



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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Parish of Ipsley

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Sunday, 11 February 2018

Dear All,

This Wednesday sees the start of the season of lent. Lent gives us an opportunity to give special attention to our spiritual discipline. Can I commend to you the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting? As a person who loves his food, I find that the discipline of fasting helps to focus the mind on why I am doing it, which is to spend time in prayer and allow the Holy Spirit to help me in searching my heart so I can grow spiritually. Fasting is a biblical discipline where people were beset with the same physical challenges as we are today.

In Joel 2:12, we are urged “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” (NIV) This then leads to the promise “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.” Joel 2:28,29

Everyone is most welcome at the Parish Lent course on Wednesday 7.30pm at St Peter’s, it will be lovely to see you, as we seek the Lord this Lent.

Canon Garth Nathaniel

IMPORTANT - Please hand in your old church key to Barry who will issue you with a new one.

Ash Wednesday service – this week

Please join us for Ash Wednesday – the first day of Lent, at St Peter’s 7.30pm. Want to go but can’t get there? Please speak with Sharon.

Lent Course 2018

This will begin on Tuesday 20th February at 12pm with a light lunch ending by 1.30pm. There will be an identical course running on Wednesday evenings, starting on 21st February at 7 - 9pm, both in the Huband Room at St Peter's. This year's theme is based on God's declaration in Exodus 20 vs 2. Please see the Lent Course flyer on the board in the foyer for more information.

Carousel

I am booking seats for Carousel at The Palace Theatre on Wednesday March 14th at £16 a seat. If you would like me to book a place for you, please let me know ASAP. Many thanks. Rosie

Men's breakfast with Magnus Proctor

The secret life of an ordinary accountant, a wife and two children. Magnus has found adventure following Jesus into the streets, schools, hospitals, prisons, courts of the UK and abroad in gypsy ghettos, refugee camps, homes for trafficked women and most recently a former Soviet nuclear site in the heart of the Ukraine!

Saturday 24th February 7:45 for 8:00am, at the Kings Court Hotel, Kings Coughton, Nr Ancestor B49 5QQ. Admission £8.00. Please contact Paul Nash by Wednesday 21st February tel. 07776301469, email: saltwaymensgroup@gmail.com

Women's World Day of Prayer 2018

there will be two services held on Friday 2nd March, all welcome. The afternoon service is at Emmanuel Church at 2.00pm and the evening service is at Christ Church at 7.30pm. Through the World Day of Prayer, women are encouraged to become aware of other countries and cultures and not live in isolation.

The World Day of Prayer aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. The service is put together by Christian women in a particular country and this year it is the turn of the Republic of Suriname in South America. Special service sheets are provided and used worldwide.

Harvest Donations

The DCC are pleased to say £163 has been sent to the Red Cross to be used for the Rohingya Refugees.

Services

Transfiguration

10:30am Morning Worship with Rosie Humphrey & Garth Nathaniel
John 14:1-14 'The True Way'

6:30pm Evening Prayer with Ann Donovan & Sharon Forrest

Wednesday 14th Feb - Ash Wednesday

7:30pm Parish Service of Holy Communion with ashing at St. Peter's

Next Sunday - Lent 1

10:30am Morning Worship with Richard Harding
John 15:1-17 'The vine and the branches'

6:30pm Evening Worship with Richard Harding

Diary dates

Wed 7:30pm Joint Ash Wednesday service - St. Peter's

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

Thurs 7:30pm Gifts course - St. John's Church

Tues 17th April 7:30pm St. John's AGM - St. John's Church

Thurs 10th May 7:30pm Joint Ascension Day Service - St. Peter's

Lectionary Readings

Mon Tob 1.1-2, 2.1-8 or 1 Pet 1.3-9; Ps 15 or 111; Mk 12.1-12

Tues Tob 2.9-end or 1 Pet 1.10-16; Ps 112 or 98.1-5; Mk 12.13-17

Wed (Ash Wednesday)

Thurs Deut 30.15-end; Ps 1; Lk 9.22-25

Fri Is 58.1-9a; Ps 51.1-5, 17-18; Mt 9.14-15

Sat Is 58.9b-end; Ps 86.1-7; Lk 5.27-32

Please note On Sunday 18th February, Richard Harding would like to talk to all the congregation after the morning service regarding a vision for discipleship, that Richard and Garth would like us all to get behind at St Johns. This first meeting is to explain what the vision is, it is estimated to take around 15 minutes. Do please put the date in the diary, we look forward to seeing you.

Collect for the week

Almighty Father, Whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Call Ann Donovan (for prayer chain) in the first instance on 01527 527789.

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.
- ❖ Garth as he returns to work.
- ❖ The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
- ❖ Alex Hospital: Staff, patients & chaplaincy team serving the community.
- ❖ Graeme and Jackie Russell - Community Missioner in Christ Church.
- ❖ Those recovering from surgery.
- ❖ Chris Tilley who is ill.
- ❖ Staff affected by the closing of M&S in Redditch, especially those with long service.
- ❖ Chaplains of the Kingfisher Centre visiting and supporting shop workers.
- ❖ For our MP Rachel Maclean & the Government involved in Brexit negotiations, for our security services working to keep us safe.
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Atherstone Close, Otter Close, Martley Close & Treville Close

Contacts

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