

Diary dates

Monday-Friday Prayer stations open at various times, see notices.

Tuesday 10-12noon Parents and Toddlers.

Wednesday 1.30pm-2.30pm scriptural colouring group.

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion at St John's followed by

Community coffee morning until 12noon.

10-12 noon Parents and toddlers.

15-21 May – Christian Aid Week.

17th May – DCC at St John's.

21st May – Christian Aid walk.

7th June – Care for the family event Trinity Church, Cheltenham.

16th June – Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm.

26th June – Priesting of Allison Davies at Worcester Cathedral.

28th July – PCC meeting at St Peter's.

15th September – Parish Prayers 7.30-8.30pm.

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

Parish confirmation service – those being confirmed, including from St John's - Megan Davies, Josh Adams, Elizabeth and George Skelton.

Archdeacon's annual visit to the Parish on 19th May

The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting
New activities in the church during the week.

Parents and toddlers

Bowls

Children's and youth work.

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.

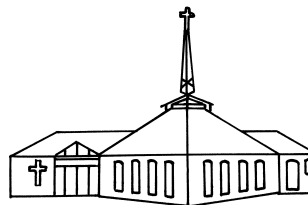
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News from St John's

Notices 8th May 2016

Growing Faith at Home

I wonder how the Christian faith was passed on to you? Did you read Bible stories together at home? How did your parents encourage you to pray? Was God ever mentioned in everyday life?

All current research on faith development affirms that if faith isn't passed on, lived out and nurtured in the home, we can't then reasonably expect children and grandchildren to catch that faith. For too long, particularly in the Protestant Church, we have over-relied on our Sunday worship as the key way to pass on the good news to the next generation. But how on earth can 40 minutes of Sunday school once a week and the occasional family service ever be expected to nurture a deep and real encounter with God for our children? Unless we experience God's presence in the everyday of our weekday lives, faith is highly likely to remain sheltered, shallow and vulnerable.

Moses advised all the people of God to talk about his laws together and 'to tell them to your children over and over again; to talk about them all the time, whether you're at home or walking on the road or going to bed at night or getting up in the morning' (Deuteronomy 6:7). This is the way to pass on our Christian faith - not necessarily needing to find more hours in an already overstretched schedule but to find God in your existing life pattern; to find God in the everyday.

Canon Garth Nathaniel

New member of St John's

Congratulations to Terry and Dawn on the arrival last Monday of their new baby boy called Fin, brother to Eve, Ash and Joy. Terrific news!

Dot and Andy

The postponed bring and share lunch to say farewell to Dot and Andy, will take place after the morning service today. Refreshments will be served in the hall after the service and not in the church today. All welcome please come along.

Pilgrim Course

The Pilgrim course started last Wednesday, we looked at the purpose of the Beatitudes (an announcement of Gods blessing, something to emulate and a promise) as well as the first 2 Beatitudes 'Blessed are the poor in spirit' and 'Blessed are those who mourn'. The course is being ran fortnightly, the next one is on 18th May, please join us if you can, 7.30-9.30pm in the Huband Room at St Peter's. If you need a lift please speak with Sharon.

Thursday Evening

Join Andy and Dot Bevington at 54 Lineholt Close for the final week looking at the character of Barnabas with the latest Jeff Lucas video. Starts at 7.30pm, refreshments provided with fellowship, Bible study and prayer. All welcome!

Bowls

Please note there will be no bowls on Monday 9th May. Thank you Sue.

Redditch Churches – guided walk for Christian Aid Week

There will be a guided walk on Saturday 21st May, around some of the churches in Redditch to raise money for Christian Aid. You can choose the length of walk that will suit you. See the notice on the board. For a sponsor form contact lesleybarcham@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Partner Social Thank you to Vicky Skelton and Rob Quarton for organising the Beetle Drive last night, a great time was had by all.

Today – Ascension Sunday

10.30am Morning Worship with Rosemary Humphrey, Maureen Hughes will be speaking on 'Easter Love'
John 17:20-26 and Acts 16:16-34 .

6.30pm Evening Worship with Vicki Quarton 'The Future Promised'
'Isaiah 65:17 to end and John 16:5 to end

Next Sunday -Pentecost

10.30am Parish Confirmation service with Bishop Graham at Christ Church. See below for more information.

6.30pm Evening Worship with Rosemary Humphrey Isaiah 11:1-9
Galatians 5:13 to end. 'Live by the spirit'.

Parish Pentecost service with Bishop Graham next Sunday

We will be welcoming Bishop Graham to Christ Church as he joins us for our joint Parish Pentecost Service, when four members of St John's Megan Davies, Josh Adams, Elizabeth and George Skelton have chosen to be confirmed. It would be lovely if as many of us as possible can attend the service in support of Megan, Josh, Elizabeth and George as well as others from the parish who will be confirmed. If you would like a lift please see Ann or Sharon. Please note there will not be a service at St John's next Sunday morning.

NEXT WEEK

As part of the national **Wave of Prayer** led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in the lead up to Pentecost, St John's will be open at various times next week. Prayer Stations will be based on The Lord's Prayer. Do feel free to drop in as many times as you like during this time. The Church will be open as follows:

Monday 10am-5pm 7pm-9pm
Tuesday 10am-12noon 2-5pm,
Wednesday 1.30 - 5pm
Thursday 9:45am - 12noon, 2-5pm, 7-9pm
Friday 10am-5pm

Key holders are welcome to access the Prayer Stations outside these times. If anyone would like to volunteer to be on duty to welcome folks please see Rosie.