

# St John the Evangelist Newsletter: September 2019



## Vicar's Letter

### Stand up to Cancer: 27<sup>th</sup> September

Dear Friends,

Yes, somewhere people still make and keep promises. They choose not to quit when the going gets rough because they promised once to see it through. They stick to lost causes. They hold on to a love grown cold. They stay with people who have become pains in the neck. They still dare to make promises and care enough to keep the promises they make - and I'm no different.

I have learnt that when a person makes a promise, they reach out into an unpredictable future and make one thing predictable: they will be there even when being there costs them more than they want to pay.

When a person makes a promise, they stretch themselves out into circumstances that no one can control and control at least one thing: they will be there no matter what the circumstances turn out to be. With one simple word of promise, a person creates an island of certainty in a sea of uncertainty.

I made a promise last month to shave my head for Macmillan Cancer Support – their big coffee morning is officially on 27<sup>th</sup> September. I promised to do this because I have seen so many lives lost to this terrible disease and I felt I wanted to do something that would make a difference. Last month I was offered a large donation not to shave my head fully, which I accepted, but knowing that I had promised to do so to raise funds for this amazing charity, I still had it cut very, very, very short on 18<sup>th</sup> August with two other brave people: Jonny and Shan.

Today I'm asking you to make a promise to pray with me during a Half Night of Prayer to stand up to cancer on 27<sup>th</sup> September from 6pm to midnight. You can stay for as long or as little as you would like. Refreshments will be available throughout our time together and candles can be lit for those you have loved and lost to cancer, as well as for those who are still standing up to it.

I know this is a big ask, but I have lost too many friends and people not to stand up to cancer in the only way I know how - and I invite you to join us on 27<sup>th</sup> September, from 6pm in St John's Church.

With love in Christ,

Rev Julie

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

## Just gone...

A massive "THANK YOU" to everyone who gave up some of their spare time on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August to help clear the space behind the reredos. If you haven't had a peek, here is what it looks like. What a fantastic space! The next phase will be to move the reredos behind the high altar so that its beauty and simplicity can be seen by all as they come in to church. May it prompt our hearts to worship.



They "Braved the Shave"! Nobody can have failed to notice that after the service on 18<sup>th</sup> August Rev Julie and Jonny and Shan "Braved the Shave" in order to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support helping people to live with cancer. Since 2015 brave shavers have raised over £22.7m, which could pay for 140 Macmillan nurses for three years. If you would like to show your support to Rev Julie, Shan and Jonny there is still time to donate via our Facebook page or at the back of church.



### **DO YOU NEED A LIFT TO CHURCH?**

If you cannot get to the 10am Parish Communion on a Sunday because of a temporary disability or ailment, telephone our Lay Chaplain Celia on 020 8882 5695.

This service is not intended to be a permanent commitment for a driver to take you every Sunday. It is meant to be an offer of transport on an ad hoc basis and must be requested on each occasion. Please tell others who may need this service.



### **CALLING FOR SOME EXTRA HELP!**

For one reason or another both the Flower Team and the Welcomers are really low on numbers and we are anxious to recruit!



**The Flower Team** produce the displays which enhance our weekly worship. There is no need to have any special talent (although a love of flowers can be a bonus). We will help you along to find the way you would like to make your display. We are fortunate enough to have an annual budget from the PCC so there is no pressure on anyone to purchase the weekly blooms.

An annual rota is drawn up in December for 2 members of the team each week to work together for the weeks other than those in Lent and Advent (when the church is not decorated). Please speak to Helen Sasia any Sunday after the service (or any other known member of our hard working group) as we could really do with your assistance.

**The Welcomers** are the first people anyone encounters on arrival at St John's and as such perform an important role in welcoming both strangers and well-known members of our congregation. Their task is to ensure the smooth running of the services each week. Tasks range from greeting individuals at the door and handing out the orders of service plus news-sheets, taking the collection, sending the elements down to the chancel, aiding worshippers as they take communion and counting the money after the service. With three people always on duty none of these are onerous tasks. The current problem is simply there are not enough of us to go around meaning too many kind folk are having to be on duty too often when it should be no more than a few Sundays a year.

If you feel you could spare a couple of Sundays to help out we would be overjoyed to welcome you. Please don't be shy, just ask any of the Welcomers any week and we'll explain all about it. Many thanks. Helen Sasia.

