

St John the Evangelist Newsletter: October 2019



Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends,

Saying "Thank you"

One of my bugbears is when people don't say thank you. In the car, you stop at a crossing to let someone across and they don't smile or say thanks. Or you wait to let another car go past you, without so much as a flash of lights or a raised hand. Or at work, you go out of your way to help someone with something and they don't show their gratitude. Of course, I've done all these things myself!

Saying thank you is also something many in our churches are surprisingly bad at. You would think that an organisation that is reliant on the time, energy and goodwill given freely by its members would be somewhere that is naturally grateful for the hard work they do. But time and again I have met people in churches who have never been thanked for what they do. With any kind of service, you don't do it to be thanked, but a little bit of appreciation goes a long way. And I take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported St John's Church, me and my family over these past 11 months.

If we struggle to say thank you to one another, it's no wonder we are not very good at saying it to God. Fortunately Harvest is the ideal opportunity to thank God for what he has given. Traditionally a community would come together as the harvest was brought in from the fields to thank God and offer him what they had received. These days we are less connected to the land, which makes it all the more important to say thank you.

This goes alongside prayer and other practical help for those in need. It is no accident that it is churches that have been behind the boom in food-banks across the country all year round, with our harvest gifts going to local homes, refugees and food-banks. If you are thankful for what you have, you will want to help others who have less than you and there are people who need help. And I pray each day for a heart that says thank you to God and to others for their kindness.

I look forward to seeing you at the Harvest service of thanksgiving on the 6th October at 10am.

With love in Christ,

Rev Julie

Just gone...

Thank You!

“Many thanks” to those who responded to the plea for help with Flowers and Welcoming. There will now be a few more faces to welcome the congregation ... plenty of room for more besides! The flower team were also thrilled with the response and look forward to some new creative ideas! Helen Sasia.



Jazz evening: What a lovely time was had by all those who came to the Jazz Evening with Lauren Lucille on Saturday 31st August.



Lucille and her band played and sung some great music. It was also an opportunity for us to welcome people from the local community. Many had not been inside St John's before and were struck by its beauty.

A special thanks goes to Mark Brinkley for sponsoring the event– and for his memorable duet with Lucille!

Standing up to cancer: Thank you to all those people who came together in our half night of prayer against cancer – an evening for prayer and reflection, remembering those who have been lost to cancer and who are still standing up to it.



You will also be pleased to know that over £1,600 has been raised to date for the 'Brave the Shave'. Rev Julie would like to thank everybody for their support and generosity.

Update from the 4th Southgate Scout Group:

After a successful summer camping season for the Scout Group we are now back in full swing of a busy programme. Why not stop and ask one of our scouts what they got up to over the summer at our next parade, I'm sure you'll be amazed by the fun they had.

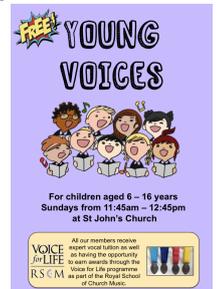


We currently have space in all sections, so if your son or daughter are aged over 6, please speak to a leader to find out more. All sections meet on Monday nights in the Church Halls, Beavers 6-8 Years @ 5.45pm 'till 7.00pm; Cubs 8-10 Years @ 6.30pm 'till 8.00pm; and Scouts 10-14 Years @ 7.30pm 'till 9.00pm.

Dave Arnold. GSL 4th Southgate Scout Group
(Email: southgate.scouts@live.co.uk)

St John's Children's Choir: "Young Voices"

Our children's choir (called "Young Voices") is soon to be starting the "Voice for Life" scheme. Members receive vocal training and have the opportunity to achieve awards from the Royal School of Church Music. We rehearse at 11.45am on Sundays and will be singing at our Nine Lessons and Carols service this year. To keep in-the-loop please fill out a "sign-up" sheet. Come and get one from me at the organ at the end of the service. Robert Hainault, Director of Music



Thinking about being Confirmed?

If you are over the age of 11 years old and thinking about being Confirmed then this note is for **YOU!**

The Sacrament of Confirmation follows up and completes our Baptism and makes us a full participating member of the Church of England. Confirmation is the special service when the Bishop lays hands on the head of each candidate and prays for them to receive the Holy Spirit of God. This is our "Commissioning" or 'sending out' as fully equipped members of the Church (Body of Christ), to witness to our Christian faith in the world. When we are Confirmed, we then are admitted to receive Holy Communion, to receive from God the strength of the body and blood of Christ, as we grow as Christians in our daily lives.

Confirmation preparation will begin soon. There will be one group for adults and another for young people aged 11 to 16. If you are interested please contact Rev Julie on 020 8886 9557 or email rev.jcoleman@hotmail.com



Baptism & Wedding Congratulations:

Congratulations to those baptized recently:

- Lara - Sunday 11th August '19
- Mia - Tuesday 3rd September '19
- Jasper - Sunday 8th September '19



Wedding Bells rang out for Donatas & Simona on 7th September and Esther & Nosa on Thursday 3rd October '19. Many congratulations to both couples – we wish you every happiness for the future.

Up and Coming...

