

Come and celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday with us

Everyone is welcome to join our celebration of the Queen on Sunday 12 June, so do come along and join us.

We're starting with Afternoon Tea in the Church Hall at 4pm, organised by Frances Morgan and Jill O'Neill, with pre-baking help from Carole Jewitt.

At 5pm the Elizabeth II Prayer Pathway created by Marjorie Francis will open in the Church and a service of Compline will follow between 5.30 and 6pm. There will be no Worship@6 that day.



Ben's Trek

Just a reminder that in July this year Ben Jones is going to undertake a sponsored six day trek across Iceland to raise money for RP Fighting Blindness. The trek will include crossing snow fields, navigating lava fields and fording rivers. His friend Simon is going with him to make sure he doesn't fall down a volcano! All the money raised will go towards research and development of treatments and cures of RP, which is the most common cause of inherited blindness worldwide. If you'd like to donate, please go to: www.justgiving.com/benandsimonicecelandtrek Thank you!

Mark Allen Memorial Cricket Match

This is being held on Saturday 25th June at 2:00pm on the Harvey Grammar School cricket pitch off Cherry Garden Avenue. I will be selling raffle tickets (£1 each) during Sunday coffee time in the Church Hall throughout June in aid of Pilgrims Hospices. I would be grateful for St John's support as in previous years in supplying raffle prizes. Thank you. Mandy Allen

A date with Maintenance

Next painting and odd jobs maintenance gang meet on Saturday 11th June from 9:00am - 12noon. All welcome to help keep the bills down and the buildings tidy and in good repair. Any questions, ask Steve Hyde, phone 259096.

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Get Connected

Welcome to St John's!

We warmly welcome you if you are visiting us today. If you would like to know more about the life of St John's do collect a welcome pack, available at all our services.

At our 10:45 service you can go to our Welcome Desk near the door where someone will be able to give you a Welcome Pack and answer any questions you may have.

Refreshments are available in the Church Hall after All Stars and the 10:45am service. Do join us for coffee and a chat.

This could be the start of something big!

I am delighted to tell you that Claire Coleman, who has made such a strong contribution to St John's over the last couple of years, has been appointed as our Interim Children's, Youth and Families Minister from the beginning of September. What an important and exciting moment in our church's life!

I know (because you've told me) that many of you feel this is our biggest mission priority right now.

At the same time, the opportunities for us in children's, youth and family work are growing faster than we can keep up with at present.

We want to

- Grow the numbers of children and young people at St John's and help them grow in their faith
- Re-imagine the way we meet their needs through research among families we know
- Develop our relationships with local primary schools and uniformed organisations.

Turn to centre pages

What's on this week.....

Monday 6th June	Tuesday 7th June
8:30am Morning Prayer, Church Hall 7:30pm All Stars Team Meeting	2:00pm Craft Club, Grace Taylor Hall
Wednesday 8th June	Thursday 9th June
8:30am Staff Meeting Church Hall 10:00am Taylor Toddlers, Grace Taylor Hall 2:00pm Primetime, Church Hall 4:00pm Shooting Stars 6:45pm Alpha Course, Church Hall	8:30am Morning Prayer Church Hall 9:15am Open the Book Assembly 1:00pm Visit by Year 2 Mundella 1:15pm Twiglets (Toddler Group) 7:45pm Choir & Musicians Practice
Friday 10th June	Saturday 11th June
5:30pm No Brownies	9:00am Maintenance team
Sunday 12th June - Morning	Sunday 12th June - Evening
9:15am Morning Worship Grace Taylor Hall 9:15 All Stars - Worship for All Ages Church Hall 10:45am Holy Communion in Church	4:00pm Afternoon Tea (see notice) 5:00pm Elizabeth II Prayer Pathway, Church 5:30pm Short Compline service 7:15pm Sunday Nighters, Church Hall

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...the start of something big!

We have long had a very good relationship with Folkestone Primary Academy. Marjory Francis runs an annual Prayer Week there and takes the Open the Book team to act out Bible stories every month. We thank God for their unfailing efforts - and those of the Twiglets and Taylor Toddlers teams.

Now, Mundella Primary School, which became part of our parish last year, has asked us to be involved in a whole host of activities and, soon, the special needs schools of Highview and Foxwood will move into their new building in Park Farm Road - and they, too, want us to take an active part in their school life.

Shooting Stars, our after-school club on term-time Wednesdays, and our fledgling Teen Group on Thursday evenings will both lose their leader in the summer when Lee Buck starts his great new job in Sussex and moves away.

In the first instance, we have appointed Claire to this interim job for four months on a part-time basis because that is all the money we have available at present - but we have applied for a grant from the Diocese so that we can hopefully have a full-time, three-year post from January 2017.

The Churchwardens, the staff team, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and I all feel we are being gently but firmly guided by God down this path.

Please support Claire, our volunteers, this work and our grant application with your prayers. The Diocese will make its decision in July, so we hope to be able to advertise the full role in the autumn for a January start.

Steve Bradford

Worship@6

Tonight we shall be looking at some clips from the Christianity Explored website, and praying for our evangelism, our Church, and current world issues. St John's website has a link to the Christianity Explored website (go to Join in, then Finding faith). Do have a look at it beforehand if you can. It's well worth it.