### **DO YOU NEED A HOME VISIT?**

Rev Julie wants to know if you feel you need a home visit or Home Communion. If you do, please call her Lay Chaplain Celia who works closely with her on 0208 882 5695.

HOME VISITS



# Up and Coming...

## **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Jammin' @ St John's:**

Our Director of Music Robert will be providing live music at the piano and organ, playing a range of popular classics including Bach's Prelude in C, highlights from Goldberg Variations, Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, and Chopin's Nocturne no. 2, alongside organ favourites such as Clarke's Trumpet Tune and Boëllman's Prière à Notre Dame.



## **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Bring and Share Lunch:**



You are most warmly invited to stay after the service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September for our parish bring and share lunch. Please bring a small dish to share if you can.

## **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **CAMEO – Setting up a Church Clothes Bank:**

The CAMEO Group, (Come And Meet Each Other), is back after the summer break. We are meeting on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September, from 12:00 to 2:00pm in the Parish Centre and we will be discussing the setting up of a Church Clothes Bank. Please bring any men's, women's and children's clothing you wish to donate. Everyone is welcome to join us!



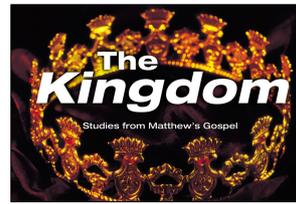
## **4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Home Church Bible Study**

Matthew's Gospel – an exploration of Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God.

This study from Matthew's Gospel comprises seven sessions and explores the meaning of the Kingdom and the implications for the way we live now.

The group will meet in the Parish Centre from 7:00pm to 8:15pm. Refreshments will be provided and everybody is welcome! We will meet on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September and 18<sup>th</sup> September. After that we will meet on:



2<sup>nd</sup> October  
16<sup>th</sup> October  
30<sup>th</sup> October  
13<sup>th</sup> November  
27<sup>th</sup> November

## **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October:**

### **Jammin' @ St John's & Table Top Sale**

There will be a table top sale by children for children (and anyone else interested). For children: Come and sell your toys, books and games to other children at our indoor table top sale. It is £3 to book half a table or £5 for a whole table, so bring a friend and sell together to earn an extra bit of pocket money this autumn! Being part of Jammin' at St John's, there will be live music by the amazing Adorned Community Gospel Choir, tea, coffee and homemade cakes available to buy for parents and anyone visiting as well as DVDs, books and CDs for sale (50p each).



Book a table on: [SJPGevents@gmail.com](mailto:SJPGevents@gmail.com)

## **Poppies for Remembrance**

If you ever visited the commemorative poppy display at the Tower of London, you will know how spectacular they looked, but they also allowed individuals to reflect and remember relatives who may have fought in one of the wars.



Several churches have also organised their own displays which are on a much smaller scale but are also a poignant reminder of all the lives that were lost in two world wars and more recent wars.



This year we would like to do our own poppy display. We have started late so we need all the help we can get.

There will be poppy patterns at the back of the church for both knitting and crocheting. You can either knit a black centre or sew a black button on the centre. Each poppy takes around an hour to make, and if you are able please do help. Every poppy knitted will be welcome. There will be a poppy collection point at the back of the church.

# Information and Directory

## Regular services:

### Sundays

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

10.00am: Parish Holy Communion

- 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 with Communion

(This service is followed by a children's choir practice at 11:30am).

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

- Wednesdays 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September: Home Church Bible Study. 7:00pm to 8:15pm in the Parish Centre
- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept: Jammin@StJohn's from 10:00am to 12:00noon in Church
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept: Bring and Share lunch in the Parish Centre
- 8<sup>th</sup> Sept: Youth Bible Study. 4:00pm to 5:00pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> Sept: CAMEO: 12:00 to 2:00pm in the Parish Centre
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept: Church Cleaning from 9:00am to 11:30am – come when you can
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept: Half Night of Prayer for Stand up to Cancer
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Sept: Healing service, with Communion
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October: Jammin@St John's plus Table top sale by children for children
- **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Market**

**Please check our website for full details**

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

**Items for October Newsletter?** Please email any corrections, suggestions or proposed content for the next edition to: [sjpgnews@gmail.com](mailto:sjpgnews@gmail.com) by 27<sup>th</sup> September.

## 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

Deputy Churchwarden: JP Godfrey

E: [rgodfreylocations@icloud.com](mailto:rgodfreylocations@icloud.com)

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

E: [jp.godfry@gmail.com](mailto:jp.godfry@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 and Nick Jones.

**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)

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