



# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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Parish of Ipsley

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**Sunday, 8 April 2018**

## **Only the Brave!**

That's the theme of Christian festival, Spring Harvest 2018. 'Being a follower of Jesus requires bravery every day. It takes brave determination to live our lives as his disciples. For each person this bravery will require something different'. This week I was staying with my daughter Annabel in Leeds and we decided to go along to Spring Harvest in Harrogate where everyone is catered for! There are specific activities and programmes for children and teenagers while their parents can go to their own worship and teaching sessions. There are opportunities for drama, singing and art, places for quiet prayer, places to meet others and places to ask questions about God! There's also The Hub where you can meet people who work for Christian charities and shop for Christian books and CD's! Each afternoon there's a whole range of optional talks on a variety of themes. I chose a talk entitled 'Has Science Buried God?' which I found very interesting and helpful. I also chose a talk called 'Lost for Words (not normally something I'm associated with!) which gave practical suggestions on how to share your faith with people you meet.

The teaching in the morning and evening sessions was based on the book of James, and it challenged us to live out our faith in our everyday lives - Faith and Action go together (like Salt and Vinegar!)

To love God = Faith; To love your neighbour = Action

This will look different for each one of us, but we can make a start with family and friends, at home and at work. Mother Teresa said, 'If you want to promote world peace, go home and love your family'.

One speaker said that musical notes aren't just written to be read by the composer. They're written to be played and heard. In the same way the Bible isn't just written to be read, but to be shared.

'Actions are the outworking of our faith in a world that is tone deaf, but deep down they know there's a tune!'

If you want to recharge your spiritual batteries, listen to some great speakers, receive Biblical teaching on relevant issues, worship God with many others and focus on what He might be trying to say to you, then I can recommend Spring Harvest 2019!

Amanda Worley

### **Trip to Hereford Cathedral**

There is a coach going from St Stephens 9.20am on Saturday 14th April to Hereford Cathedral to see the Poppy Window. The iconic poppy sculpture Weeping Window by artist Paul Cummins and designer Tom Piper opened at the cathedral on Wednesday 14 March. The work will be on site until 29 April 2018 as part of the final year of 14-18 NOW's UK-wide tour of the poppies.

**Celebration of Lay Ministry** The joint parish service for the Celebration of Lay Ministry and the renewal of authorisations will take place on Sunday May 27th (Trinity Sunday) at 6:30 pm, at St. John's.

At this service of Holy communion we will be celebrating the ministry and contributions of all lay ministry in our churches. Please put the date in the diary and come along.

**Data Protection** New regulations about data protection come into force in May this year. To help us ensure we comply, the DCC need to know about any personal data on paper or computer in connection with church activities. If you have any, please speak to Barry Humphrey.

**Reports** Barry needs your report that is to be included in the annual report, as soon as possible. Thank you

**AGM** Please note the date of the AGM has been changed to Monday 16th April, please put the date in the diary and do come along.

### **Women's World Day of Prayer - All God's Creation is Very Good!**

Friday 13th April: 7.30 p.m. at Christ Church

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future. This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone (including men) who care about our world and those who live in it.

**Messy Church** Saturday 14th April: 10.00 - 12.00 noon Woodrow Community Centre - Please come along for an all-age form of church for children and adults with crafts, a short celebration time with story and songs and food.

**Thank you** to Eileen for arranging the beautiful flowers on display in the church last week for Easter Sunday, the church smelt fabulous and looked great.

## Services

### **Easter 2**

- 10:30am Worship for All with Revd. Garth Nathaniel & Vicki Quarton.  
*Luke 24:13-35* 'The road to Emmaus'
- 6:30pm Evening Worship with Paul Lawler

### **Next Sunday - Easter 3**

- 10:30am Worship for Everyone with Revd. Richard Harding.  
*Mark 16:9-20* 'The Great Commission'
- 6:30pm Evening Worship with Revd. Richard Harding

## Diary dates

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

**Sat 14th April 10-12noon** Messy Church - Woodrow Community Centre

**Mon 16th 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 - Easter 2

Mon Acts 4.23-31; Ps 2.1-9; Jn 3.1-8

Tues Acts 4.32-end; Ps 93; Jn 3.7-15

Wed Acts 5.17-26; Ps 34.1-8; Jn 3.16-21

Thurs Acts 5.27-33; Ps 34.1, 15-end; Jn 3.31 -end

Fri Acts 5.34-42; Ps 27.1-5, 16-17; Jn 6.1-15

Sat Acts 6.1-7; Ps 33.1-5, 18-19; Jn 6.16-21

**Support groups** You are invited to join one of the two groups - the Monday Group is a house and support group that will give opportunities for group members to share, pray and study the Bible together. The group will meet weekly at St. John's Church on Monday Evenings from 7:30pm - 9pm starting on 23rd April 2018 ran by Ian Evans. Please just turn up on the evening.

The second is a similar group ran by Richard Harding meeting at Ann Donovan's house 7:30pm Thursday's., please let Ann know you would like to come along. If neither of these groups are possible for you please let Sharon or Barry know and a daytime meeting might be possible. We would encourage all who are able to join in with a support group.

**Collect for the week** Almighty Father, you have given your Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.
- ❖ Those looking for work or starting new jobs
- ❖ 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 in our town hearing the good news of Jesus over Easter.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ The Faith at Work Chaplaincy team who are working alongside the staff of Marks & Spencers and the business community in the town at a time of change and challenge.
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Ledbury Close, Matchborough, Ardens Close Winyates Green, Chadwick Mews Woodrow, Atcham Close Winyates.

**Contacts**

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