



PARISH NEWSLETTER



The Parish Church of
St John the Evangelist
Palmers Green

September Edition

Vicar's Thought

Dear Friends,

What a summer it's been! Hot and dry for longer than we could have dreamed of following last year's wash out and a late emergence of spring this year. But it seems that there have been fewer butterflies, bees and even pests like aphids and wasps flitting about. Although we'd regard some insects as pests (who likes wasps?) they are very important in the food chain and other insects, birds and small mammals suffer when there are shortages of them.

These shortages can also affect us. Albert Einstein once said "if the bee disappeared off the face of the earth, humanity would only have four years left to live". His words are a powerful reminder that our lives are vitally connected to God's creation and to each other. We must work to ensure those often fragile connections are guarded and strengthened.

Recent media reports suggest a great decline in the bee population in this country: the prolonged wet weather, farming methods and mites have destroyed a third of the bee population. In addition to gathering nectar to produce honey, honey bees perform a vital second function - pollination. About one third of the human diet is derived from insect-pollinated plants and honey bees are responsible for 80% of this pollination. Honey bees are responsible for pollinating a variety of fruits, vegetables and nuts such as almonds. So, without bees there would be no harvest and we wouldn't be holding a Harvest festival.

The sweeter deal appeal is a project supported by a Christian Aid partner called Action for Development. Its primary objective is to set up a bee keeping co-operative to improve honey production in one of the world's poorest countries - Ethiopia. For more information about this project and how you can support it see www.harvestappeal.org.

You may be asking "what about the needs in this country, in our community?" You may have heard from media sources that the use of food banks has escalated. More and more people are finding themselves unable to afford food once they've paid their bills due to Covid-19. Now, it is not just those already on benefits who are suffering; people who have been made redundant and are struggling to find employment are joining the queues for food parcels.

Food donated to our harvest festival celebrations in September and October will be distributed to needy local people and local food banks. But all year around non-perishable food can be dropped off in the church to be taken to a food bank or distributed to those in need through St John's pantry.

Harvest is a celebration, one of the songs we sing declares 'all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, so thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love. 'And one way we thank God for creation and for the wonderful variety of food we enjoy, is to be generous in our giving, even as God has been generous to us.

So, let's be busy bees in the community and the world we live in with kindness and generous giving.

With love in Christ,

Rev Julie

Re-Opening St John's

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST: "BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS"

It was so lovely to re-open St John's again and to begin to recommence some of the normal aspects of church life – in particular our regular 10:00am Sunday service with the blessing of the backpacks on Sunday 30th August.

Our mid-week Communion services will now also resume all the while we have volunteers to steward. Of course the Covid pandemic still impacts the way we gather and worship.



Church and Covid – a reminder

As we are returning to church, here is a quick reminder of the simple steps we all need to take in order to protect ourselves and each other:

- use the hand sanitiser provided, on entering (and leaving) the church.
- wear a face covering, over nose and mouth, all the time.
- stewards in a red sash will guide you
- leave your contact details for Track and Trace
- observe social distance of '2-metre'.
- for Holy Communion wait for directions from Rev Julie
- after receiving Holy Communion, leave the church by the Lady Chapel doorway
- do not come to church if you or anyone in your household shows symptoms of Covid-19



WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

I have received many emails about whether children can be in the church for a service. My answer to that is a big yes! Children are as welcome as anyone to be in the church. They are also welcome to bring their own activities and colouring sheets, including pens and crayons. Sunday School is closed for the time being, so they will sit in a household space with a parent or guardian who will supervise them at all times. On Sunday 30th August we bless the pack packs of all those who are returning to nursery and education. I look forward to see you.
Rev Julie



MID-WEEK COMMUNION

Starting on 3 September a simple service of Holy Communion and prayer will be held on a Thursday at 10.30am in the Lady Chapel. Please feel free to turn up, there is no need to let us know in advance as all Covid-19 regulations are being followed. If you have any query at all or want to chat to us about first about coming along you can contact us on..... Please do not hesitate to get in touch via the Parish Office SJPGoffice@gmail.com.



THANK YOU FROM YOUR ORDINAND

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, since I have become an Ordinand at St John's. I look forward to continuing to journey with you all as God Calls us.

Jonathan (St John's Ordinand)



In Other News...

PRAYER WARRIOR?

Are you interested in being a Prayer Warrior at St Johns? If you answer yes to this question email SJPGoffice@gmail.com

FOR THOSE UNABLE TO GET TO CHURCH HOME COMMUNION

Dear Friends, It was wonderful to see parishioners coming to Church on a Sunday. I know many of you have been concerned about not attending church on Sundays therefore please let me continue to reassure you that at this present time do church as you can. As far as I am concerned, we are a wonderful congregation at St Johns wherever we are at this present time and not even Covid-19 can change that!

