



# St John the Evangelist Newsletter: June 2019



## Vicar's Letter 'Excess Baggage'

Jesus said *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Dear Friends,

One of the things I like least about flying is the baggage reclaim. After a tiring flight, I walk down miles and miles of corridors until at last I come into a huge barn of a place. This, dear friends, is the Baggage Reclaim Section. But surely, you will say, this is just where you want to be?

After all, you need to retrieve your luggage before the holiday can begin. Ah, but suppose it's not there to be retrieved? Suppose it's been lost? There before me is the carousel, a giant conveyor belt with the luggage slowly circulating. It displays a whole assortment of bags, cases, golf clubs, even skis. All around the carousel, people are standing, watching, praying that their bag or case may appear. I take my place and watch, and wait. Sooner or later our case has got to appear – hasn't it? Time passes. The cases circulate. With a cry of triumph, someone grabs their case, but there's still no sign of the one I'm looking for. That large black case – surely this is the third time it's come round? People are beginning to drift away.

Does that mean there aren't any more cases to come? Then where is our luggage?

I suppose it's the worst nightmare for anyone who travels by air. Luggage does go astray, we know. I'm thankful to say that it's never happened to me, and that eventually our luggage has always appeared. That doesn't lessen my anxiety as I wait by the carousel. What would happen if the suitcase really did go missing? On the way home it would be a nuisance, but on the way out it would mean that all the things you needed for your holiday (clothes, wash kit) were missing. How would I manage on holiday without them?

Now imagine that my suitcase has appeared, with all my possessions intact. Marvellous! Then I look more closely, and find that somehow a lot of other stuff has got packed in with them. There are unpaid bills, notes of jobs left undone, promises that I haven't managed to keep. Imagine it happening to you. Would you really want to take all that stuff with you on holiday?

Would you really want to be continually reminded of all the things you'd failed to do beforehand?

Life is sometimes compared to a journey. Certainly, we all have our baggage to carry. The trouble is that some of us carry a lot of excess baggage – worries, fears, resentments. Some may be recent; some may date back to our childhood. Things that have been said to us long ago, especially by people we consider to be authority figures or friends, may have a negative influence on the way we behave today. That's the bad news. The good news is that we don't have to go on carrying this excess baggage around. It may help to talk to someone on our pastoral team.

If you think this could be helpful, then phone me (020 8886 9557) or ask us to pray for you.

So if you feel burdened, give it a try!

With love in Christ,  
Julie

## Just gone...

**Praise and Worship:** Our first new style Family "Praise and Worship" service (on the second Sunday of each month) was a great success and we look forward to the next one on Sunday 9 June. The main Eucharist on the 2nd Sunday of the month will be at the 8.30am service and there is, additionally, the opportunity to enjoy Evensong at 6:30pm. 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 contact Rev Julie.

## **Memorial Plaque Blessing:**

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, the end of our Sunday morning service took us outside, where we blessed the new memorial plaque, with the names of those interred in the church grounds. May they rest in peace.



**Gin Evening:** Thank you to Ian from the Old Bakery Gin for coming to talk to us in May about his gin and doing a tasting for us. We have thoroughly enjoyed listening to his story and trying his Gin and Rum. Local products are just the best! A big thank you also to Sharon Easton, who very kindly organised this evening and brought us all together.



**Rev Julie's Birthday:** It was Rev Julie's birthday on 19<sup>th</sup> May. She has only been with us for 6 months but we all feel she has been part of our church for a lot longer. Happy birthday Rev Julie, we hope to celebrate lots more birthdays with you in the future.



## **Safer Communities Meeting:**

We would like to thank the local community, the council, the police and the Green Lanes businesses who all came together to explore a way of starting a youth provision at our church halls here in Palmers Green modelled on other youth provision centres across the borough where youth can initially go on a Friday after school. We are hoping that this will give youngsters a safe place to go to and we are hoping to offer activities that will help them to grow into young leaders and responsible adults. We are also hoping to form a male mentoring circle to reach vulnerable young men. If you would like to help, please get in touch with us on [youthprovisionpg@gmail.com](mailto:youthprovisionpg@gmail.com)



**Christian Aid:** The Christian Aid Collection total raised this year was £124.75. Thank you to all who contributed.

**Winter Night Shelter:** For the fourth year in a row churches and volunteers in Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill combined to offer an overnight respite service for the homeless. St John's Church, hosted the shelter on Monday nights from 7<sup>th</sup> January to 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (14 weeks) as one of seven locations across the Borough of Enfield. Overnight guests were referred to the service by "All People All Places", a registered charity that provides services for people, who suffer from homelessness and who want to break the cycle of homelessness.

### **Some key stats for St John's:**

- 14 nights with a max. of 12 guests per night = 168 guest nights offered
- 1 volunteer coordinator, 1 catering coordinator, 68 volunteers (including catering)
- 8 local churches participating
- approx 42 shift leader spaces and 196 shift spaces
- approx. 240 evening meals and 140 breakfasts prepared

**Thank you to everyone who was involved!**

# Up and Coming...

## Prayer Space:

Billy Graham said

“Prayer is simply a two-way conversation between you and God”

and this month the Prayer

Space encourages us to sit a while and listen to the voice of God – and if we have been blessed by that, to take the opportunity to write a card of blessing to somebody.



