

Diary dates

Monday 1.30pm Bowls.

Tuesday 10-12noon Parent and toddlers.

8pm Children's Leaders meeting at the Skelton's

8pm Standing Committee at Ann's

10 -11.30 am Lent course at St Peter's

Wednesday -1.45pm-2.45pm Adult colouring in church.

7.30pm Lent course at St Peter's

Thursday - 9.30am Holy Communion at St John's.

-10-12noon Parent and Toddlers.

15th March - DCC meeting in church 8pm

17th March - Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm

20th March - Farewell to Dot and Andy, bring and share lunch

25th March- 9.45am Good Friday Walk of Witness starts Baptist Church

- 7pm Hour at the cross with Revd, Ian Evans.

19th April - 8pm St John's AGM

28th April - 8pm Parish AGM and PCC meeting at Christ Church.

16th June - Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm

28th July - PCC meeting at St Peter's

15th September - Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm

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

27th October - PCC meeting at St Johns

1st December - Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm

Please pray for:

Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy, Ian and Judy

Those who are mourning.

The JUMP team going away for a weekend retreat.

Those awaiting hospital treatment.

The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting

SPICE activities.

Cloverley planning.

The Alexandra Hospital and Worcestershire Acute Trust.

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

Keep praying for

Roy Bush.

Claire and Paul Burnham.

Stephen Ward.

Peggy Snellgrove.

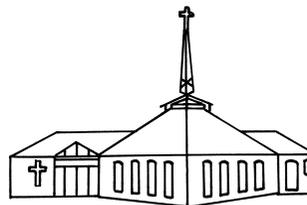
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Parish of Ipsley

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News from St John's

Sunday 6th March 2016

Dear all,

Midway through Lent we stop to celebrate "Mothering Sunday." From centuries gone by this day was a day of celebration. People would worship every Sunday throughout the year at their local church. One day a year, they would be expected to go to their home or "Mother" church. In order to enable those who had entered service or were apprenticed were given a Sunday off to visit their mothers and families. They would often be given gifts to take home by their employers for their mothers, gifts such as eggs, or sugar, or lard. It was a way of having a celebration and enabling poorer families to enjoy good food. The family would go to church to thank God for His continued provision and help, and to remember that the Church, like a mother, cared for and loved her children.

Like Timothy, learned from and was cared for by his mother and grandmother, so too, we are cared for and loved by the Church as the agent of God Himself. The church is the place we meet to celebrate, and are cared for and enjoy communion and fellowship with one another.

Blessings this day to all mothers, and grandmothers. Blessings this day on our "Mother Churches" of St John and St Peter in the parish of Ipsley. We celebrate and rejoice with you.

Garth

Hope Home

Thank you to the JUMP team for last week's service and for bringing us the good news about Hope Home, a Christian charity in Thailand looking after disabled children. From the money raised on the evening, topped up with St John's Overseas Mission Fund, a cheque will be going off for £200 for use in the running of the Home.

Dot and Andy

There will be a farewell lunch for Dot and Andy after the morning service on 20th March here at St John's. Please use the sign up sheet in the foyer for food, members of St Peter's and Christ Church will also be joining us.

Confirmation There will be a confirmation service with the bishop on Sunday 15th May at Matchborough for the parish and he is keen that any young people who have been baptised and would like to be confirmed should get in touch with him. Any that have not been baptised and want to be should also be in touch to make arrangements for that too. There will be preparation classes for this - 5 of them and he is planning to hold them on a Friday evening and/or a Saturday morning depending on the need and people's life commitments. If you are interested, please get in touch with Joanne at the parish office who will pass on the information to Garth. stpeter_ipsley@btopenworld.com

Weekly communion – new

This Thursday until Easter, Holy Communion will be available 9.30am at St John's. Refreshments will also be available – donations to cover costs are invited.

Parish Prayer Meeting

Thursday 17th March 7.30 - 8.30pm at St Peter's
Parish Prayer Meetings are held every 3 months. Everyone across the parish is invited to come and join us for an hour praying for our 3 churches and all the activities in reaching out to our communities.

To God's Glory - A Venture in Faith

Have you bought your copy of the story of the building of St John's Church?

Its an amazing story, well worth reading whether you were here at the time 25 years ago or have joined our church more recently. Please see Dot to get your copy. Minimum donation is £3, which will go to St John's.

Mothering ≥ Sunday

10.30am Worship For Everyone with Vicki Quarton. Readings Joshua 5:9-12 and Luke 15:1-1-3, 11b-32.

6.30pm Holy Communion and Prayer for Healing with Revd.Richard Harding. Readings Mark 9:33-37.

Next Sunday – Lent 5

10.30am Morning Worship with Rosemary Humphrey Isaiah 43:16-21 and John 12:1-8 'wasting time with God'

6.30pm Evening praise with Christine Tilley.

Vacancy

Acts of Kindness are looking to recruit for a new Foodbank Manager as Helen Gallagher is due to retire.

This is a part time paid job 14-16 hours a week to commence in June 2016. If you would like further information for Job and person Specification then please email Rev Robin Baker. robinbaker@blueyonder.co.uk or ring on 07977 43203

Good Friday Walk of Witness

The Good Friday Walk of Witness will begin this year from the Baptist Church on Easemore Road. There will first be a service in the Church from 9.45 a.m., led by Andrew Diaper. The walk will begin at 10.30 a.m. and process around the town, ending outside St. Stephen's at 11.45 a.m. Soup and a roll will be available inside St. Stephen's following the walk, which itself will be followed by a time of reflection before the Cross led by Paul Lawlor. The main focus for the walk will be the Cross. We will be carrying together a large cross, and this year palm crosses will be provided for participants to give out to passers by. There will be a service here at St John's 7pm with Revd. Ian Evans

Welcome

Can you recall the first time you went somewhere new and been unsure of the welcome you would receive. Or has it ever taken a lot of effort for you to be able to get to church and a warm greeting on arrival has helped. Would you like to be a welcomer on a Sunday morning? – just one Sunday each month would help release people to do other things, or to rest. Please speak with Ann or Sharon for more information.