I have always been concerned about parishioners for whom we do not have contact details and for those who do not have internet access. If you are aware of anyone this applies to, would you bring this to our attention. I am saddened that during Lockdown many have not received Holy Communion therefore I would like to arrange door step visits with Holy Communion to those who are shielding. If you would like this service please email SJPGoffice@gmail.com or let our Lay Chaplains Celia and Shan know on 02088825695 or 02088823418.

Thank you for the food items requested in the Newsletter, for the volunteers helping as stewards although we do need more stewards. Without your help, the Church could not open. Please help us and volunteer SJPGoffice@gmail.com.

God bless you all. Rev Julie

CARE FOR THE FAMILY

Care for the Family is a Christian organisation that seeks to promote strong family life and help those who face family difficulties. It's primary focus is on marriage, parenting and bereavement. Care for the Family aim is to be accessible to every family whatever their circumstances and to create resources and support that are preventative, evidence-based and easy to apply. www.careforthefamily.org.uk

THANK YOU



We would like to say a big thank you to Richard Godfrey and his wife Cathy. Richard has been churchwarden at St John's since 2014 and has been there for St John's especially during a long vacancy. We would like to thank him for all his hard work, dedication and support and of course Cathy for supporting Richard and St John's in this role. As a thank you, we were going to send them off to Paris for a little break, but due to Covid-19 we have decided to give him a donation of £1,000 which he and Cathy can use to book a trip to Paris including hotel, when times are better for travelling!
THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US!

WELCOME!

Following the APCM, we would like to welcome Kathy Forsyth as Churchwarden again and also JP Godfrey. Welcome also to Audrey Clovey, who will be our Deputy Churchwarden. We would also like to welcome Mark Brinkley, Jonathan Esposito, Norma Clayton and Richard Godfrey onto the PCC. Please keep the churchwardens and the PCC in your prayers as they continue/start their service on the church council. Thank you.

St Martin-in-the-Fields Autumn Lecture Series 2020

In What Do We Trust?

way of life that we have taken for granted seems to be at stake?

Monday 14 September 7.00 - 8.30pm	In What Do We Trust? Learning from History <i>Tom Holland</i>
Monday 5 October 7.00 - 8.30pm	Trusting in Faith <i>Rowan Williams</i>
Monday 12 October 7.00 - 8.30pm	Trusting the Gods <i>Neil MacGregor</i>
Monday 2 November 7.00 - 8.30pm	Trusting in Scripture <i>Paula Gooder</i>

Livestreamed and limited seating in church (except Rowan Williams 5 Oct, Livestream)



St John's Summer Café

The Summer Cafe has been a massive success! Thank you so much to Rev Julie and the team for organising it. After opening slightly later than planned, we have provided help for many families (including food, children's toys and clothing). Due to continued need for this, we will keep the Summer Cafe going as 'Heart Rock Cafe' as we go into autumn. We will cook meals every Friday from 12noon-2pm for those who would like them. Please let anyone know who might like to come and also know the St John's Pantry is still going for anyone who is self-isolating and in need of a food home delivery.

Here some highlights from the time of the café.



Clothing available for those in need



Our cooks



Food deliveries going out



Toys and books for children available



Food being prepared by our amazing team of volunteers



St John's Pantry: Foods to be delivered

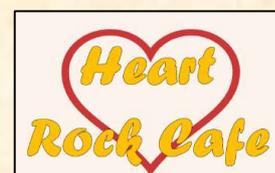
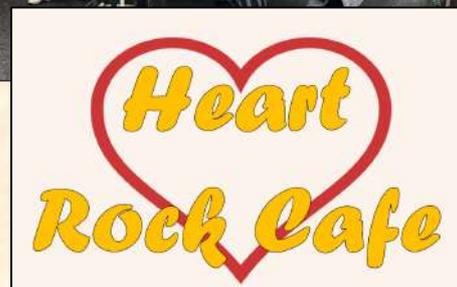


The Team after the last Summer Café!



Fresh produce waiting to be delivered locally

Don't forget, from September we are launching our Heart Rock Café for anyone who would like a hot meal on a Friday between 12noon-2pm.



Information and Directory



Regular services:

Sundays

~~8:30am: Parish Holy Communion~~
(quieter, more reflective service in the Lady Chapel)

10:00am: Parish Holy Communion



~~6:30pm: Evensong~~ (2nd Sunday of the month)

Other Service Times

Thursdays 10:30am: Holy Communion

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9.30am Morning Prayer

Find and follow us on Social Media:



Facebook:
St-John-the-Evangelist-Palmers-Green



Twitter: @stjohnspalmersg



Instagram: @stjohnspalmersgreen

Directory and Contacts:

The Vicar: Rev Julie Coleman

Tel: 020 8886 9557

E: rev.jcoleman@hotmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister: Julia Holder

Lay Chaplain: Celia Brown

Parish Office

Tel: 0208 886 0847

E: SJPGoffice@gmail.com

**For information regarding
weddings, baptisms and
funerals, please get in touch
with Rev Julie Coleman.
Thank you.**

Please check our website for full details

www.stjohnspg.org