



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Greenlands Avenue, Redditch B98 7PZ

Parish of Ipsley

stjohnschurchredditch@gmail.com

Sunday, 22 April 2018

Today is Vocation Sunday

There's an old quip that says - 'if you were accused of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?'

Vocation is about living out the implications of the faith we profess. Crudely put there are two kinds of vocation - a) serving the world in God's name by acts of compassion or justice, and b) resourcing the church to better serve the world in God's name.... We need both!

Traditionally vocations have been understood in terms of ordained ministry, and we desperately need more of such vocations, people who will energise and envision the community of faith in its witness and mission by word and sacrament. But vocation mustn't be limited to this. Vocation is simply the answer to the question, how do you offer life in the service of God and of others and God's people (lay and ordained) can do this is a huge variety of ways, both within the church and within society.

Vocations Sunday offers us an opportunity to stop and reflect on our vocations individually and corporately. Are we living our faith as we would like to? What changes might we make? Who might we encourage to consider some form of ministry more seriously?

John Fitzmaurice, Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocation

Do please attend the Parish Annual Parochial Church Meeting here, on Thursday at 7.30pm

Plant and Traidcraft sale A warm welcome awaits you at Tardebigge's annual Plant Sale being held at St Bartholomew's Church and opening at 11 am prompt on Saturday 12th May 2018.

This popular annual event sells plants grown by people in and around the parish and is open to everyone - serious gardeners or potterers alike!

For plenty of choice, it's best to arrive in Church Lane, Tardebigge (B60 3AH) in time for opening at 11 am. Stock sells out quickly - but then there's time for a fresh cup of tea and a piece of home-made cake. Preserves, home-made cakes, raffle tickets and Traidcraft products will also be on sale in the Church Hall, right next to the plant tables on the grass outside.

All profits (except for the Traidcraft stall, whose profits go to other charities) will support our two local churches of St Bartholomew's, Tardebigge and St Mary's, Bentley, which are funded entirely by donation.

Churches Together in Redditch Pentecost in the Park on the afternoon of 20th May 2018 - Barbecue from 2:30, Pentecost Praise 3:30 -5pm

COME AND JOIN IN! Bring yourself, bring a friend, bring & share BBQ and please bring garden chair/s. If anyone can loan a gazebo that would be great. Lots of other help needed. Enquires: Heather Berry 01527 60638

Christian Aid Week - Guided Sponsored Walk Saturday 19th May

Join us for this Redditch circular walk to raise money for Christian Aid. Choose the length of walk that would suit you. The shorter walks are stages in the long walk.

The options are:

- 20 miles starting from St Stephen's Church, Church Green at 8am
- 7.5 miles from St Matthias Church, Astwood Bank
- 5 miles from Morton Stanley Park
- 2 miles from St Philip's Church, Webheath

Walkers will finish together at St Stephen's Church, where it is hoped to have fish and chips at around 5pm. Please put this date in your diary, further information about the walk options and sponsorship forms are available from John (below).

Contact John at johnlegge@jplcomputer.co.uk for more information.

Services

Easter 4

10:30am Holy Communion with Revd. Garth Nathaniel.
John 14:15-31 'The Holy Spirit'

6:30pm Evening Worship with Peter McLaren

Next Sunday - Easter 5

10:30am Morning Worship with Rosemary Humphrey.
John 16:5-15 'The Holy Spirit'

6:30pm Evening Worship with Ann & Sharon

Diary dates

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

Thurs 26th April 7:30pm Parish Annual Parochial Church Meeting - St. John's

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

Sun 27th May 6:30pm Celebration of Lay Ministry Service - St. John's

Lectionary Readings - Easter 4

Mon Acts 11.1-18; Ps 42.1-2, Ps 43.1-4; Jn 10.1-10 (or 11-18)

Tues Acts 11.19-26; Ps 87; Jn 10.22-30

Wed Acts 12.24-13.5; Ps 67; Jn 12.44-end

Thurs Acts 13.13-25; Ps 89.1-2, 20-26; Jn 13.16-20

Fri Acts 13.26-33; Ps 2; Jn 14.1-6

Sat Acts 13.44-end; Ps 98.1-5; Jn 14.7-14

Support groups You are invited to join one of the two groups starting tomorrow - 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 and will be 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 God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he 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.
- ❖ Jenny Mosley recovering from a major operation
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Norton Close Matchborough, Cornwell Close Wirehill, Tredington Close Woodrow, Highley Close Winyates.

Contacts

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Church Wardens:

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