



Sunday 25th September 2016
18th Sunday after Trinity

Flowers for Harvest

We will be decorating the church for harvest. If you would like to make a contribution towards the cost of the flowers there will be a plate for your gifts on the font following the service today. Thank you. Jill O'Neill.

Churches Together in Folkestone (CTF) events

Big Sleep Out Friday 30th September at St Mary's Primary Academy, Warren Road. The gates open at 7:30 pm. Contact Rainbow Centre for a sponsor form if you would like to take part. To support the event go to 'JustGiving'. There will be a hot supper, live music, a shelter building competition and fun and games. churchestogetherfolk@gmail.com

All Saints United Service Sunday, 30th October 6:00pm at Life Church. The speaker will be Matt Summerfield, Chief Executive of Urban Saints (previously known as Crusaders). His passion for mission & the local church is infectious.

Children's Light Party Monday, 31st October from 5:30pm - 7:00pm at Cheriton Baptist Church, Quedsted Road. The event is free and will include games, activities, food, songs, Bible stories and loads of fun! Lisa Jones of SU and many of the children's workers from across the town are organising it.

During the Light Party there will be a prayer room at Cheriton Baptist for those who would like to join them to pray that light will overcome the darkness in our community.

Walk on Saturday 1st October

This will be a fairly flat 6 mile walk across fields starting at Staple. You are most welcome to come along. Please contact Corinne Hyde for details (see Church Directory).

Getting to Grips with the Bible

As part of our vision to grow as disciples I will be leading a 5 week course on Wednesday evenings, starting on the 12th October, exploring the 39 books of the Old Testament. I intend to run a similar course during Lent 2017 on the books of the New Testament. The sessions will begin at 7:30pm and conclude promptly at 9:30pm. The venue will be decided once we know how many people would like to attend.

If you would like to be included please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of church or email me at stevejbradford@btinternet.com or phone me on 01303 211037. Steve Bradford

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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.

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

Are we Thankful People?

Have you ever been in a prayer meeting when the leader has suggested giving thanks to God for the good things in your life? Sometimes we find it difficult to think of something quickly and yet we have so much to be thankful for. Shouldn't we be able to make a long list?

When I was a child I was forced to write thank you letters by my parents for birthday and Christmas gifts. If I'm honest it was a bit of a chore but people do like to be thanked even when it was a pleasure to give the gift.

When Paul wrote to the Christians in Thessalonica he tells them 'Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus' (1 Thess 5:16-18). It is not that we should thank God for everything that happens to us, but rather we should give thanks to him for the good things he has given us whatever situations we find ourselves facing. God likes us to thank him for the many blessings he has given us just as we like to be thanked when we give gifts.

Next Sunday we will celebrate our annual Harvest Festival - a time when we give thanks to God for all the good things he created for us to enjoy. We will bring gifts of food which will be distributed to those who are most in need in our community. After our service we will eat lunch together in the church hall, giving thanks for the food we eat and the friends we share it with.

Count every blessing you have and give God thanks.

Steve Bradford

What's on this week.....

Monday 26th September House Group week 8:30am Morning Prayer, Church Hall 2:00pm Ladies' Spirituality Group, Vicarage	Tuesday 27th September
Wednesday 28th September 8:30am Morning Prayer 9:00am Staff Meeting, Church Hall 10:00am Taylor Toddlers, Grace Taylor Hall 2:00pm Primetime 4:00pm Shooting Stars, Church Hall	Thursday 29th September 9:15am Open the Book Rehearsal 1:15pm Twiglets (Toddler Group), Church Hall 7:00pm On Fizz (Youth Group), Grace Taylor Hall 7:45pm Choir & Musicians Practice
Friday 30th September 1:00pm All Stars Team Meeting 5:30pm Brownies 7:15 Rangers 7:30pm Big Sleep Out, St Mary's	Saturday 1st October Church Walk, Staple
Sunday 2nd October - Morning Harvest Festival 9:15am Harvest Service, Grace Taylor Hall 10:30am All Age Harvest Service in Church 12:15pm Harvest Lunch, Church Hall	Sunday 2nd October - Evening 6:00pm No Worship@6 today 7:15pm Sunday Nighters, Church Hall

You're invited to

Harvest Festival at St John's

A time to thank God for all the good things he created for us to enjoy

Sunday 2nd October 2016

9:15 am Grace Taylor Hall, Broadmead Village (opposite the Academy)
 10:30 am All Age Service, St John's Church, CT19 5BQ

If you would like to bring gifts of food for the Rainbow Centre, meals in a tin, tea, coffee, sugar, water based hot chocolate, biscuits and toiletries are very welcome. (They are unable to accept any fresh produce.)



Harvest Lunch

Next Sunday 12:15 for 12:30pm. Last chance to purchase tickets today - available at each service. Adults £5 - Children £2.



Songs of Praise this evening at 6:00pm in Church

A special time of praise and encouragement. Come and join us as we sing songs old and new and hear some inspiring testimonies from members of the church family.

Pause for Prayer for St John's

Why not take five minutes each day to pray for St John's and the wider church? Copies of the updated St John's Prayer Diary are available at each service to help you. Do take one.