



Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Worship@6 Tonight

Our theme is: **God's trump cards: or how not to get depressed during Lent (or any other time) when you think you're a *bad Christian*.** We shall look at how God sees us, what helps us to live better Christian lives, and the work of the Holy Spirit. We shall also take a quick look at a crucial Reformation rediscovery and learn a bit of Latin. All this with worship songs, prayer, and the help of a short film from the Skit Guys called 'God's Chisel'.

### Fashion Show

The Friends of St Martin's Church are putting on a fashion show for the Rainbow Centre on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm at St Martin's Church. All items will come from the Rainbow Shop and there will be an opportunity to buy clothes and accessories during the evening. £4 entry charge to include refreshments. Why not come along to nibble, sip wine and admire the catwalk?

### Ladies' Afternoon Tea - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 3:00pm

Last chance to sign up! Final numbers need to be given to The Burlington Hotel, this year's venue, tomorrow. The subsidised cost is £4.50 per head. If you would like to come along, please sign up on the list available at each service (Grace Taylor Hall, All Stars, and in Church) and tick whether you would like a scone or a cake. The maximum number who can attend is 50, so this will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, please ask either Alison Pemberton or Chrissy Forrest. Contact details as in Church Directory.

### Annual Meeting and PCC Elections - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 10:00am

If you would like to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council and/or Deanery Synod please speak to the Vicar or one of the Church Wardens. The elections will take place at the Annual Church Meeting. To stand for election you must be on the Electoral Roll of St John's Parish.

### Trip to Israel in 2018

I am thinking about visiting The Holy Land in the Autumn of 2018 and wondered if anyone might be interested in coming with me. The cost will be about £1400pp for a 7/8 day tour including flights. You are welcome to just indicate possible interest at this time if you wish. Steve Bradford

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# Get Connected

## Welcome to St John's!

We warmly welcome you if you are visiting us today. Please make yourselves known to us and 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 10:45am 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 the All Stars and 10:45am services. Do join us for coffee and a chat.

## 2017 Alpha Course

I am delighted to announce that our 2017 Alpha Course will begin on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 7:00pm in the upstairs hall of the Church Hall. This year it will be led by me, Steve O'Neill, Alex Finlow and Janice Bradford.

The Alpha Course is a comprehensive 11 week course teaching people the foundations of what it means to be a Christian. It takes place in an environment which is gentle and accepting with no question considered too simple or 'off limits' - and we start each evening with a meal together.

It is for anyone who wants to know more about the Christian faith; anyone wanting a refresher on their faith; it is essential for anyone who is considering being baptised or confirmed; and anyone wanting to be able to tell others about our faith with confidence.

If you would like to take part or know someone else who might like to, or would like more information, please let me know.

Every Blessing, Steve

# What's on this week.....

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>
8:30am Morning Prayer, Church Hall	
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>
8:30am Morning Prayer	9:15am Open the Book (Term time)
9:00am Staff Meeting, Church Hall	1:15pm Twiglets (Toddler Group), Church Hall
10:00am Taylor Toddlers, Grace Taylor Hall	7:00pm On Fizz (Youth Group), Grace Taylor Hall
2:00pm Primetime	7:45pm Choir & Musicians Practice
3:30pm Shooting Stars, Church Hall	
7:30pm 'Getting to Grips with the Bible' - the New Testament, Church	
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>
1:00pm All Stars Team Meeting	
5:30pm Brownies	
7:15 Rangers	
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Morning</b>	<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Evening</b>
9:15am Morning Worship, Grace Taylor Hall	6:00pm No Worship@6, Church Hall
10:45am All Age Mothering Sunday Service in Church	7:15pm Sunday Nighters, Church Hall

## A big thank-you meal for our Winter Shelter volunteers



About 30 of our Winter Shelter volunteers got together in the Church Hall for a special meal together. Flowers were presented to the three cooks and our venue co-ordinator. Of the 21 people who used the shelter this year, six found accommodation, eight are still actively working with the Rainbow Centre, four returned to a previous home area and three broke contact.



**Maundy Thursday: 'Last Supper'- 'Passover', 13<sup>th</sup> April.**  
As last year, there will be a 'Last Supper'- 'Passover' on Maundy Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> April.

This is a DIY 'Bring & Share' family meal, with elements of 'Passover' and Holy Communion. It is a great way to prepare for Easter, and to learn more about our Christian origins. Put it in your diary now. More information will come later.

## Spotlight on our... **EASTER FUN DAY**

- EGG HUNT**
- ACTIVITY TRAIL**
- MAKE A BONNET**
- FACE-PAINTING**
- MAKE A GARDEN**
- REFRESHMENTS**



**Saturday 15 April 2017 2.30-4.30pm**

**St John's Church and Hall - YOU are welcome!**

**\*\* Volunteers needed - please speak to Alison or Chrissy\*\***