on our financial situation, with many of you standing at the front to dramatically illustrate how much it costs us to run our church. We are repeating the key figures here to remind everyone how we stand.

Our budget for the first 9 months of the year was for an income of £48,765 whereas the actual income has been £40,838: a shortfall of 16%. We have just kept afloat by cutting back on expenditure, spending only £41,564 so our deficit so far this year has grown by £726. We can't afford most of the maintenance jobs planned, nor do we have the money to increase our giving towards the 10% level we want to achieve. Have you prayerfully considered how much you give and how you can respond to the challenge we face? The drama emphasised all members of St John's should give based on our ability to pay so not everyone should pay the same amount.

We have pledge forms available on the table in the foyer. Please take one if you don't yet give regularly to St John's or you are able to revise the amount you give and return them to Annette our Treasurer.

Today – Trinity 24

10.30am Morning Worship with Vicki Quarton 'Resilience'
Daniel 12:1-3 and Mark 13:1-8

5.30pm Games followed by a Service involving our JUMP young people at 6.30pm. 'Where is God in the storms of life'

Next Sunday –Trinity 25 Christ The King.

10.30am Joint Parish service at Christ Church.

Children's groups will be provided.

6.30pm Evening Praise with Curate Ian Evans.

Womens breakfast

Cookhill Baptist Church are hosting a womens breakfast on Saturday 28th November 8.45am-9am cost £5, Redditch resident Bev Wilkes, will be speaking on 'Walking with my Father' her journey so far and Gods provision during difficult times. Booking by 25th November please 01386 792175 or 01527 893408.

Foodbank

We will be looking to collect (from now until end of Nov.) some special foods for Christmas hampers for local needy families. Items such as Christmas puddings, fancy biscuits, chocolates and sweets thank you.

Christmas Fayre

Please bring in as soon as possible bottles and chocolate for the tombolo's also any washed teddies for the teddy stall at the Christmas Fayre, on Saturday 5th December 2-4pm. Thank you to those who have donated chocolate and bottles so far, around 100 bottles are needed so please keep them coming in, the chocolate is individually wrapped in Christmas paper, so the earlier you can donate the better. All proceeds go towards the Community Teas, Toddlers Christmas Party and other events.

PFI meets Thursday (7.45) –Fruitfulness on the Frontline.