



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Greenlands Avenue, Redditch B98 7PZ

Parish of Ipsley

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Sunday, 7 May 2017

Dear All,

Just as in the days after Jesus' resurrection, these are challenging times for followers of Jesus. When our faith is challenged, it is important to remember that God measures success not by circumstances but by obedience.

The Lord asked Baruch, the servant of the prophet Jeremiah: "Do you seek great things for yourself?" (Jeremiah 45:5). Rather than seeking "great things" for ourselves, we should seek God's will for today, secure in the knowledge that his will for us is better than our dreams for ourselves.

C. S. Lewis notes that God isn't looking to find the best "job" for us. In fact, God has a purpose for our lives, then He creates us to fulfil that purpose. God is able to use your life for future purposes you cannot imagine today. Will you let him?

Blessings,

Canon Garth Nathaniel



Evening Service

Please note there will be no evening service at St John's on 28th May. St. Peter's have a service at 6.30pm where you will be most welcome.

Ascension Day Service

There will be a Parish Ascension Service 7.30pm on 25th May at St. Peter's, please do come along if you can. If you would like a lift please see Sharon.

Pentecost Service - 4th June

We will be welcoming members of St. Peter's and Christchurch to our Worship For Everyone Parish Pentecost service here at St. John's. There will be an opportunity for pre-school children to have some time out of the service in the hall. Anyone who can help with welcoming or refreshments on this day please see Sharon.

Christian Aid Week 14th-20th May

How many lives have you saved this week?..... it would be surprising if you have saved one. Christian Aid week offers you the chance to do just that, and be part of a shared Christian action that will save thousands of lives. In a poor country something as simple as a mosquito net does quite literally save a life.

Since 1945, Christian Aid has been there helping the world's poorest people. While our hearts may sink at the thought of collecting, it is really a huge privilege to be part of the biggest single act of Christian witness this country ever sees, as thousands of us walk the streets, showing our neighbours that we care, and quite literally saving lives. If you have a usual road, then claim it! If you have never done it, then come out and share a road. Come out with Rob or myself, or someone else. We meet some really lovely local people and save lives!. Speak to Rob or Vicki or just sign up.

Key Holders

It is a requirement for the insurance that we have an up to date list of key holders. Could you please let Barry know if you have a church key ASAP so that the list can be completed.

Food Bank

Please be advised that the following items are in shortage.

- UHT milk
- Tinned fruit and veg
- Tinned cold meat
- Sponge puddings
- Fruit juice
- Tinned meats
- Rice pudding

Card Making

Lynda's next card making session will be on Monday 22nd May at 1pm. Please bring £3 for materials.

St. John's Fun Day - Saturday 17th June 2 - 4pm

Helpers needed for stalls and games!

Donations

- Jam jars or similar containers with lids - empty or filled. Suitable for children.
- Small toys for Bran Tub
- Prizes for Tombola
- Sweets - packets and individually wrapped - check dates!!!
- Bric a brac
- Books and jigsaws
- Plants

Dress code - bright colours - lime green, bright yellow, bright orange, etc.,

Feel free to come in fancy dress

Fladbury Work in

Tuesday 16th May 4-6pm

Many hands make light work!

Please pray for Sue & Ann, who will be visiting homes on Tuesday afternoon.

Services

Easter 4

10:30am Worship for Everyone with the Quarton's *Acts 2:42-47* and *1 Peter 2:19-25* 'Giving, not taking'

6:30pm Holy Communion with Rev. Richard Harding *Galatians 5:16-26* 'Fruit of the Spirit'

Next Sunday - Easter 5

10:30am Morning Worship with Garth Nathaniel *Acts 7:55-60* and *1 Peter 2:2-10* 'Divine Hospitality'

6:30pm Evening Worship with Mike Palfreyman

Sent on behalf of Revd Ian Spencer, Warden, Holland House, Cropthorne

I am writing to you to introduce myself and Holland House.

You may already be aware of us and what we do, but if not, we are a Christian Retreat House, based in Cropthorne, with a national status but largely serving the Diocese of Worcester and surrounding dioceses, which offers quiet spaces for reflection, prayer and contemplation, together with beautiful gardens, delicious food and warm hospitality. I would like to draw your attention to our Anniversary Appeal which is aiming to raise in excess of £100,000. Before launching the Appeal we have already raised £30,000. Since then largely due to The Friends of Holland House, but also individual gifts, trust donation pledges over three years, and actual gifts received, that figure has risen to over £60,000. As custodians of a fine historic building we are constantly faced with new challenges and have recently received a notice from the Fire Officer requiring additional unplanned expenditure, emphasising again the need for the Appeal to be a success. I hope your parish will feel able to support it. We look forward to welcoming the members of your church to Holland House during 2017.

With kind regards

Revd Ian Spencer

If you would like to support the Anniversary Appeal you can make a donation via the website or send a cheque payable to 'Holland House' to Holland House, Main Street, Cropthorne, Pershore, WR10 3NB

Diary dates

Thursday 9:30am Holy Communion - St. John's, followed by coffee morning.

Tuesday 9th May 7:30pm DCC Meeting - St. John's.

Tuesday 16th May 4pm Gardening - Fladbury Close, Woodrow.

14th - 20th May Christian Aid Week

Monday 22nd May 1pm Card making at Lynda's house.

Saturday 27th May 10-12 noon Messy Church - Woodrow community rooms.

Sunday 28th May No evening service, all welcome at St. Peter's

Saturday 17th June Fun Day - St. John's.

Please pray for:

- ❖ Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy, Ian and Judy.
- ❖ *Licensed Lay Ministers* – Maureen, Rosie and Vicki.
- ❖ *Wardens* – Barry Humphrey and Sharon Forrest.
- ❖ Those studying for exams.
- ❖ Those suffering with ill health.
- ❖ The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
- ❖ Open the Book, as we continue to be welcomed in schools.
- ❖ 4 U Club, for children in this Bible group in school.
- ❖ Charities reaching out to the lost, lonely and hungry including the monthly outreach in the Ecumenical Centre and Church Urban Fund.
- ❖ General election 8th June.
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Dolben Close, Winyates; Flaxley Close, Winyates Green; Ansley Close, Matchborough; Lapworth Close, Greenlands; Merevale Close, Matchborough;

Please keep praying for:

Ann Ball & family

Nancy Borthwick

Jane Smith

Sylvia Czink

Peggy Snellgrove

Contacts

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