Prayer Space for October:

our Prayer Space provides an opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of 'loving your neighbour'. It's all fairly easy to do with people we love and like. The real challenge is loving our neighbours who are different, who have different views and opinions, who are ungrateful - in short, people we struggle with.

This month the Prayer Space invites you to pray for those neighbours you struggle with. There will be a sheet saying 'Love your ___ neighbour' and the prayer activity is to think of who we struggle to pray for and love and to place a description in the gap eg 'Love your unkind neighbour'. In doing so we will pray for those we find it hard to pray for and come to a deeper understanding of true Christian love.

CAMEO: Tuesday 8th October

The CAMEO Group (Come And Meet Each Other) will be meeting on Tuesday 8th October from 12noon to 2:00pm in the Parish Centre. Our guest speaker is Willy Nolan who will share his experiences of international air travel as a member of the cabin crew of an international airline. Not to be missed!

Everyone is welcome to join us.

STITCH A POPPY @ "STITCH! Crafts and Classes" – Thursday 17th



October: We are delighted that "Stitch! Crafts and Classes" are working with us to help complete our poppy display for Remembrance Day. "Stitch" are hosting an evening to stitch, knit or crochet a poppy to add to our display from 7:00pm to 8:30pm on Thursday 17th October at their local shop at 397 Green Lanes. Everybody is welcome and light refreshments will be available. In the meantime if you would like to get involved and help us create this wonderful display for Remembrance Sunday there are poppy patterns available at the back of church. 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 – please put them in the poppy collection point at the back of the church.

Church Cleaning – Saturday 19th

October: A reminder that the next Cleaning Day is Saturday 19th October. The church is open from 9.00am until 12noon for cleaning. Please come and lend a hand if you can – even if only for half an hour. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are always provided.

Home Church Bible study: 2nd October; 16th October; 30th October:

We are continuing our study of Matthew's Gospel – an exploration of Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God. Do come and join us in the Parish Centre from 7:00pm to 8:15pm every other Wednesday evening on 2nd October; 16th October; 30th October; 13th November and 27th November 2019.

Refreshments will be provided and everybody is welcome!

"Alternative" Halloween Concert and Party: Sunday 27th October at 4:00pm.

Join us for our "Alternative" Halloween Concert and Party at 4:00pm on Sunday 27th October including music and candy games, snacks and more. Costumes encouraged! Fun for all the family!



Jammin@St John's: Saturday 2nd

November: Live music by our Director of Music, Robert Hainault and Elizabeth Frannery from 10:00am to 12noon. Book, DVD and CD sale – all items 50p as well as homemade cakes, tea and coffee.

Christmas Market: Saturday 16th November. Photographer required!!

Preparations for our annual Christmas Market are gathering pace and we are currently looking for someone to be the photographer for our Star Attraction - the amazing Teddybear zip line to Santa! The photographer will take photos of the brave Teddy's ascent into the roof of St. John's to deliver children's letters to the Elves. (The children will have their letters delivered to Santa plus a photo on their certificate of the momentous event.) The photographer will be stationed inside the Church and so will be warm and dry throughout the Market!

If you can help, please speak to Cathy Godfrey our Events Co-ordinator on 020 8886 7342 or sign up at the back of 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

- 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 with Communion

(This service is followed by a children's choir practice at 11:45am)

6:30pm: Evensong (2nd 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 2nd, 16th and 30th October: Home Church Bible Study. 7:00pm to 8:15pm in the Parish Centre
- Tuesday 8th October: CAMEO with Willy Nolan. 12noon to 2:00pm in the Parish Centre
- Thursday 17th October: Stitch a Poppy @ Stitch: 7:00pm to 8:30pm, 397 Green Lanes.
- Saturday 19th October: Church Cleaning from 9:00am to 11:30am – come when you can
- Sunday 27th October: Alternative Halloween Concert and Party at 4:00pm.
- Saturday 2nd November: Jammin@St John's. 10:00am to 12noon in the Church
- Sunday 10th November: Remembrance Service
- Saturday 16th November: Christmas Market, 12noon to 4:00pm.
- Sunday 8th December: Toy Service

Please check our website for full details

www.stjohnspg.org

Items for November Newsletter?

Please email any corrections, suggestions or proposed content for the next edition to:

sjpgnews@gmail.com by 24th October.

The editor retains full editorial control!

Directory and Contacts:

The Vicar: Rev Julie Coleman

Tel: 020 8886 9557

E: rev.jcoleman@hotmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister: Julia Holder

Churchwardens: Richard Godfrey & Kathy Forsyth

Deputy Churchwarden: JP Godfrey

E: churchwarden@stjohnspg.org

E: kathyforsyth1962@gmail.com

E: jp.godfrey@gmail.com

Director of Music: Robert Hainault

E: Nebularhatriot@gmail.com

Parish & Facilities Administrator:

Theodora Diamandi

Tel: 0208 886 0847

E: 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

Find and follow us on Social Media:



Facebook:

St-John-the-Evangelist-Palmers-Green



Twitter: @stjohnspalmersg



Instagram: @stjohnspalmersgreen