

Worship@6 - Sunday Evenings - A time of informal worship in the hall.

Men@StJ

The next breakfast will be Saturday 17th February at 8:30am at the Captain's Table down by the harbour.

Film Night at St John's 17th February

Book the date in the diary. The film 'The Shack' based on the best-selling book will be shown in the church at 6:30pm. Admission is free. The age guide is 12 plus years and the running time is 2hours 12 minutes. Bring your own cushion and blanket for a cosy film night in the pew. Please feel free to bring popcorn if you wish for a truly authentic experience!!

Prayer Chain

As you may know I currently handle all prayer chain requests. Now that Tilly Ellul is back to full health she is going to act as back up. So, whenever I am away you should send any requests to her (contact details in Directory). The next time I am away is from 14th - 16th February so please send any requests during that time to her. Thank you. Ruth Jones

Open Doors - World Watch List 2018

Copies of this prayer booklet are now available on the Open Doors stand. It highlights the 50 most dangerous countries to be a Christian. It has very informative profiles of each country and what to pray for in each case. Do take one and, if you find there are none left, then please let me know and I shall order you a copy. Robert Grieve

Mission Trip to Uganda - Wednesday 6th - Tuesday 19th March 2019

As you know we hope to take a group from St. John's to Mbale, Uganda to visit and serve the ministry of JENGA Community Development Outreach. JENGA is a registered charity seeking to communicate the love of God through both words and actions in the most disadvantaged and poorest slum communities in eastern Uganda. JENGA builds partnerships with local churches and local people to minister in women's groups, education sponsorship, health training, agriculture, income generation, street children's outreach, water projects and much more. Ultimately, JENGA's vision is to see a thriving Uganda full of godly leaders influencing all spheres of society, and a re-imagined and revived church reflecting and advancing the kingdom of God. Please do pray and ask the Lord if He is calling you to join in this wonderful opportunity. Do take a flyer from the back of church. Jo Purle

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Sunday 11th February 2018
Sunday next before Lent

Get Connected

Welcome to St John's!

If you are new we hope you enjoy the service. Do collect a welcome pack which contains information about all that goes on at St John's. At the 10:45am service you can go to the welcome desk near the door where someone will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Please also introduce yourself to a member of the team as you leave the church.

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday evening at 7:30pm we are holding a service to mark the beginning of Lent. During this service, I will use ashes from last year's Palm crosses mixed with olive oil to mark a cross on each person's forehead as a sign of repentance.

Ash Wednesday is marked 46 days before Easter Sunday, which is on 1 April this year, to imitate the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. Although Lent lasts for six weeks, Sundays are not included as they are considered a day for worship and rest.

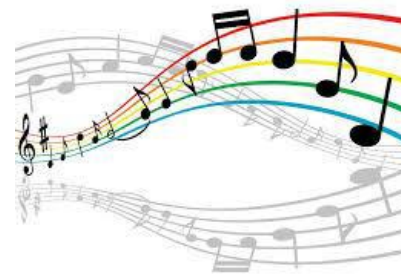
It marks the first day of fasting, repentance, prayer and self-control. Luxury or rich foods are often avoided by those observing Lent. Abstention from personal "bad habits" such as using Facebook or eating too much sugar is also commonly practised. Have you thought about what you might give up?

I pray that Lent 2018 will be a time of growth for all of us as disciples of Jesus.

God bless, Steve

What's on this week.....

Monday 12th February	Tuesday 13th February
8:30am Morning Prayer, Church Hall	7:45pm Choir & Musicians' Practice
Wednesday 14th February	Thursday 15th February
8:30am Morning Prayer, Church Hall	9:15am Open the Book (Term Time)
9:00am Staff Meeting, Church Hall	1:15pm Twiglets (Toddler Group), Church Hall (Term Time)
10:00am Taylor Toddlers, Grace Taylor Hall (Term Time)	7:00pm On Fizz (Youth Group), Grace Taylor Hall (Term Time)
2:00pm Primetime, Church Hall (Term Time)	
7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service, Church	
Friday 16th February	Saturday 17th February
5:00pm Brownies, Church Hall (Term Time)	8:30am Men's Breakfast, Captain's Table, Harbour
6:30pm Winter Shelter, Church Hall	6:30pm Film Night - 'The Shack', Church
7:15 Guides, Church Hall (Term Time)	
7:15pm Rangers, Church Hall (Term Time)	
Sunday 18th February - Morning	Sunday 19th February - Evening
9:15am Holy Communion, Grace Taylor Hall	6:00pm Worship@6, Church Hall
9:15am All Stars - Worship for All Ages, Church Hall	
10:45am Morning Worship, Church	



Songs of Praise 4th March - 6:00pm in Church
 Favourite hymns & songs
 Psalms & Poetry
 Testimonies
 Music for quiet reflection
 All welcome

International China Concern (ICC) Mission Trip

About a year ago, we (Karen, Linda and Mandy) believed that God called us to serve Him in China on a short term mission team. Now there are only 6 weeks to go and we would really value your prayers!

We are flying to Hong Kong on 22nd March where we will join the rest of the team from other countries such as Australia and Canada. We will spend the first day in orientation before travelling into China. While there we will be working in the orphanage run by International China Concern who St. John's supports on a regular basis. Each day will be spent with the children, all of whom have special needs. This will involve all their personal care including feeding, as well as playing with them, taking them out for walks, doing various art and musical activities, everyday activities and so on with them. As we are all trained in Special Needs we will also be supporting and teaching the staff on ways to play and interact with the children. All this will be challenging for us physically, mentally and emotionally.

At all times we will endeavour to share the love of Jesus with the children and staff although evangelism is forbidden in China so we will have to be cautious!

Please pray for the following:

Praise for the privilege of going to China on this short term mission team.

Praise for the wonderful support of the church family spiritually and financially.

Praise that we eventually got our Chinese visas!

Pray for our preparations

Pray for peace as we are all apprehensive about the trip as well as about the family we leave behind.

Pray for safety in travel and good health.

Thank you so much.

Karen, Linda and Mandy