



St John the Evangelist Newsletter: April 2019

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends,

We are fast approaching Easter Sunday. Easter is a good time to learn about new starts, new life and new birth. This is often symbolised with images of eggs and chicks. We give and receive Easter eggs and maybe cards with pictures of spring sunshine or new-born chicks. But Easter isn't really about eggs or chicks. It's about Jesus!

The real reason that we think about new life at Easter is because Jesus, who was crucified on that first Good Friday, rose to new life on the first Easter Sunday. This is not just a wonderful story, it's an historical fact. Jesus' body was never found and his resurrection never disproved. This was despite the best efforts of the mighty Roman Empire and the committed and powerful Jewish leaders to destroy the early church and discredit their belief. The early disciples were changed from a frightened and disillusioned group to people who stood up against the authorities and eventually gave their lives for what they believed – for what they knew to be true – that Jesus came back to life on Easter Sunday.

The impacts of what happened that first Easter are still relevant today. When Jesus died and rose, he did it for us. He offers us new life, eternal life, with him - life that starts now, but continues beyond this life. Now that is worth celebrating together!

I hope you have a wonderful Easter. I hope you get to eat some Easter eggs – but not too many! I hope you enjoy a break from work and some quality time with family and friends. But more than all of this, I hope you spend some time thinking about the real meaning of Easter, Jesus' resurrection. I hope you spend some time thinking about the possibilities of a new life for yourself, starting now and continuing into eternity.

If you would like to talk about Easter, or anything else, please do get in touch.

Happy Easter,

Rev Julie



Jam@St.John's: Thank you to everyone for supporting and giving their time to Jam@St.John's on Saturday 2nd March. Quite a lot of people came through the open doors of the Church and were delighted to be greeted with live music, cake, refreshments, books, DVD's and CD's as well as a warm welcome. The hard work of everyone enabled us to raise £231 for the fabric of the church and its outreach. We look forward to seeing you at the next Jam@St.John's at 10:00am to 12:00noon on 6th April, with live Folk Music.

Prayer Space: Hopefully you will have noticed our new Prayer Space along the north wall, before the Lady Chapel. The space is designed to be a quiet area where you can use the various prompts to focus your prayers. The theme will change each month to keep the space fresh and relevant. For April we will join in the tradition of passing along a "Candle for Peace" which started in the Soviet Union in 1985. A big "thank you" to Hamish Forsyth for preparing the bags. Our prayer is that you will join us in spreading this reminder of peace with the prayer "May peace prevail".



Praise and Worship: with effect from 12th May we will be introducing a new style Family "Praise and Worship" service on the second Sunday of each month. It will be relaxed and informal, with hymns, songs, prayer, and Bible readings along with a talk or drama and a "Bring and Share" lunch every 3 months. The main Eucharist on the 2nd Sunday of the month will be at the 8.30am service with Praise and Worship taking place at 10am. If you are musically talented and would like to play as part of the new Praise and Worship Service – or if you have any other questions or suggestions - please let us know, by contacting Rev Julie.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM): Each year every parish is required to have an annual meeting. This is an important event in the life of the church when we come together to review the year just gone, our financial position and to think about our plans for the future. It is also the occasion where we elect members to the PCC, Church Wardens and representatives to the Deanery Synod. Our APCM will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday 3rd April in the Church. Do please make every effort to attend.

St John's Players: St John's Players meet twice a month on the first Thursday and the third Thursday of every month in the small hall (behind the Large Hall!) on Bourne Hill at 8.15pm. A small but enthusiastic group, we meet to read a different play each time until we find THE play to inspire us to take it that one step further to a performance. Anyone and everyone is welcome, no previous acting experience needed - just come along and have a fun evening! Helen Sasia

Easter Eggs donations: As part of the pastoral support we wish to offer local Nursing Homes and vulnerable families in our community we will be taking Easter Eggs to homes/families on Easter Day. If you feel that you would like to donate an Easter egg (costing no more than £1.50) please leave them at church on a Sunday or on a Tuesday morning from 9.15am to 10.30am. With a heart felt "thank you" for your kindness. Rev Julie.

Easter Remembrance Lilies: The flower ladies will be decorating the church with lilies in memory of a loved one. These will be displayed in the Church as part of the Easter decorations.

Each lily will cost £3 and the names to be remembered will be added to a list to be left within the Easter Garden. Helen Sasia will start collecting these details from Sunday April 7th after the 10am service.



St John's Lent course: "The Kings Speech"

Our Lent course continues into April, focusing our reflections on words from the Bible and the film "The Kings Speech".