**CAMEO:** Our first CAMEO meeting was held on Tuesday 14th May. CAMEO stands for Come And Meet Each Other. Ideas on how we can make a difference in the church and wider community were explained and discussed and the programme for the rest of the year announced.

Come  
And  
Meet  
Each  
Other



Look on St John's website for details. Join

us at our next meeting on Tuesday 11th June, 12noon-2:00pm, everyone welcome. Bring a light packed lunch, tea and coffee is provided!

**Cleaning Rota:** Can you spare a little (or more) time to help us keep St John's Spick and Span? Each Cleaning Saturday, we open at 9:00am for cleaning and close the Church at about 11:30am. If you can give us even 15 minutes - we would be very grateful.

Saturday 25th May

Saturday 22nd June

Saturday 20th July

Saturday 14th September

Saturday 19th October

Saturday 14th December



## Think about it:

**Grace** - is God making sure you get what you don't deserve

**Mercy** - is God making sure that you don't get what you deserve

**Peace** - is what you enjoy when you accept His grace and mercy”



## 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 in 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

**Summer Fete:** On 29<sup>th</sup> June we will hold our annual Summer Fete at St John's. We are urgently looking for the following donations please: Bric-a-Brac, toys, bottles, gifts and home produce. Any donations would be greatly appreciated (at back of church). Thank you.

**Ashes:** We are looking into having a consecrated area of the churchyard for the internment of ashes. Please put your views, in writing to Rev Julie, in terms of where it should be.

## Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I thank you that your love sets no limit to faith, hope or endurance: you have promised that where you are, one day I shall be there also; so grant me courage to step out daily without fear into the unknown future – my hand in your hand, my heart in your keeping, day by day.  
In your name I make this prayer. Amen.

*From "Glorious Christianity" by Cally Hammond.  
Submitted by Marilyn Jackson and used with publisher's permission.*

# Information and Directory

## Regular services:

### Sundays

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

10.00am: Parish Holy Communion

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month is a Praise and Worship service
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, prayer is available during Communion from a member of the prayer team in the Lady Chapel
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month is a Healing Service

6:30pm: Evensong (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month)

### Other Service Times

Thursdays 10:30am: Holy Communion

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

9.30am Morning Prayer

5.30pm Evening Prayer



## Dates for your Diary

- 1<sup>st</sup> June JAMMIN @ St John's, 10:00am to 12:00 noon in the Church – Marla Brown
- 4<sup>th</sup> June: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood. St Paul's Cathedral. (Home Church Bible Study Cancelled for this evening).
- 4<sup>th</sup> June: Green Lanes Business Association
- 9<sup>th</sup> June: Praise and Worship service
- 9<sup>th</sup> June: Youth Bible Study. 4:00pm to 5:00pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> June: Choral Evensong 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> June: Archdeacon's Visitation at 5:30pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> June: Home Church Bible Study
- 15<sup>th</sup> June: Palmers Green Shopping Carnival
- 26<sup>th</sup> June: Prayer meeting, 7:30pm to 8:30pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> June: Summer Fete 12noon-4:00pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> July: Julia's re-licensing at St John's

**Please check our website for full details**

[www.stjohnspg.org](http://www.stjohnspg.org)

**Items for July Newsletter?** Please email any corrections, suggestions or proposed content for the next edition to:

[sjpgnews@gmail.com](mailto:sjpgnews@gmail.com) by 26 June.

The editor retains full editorial control!

## Directory and Contacts:

**The Vicar:** Rev Julie Coleman

Tel: 020 8886 9557

E: [rev.jcoleman@hotmail.com](mailto:rev.jcoleman@hotmail.com)

**Licensed Lay Minister:** Julia Holder

**Churchwardens:** Richard Godfrey & Kathy Forsyth

E: [r godfreylocations@icloud.com](mailto:r godfreylocations@icloud.com)

E: [kathyforsyth1962@gmail.com](mailto:kathyforsyth1962@gmail.com)

**Director of Music:** Robert Hainault

E: [Nebularhatriot@gmail.com](mailto:Nebularhatriot@gmail.com)

**Parish & Facilities Administrator:**

Theodora Diamandi

Tel: 0208 886 0847

E: [stjohnspg@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnspg@gmail.com)

**The Parish Office** is open between 9:15am and 3:00pm every weekday except Thursdays.  
1 Bourne Hill, London N13 4DA

**PCC Members:** Rev Julie Coleman (Vicar); Richard Godfrey and Kathy Forsyth (Church Wardens); JP Godfrey (Deputy Church Warden); Rick Arkwright; Eme Brasnett; Audrey Clovey; Nick Easton; Moira Foster; Roger Gardner; Julia Holder; Nick Jones; 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](mailto:SJPGsocialmedia@gmail.com)

## Find and follow us on Social Media:



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