Lent Study course dates: 7:00pm to 8:15pm on 2 April; 9 April; 16 April and 23 April, in the Vicarage. Please make a note in your diary and sign up via the sign-up sheet on the Noticeboard at the back of church.

Details of the **Churches Together Lent course**, which focuses on faith and mental health, are also on the Noticeboard.

Holy Week & Easter at St John's:

Palm Sunday, 14th April Palm procession. Meet in the Intimate Theatre by St Monica's Church from 09:45 for a Palm procession leaving at 10:00 for Church followed by Communion Service

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

09:30 Morning Prayer

19:00 Compline

Maundy Thursday 18th April

09:30 Book of Common Prayer Eucharist

19:00 Agape Meal with Communion followed by a Watch of Prayer until Midnight

Good Friday 19th April

10:00 Children's Easter Craft Workshop & Service

11:30 Joint Procession of Witness with Churches Together, starting at Palmers Green Station Car Park to Winchmore Hill Methodist Church

14:00 Good Friday Service

16:00 The Passion of the Christ film, Parish Centre

19:30 Vigil at St Monica's (Churches Together)

Easter Sunday 21st April

05:30 Easter Sunrise Service, followed by Breakfast

10:00 Easter Day Service

Agape Meal (with Communion) on Maundy Thursday, 18th April 2019.

Everybody is invited to share a traditional Agape feast or Lovefeast - a communal meal shared among Christians. The Lovefeast originated in the early Church and was a time of fellowship for believers. We need to know, for catering purposes, if you are coming so please sign up on the sheet at the back of church. There is also a sheet asking for volunteers to help prepare food and set up.



25th Anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood:

Dear Friends, this year is the 25th Anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood.

There will be a service of celebration in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 4th June at 7pm. I have been invited to attend and to extend that invitation to my family, friends, supporters, colleagues, congregation members - anybody who would like to join with me in celebrating 25 wonderful years of women in priestly ministry! This is an occasion to gather women and men, lay and ordained, those who were part of the difficult journey to the Church's acceptance of women in sacramental ministry and those who are too young to remember it: all who wish to rejoice in God's ongoing call to women to be priests. I invite you to join us. Yours in Christ,
Rev Julie

Information and Directory

Regular services:

Sundays

8.30am: Parish Holy Communion (quieter, more reflective service in the Lady Chapel)

10.00am Parish Holy Communion

- 2nd Sunday of the month is a Family Service, with Communion
- 3rd Sunday of the month, prayer is available during Communion from a member of the prayer team in the Lady Chapel
- 5th Sunday of the month is a Healing Service

Other Service Times

Thursdays 10:30am: Holy Communion

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

9.30am Morning Prayer

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Dates for your Diary



- 2nd April; 9th, 16th, 23rd April, Lent study
7:00pm to 8:15pm
- 3rd April: Annual Parochial Church Meeting,
7:00pm in the Church
- 6th April: JAM @ St John's, 10:00am to 12:00
noon in the Church
- 7th April: Choral Evensong, 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- 14th April: Youth Bible Study, 4:00pm to
5:00pm
- w/c 14th April: Holy Week – see details above
- 24th April: Prayer meeting, 7:30pm to 8:30pm
- 11th May: Palmers Green Spring Clean
- 15th May: St John's Gin tasting evening,
7:30pm
- 4th June: 25th Anniversary of the ordination of
women to the priesthood. St Paul's Cathedral
- 29th June: Summer Fete
- 28th July: Julia's re-licensing at St John's with
Bishop Rob

Please check our website for full details

www.stjohnspg.org

Items for May Newsletter? Please email any corrections, suggestions or proposed content for the next edition to: sjpgnews@gmail.com by 26 April. The editor retains full editorial control!

Directory and Contacts:

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The Parish Office is open between 10am and 12noon every weekday except Thursdays.
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PCC Members: Rev Julie Coleman (Vicar); Richard Godfrey (Church Warden); Rick Arkwright; Rachel Barnes; Eme Brasnett; Mark Brinkley; Audrey Clovey; Terence Dawkins; Nick Easton; Kathy Forsyth; Moira Foster; Roger Gardner; JP Godfrey; Jenny Godfrey; Julia Holder; Nick Jones; Sam Parker and Garf Vennoyer.

Staying in Touch: To stay in touch with up to the minute news of activities at St John's sign up to receive our occasional Mailchimp email alerts. Ask to be added to the circulation by emailing SJPGsocialmedia@gmail.com

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