

Sunday 15th October Readings: 1 Kings 18, 1 Thessalonians 1, Ezekiel 48, Psalm 104

8am Holy Communion in St John's
10am Holy Communion in St John's (Exodus 12:1-42)
6.30pm Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Corinthians 2:6-16)
8pm TFG meet at Will & Fiona Hughes' home
8.15pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

For more details about the daily Bible reading plan, including online readings, please visit our website

Prayer Diary – 8th October 2017

The Collect for today – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity:

Lord, we pray that your grace may always go before and follow after us and make us continually committed to all good works, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

our mission partners: Local CAP Centre in Northwich and Stephen & Catriona Bennett (CMS in Rwanda).

those serving in the Armed Forces:

our local schools:

Sir Leslie Martin & Old School House Nurseries, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.

Hartford Church of England High School.

For Christian pupils who dare to be known as Christians in school – that they would know God's presence and strength amid the ridicule that accompanies this stand.

Notice Sheet for Sunday 8th October 2017

All services are in **St John's Church** unless stated otherwise.

8am Morning Prayer

9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Eddowes Room

10am Harvest All Age Service – Luke 12:13-21

6.30pm Holy Communion – 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5; *The power and wisdom of God*

8.15pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

Preachers elsewhere today:

Michael Walters at St John's, Toft (10.15am)

Michael Field at Sandiway Gospel Church (6pm)

Christianity Explored

Christianity Explored is an informal 7-week course for anyone who would like to investigate Christianity, see what the Bible really says or ask any questions that they have. A new course started last week but it's not too late to join; Tuesdays at 8pm in St John's Church Centre. Looking at Mark's gospel, the course explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him. For more information, please contact the Church Office or email ce@stjohnshartford.org.

Harvest Gifts for Garuka Appeal

Abel is a church leader from Garuka, Uganda and was one of those George Crowder taught in the summer. In August their harvest failed because of a drought, so there is a famine. It won't last long, as growing seasons are short, but they currently have no food. Garuka Church is seeking to help people who are starving in their community. In the meantime, another local church in Kanungu managed to raise 100kg of Posho for them, which was quite an achievement, since they are very poor too. If you would like to help, all donations put in the basket today (under the bell tower) will be sent to the church in Garuka.

Tots & Tinies' Harvest Service

... will take place on Wednesday 11th October, from 10am, in church. This is a lovely opportunity for our 0-4 year olds to celebrate, with their carers, God's goodness to us. Everyone is welcome, even if you don't normally come to Tots. If anyone would like to help at this service, or at the Harvest Service for local preschools on Monday 9th October, please contact Teresa.

Working Party – Saturday 14th October

There will be a working party on Saturday 14th October from 9am to 12pm. We'll aim to complete a number of internal and external jobs including painting, sealing gutters, cleaning grated drains and replacing some light fittings. No particular skills are required, just enthusiasm! We have a long list of maintenance tasks, ranging from jobs that will take an hour or two, up to large scale projects. If you're not available on 14th October, but could offer time any day or evening, please let us know. For more details, please contact Ian Barton (ian@stjohnshartford.org).

10 of Those Bookstall

On Sunday 15th October we will be having a bookstall in church, provided by 10ofThose. They are an online Christian bookshop who have a fabulous range of books to encourage you in your faith, to share with non-Christians and also gifts, such as cards & journals. If you would like to see what they have available, please take a look at their website. They will be in the Church Extension from 9.30am and after the service during coffee time. They can take payment by card or cash.

Harambee Mid Cheshire-Uganda Partnership

On Monday 16th October, due to popular demand (and on this occasion it's an accurate

description), we will be delivering a reprise of our recent Uganda presentation for those who missed the first one in September. We will also be providing an update on 'the story so far' regarding the developing partnerships, including sponsorship of children and the potential church family visit to Uganda in 2018, following Bishop Hamlet's recent visit to Hartford.

The evening will take place in St John's, commencing at 7.30pm with biscuits, cake and Ugandan 'Gorilla Summit' coffee, leading into the presentation around 7.45pm, with a view to finishing by 9pm. It would be great if you could attend to support this growing initiative. If you need any further information, feel free to speak to us, and we will be only too pleased to help. *Helen & Martin Barber.*

East Africa Tearfund Appeal

Our East Africa Tearfund Appeal has raised £361, so far. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. If you would still like to make a donation, this Sunday will be your final opportunity. Please use one of the purple envelopes and mark it 'Tearfund'.

Ladies' Meal at The Indian

The next ladies' meal will be on Thursday 19th October, 7.30pm, at the The Indian in Castle. This is a great way to meet together informally and bring some friends along. Please contact Sarah Farmer by Tuesday 17th October to book a place.

Chester Bible Focus

On 12th October in All Saint's Church, Hoole, at 7.30pm, David Jackman will be speaking on how to keep going and growing in faith. Tickets (£3) can be bought on the door and refreshments are included. For more details visit www.chesterbiblefocus.org.uk. On the same day, 12-2pm at Kingsway Chapel, CH2 2LH, take your lunch and join them as David shares his insights into reading your Bible more effectively. This is a free event.

St John's Golf Society Presentation Dinner

St John's Golf Society are holding their Annual Presentation Dinner on Saturday 14th October, 7pm (for 7.30 pm), at Eaton Golf Club. There will be a three course meal, after-dinner talk and presentation of prizes, and the evening will cost £22 per person. Please contact Ray Bridgewater (golf@stjohnshartford.org) for more information or to book your place.

CAP Food Bank

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the CAP Food Bank over the last 7 years. The food distributed to clients, especially in their early days with CAP, has been invaluable in building up trust and giving practical support to families. As the Debt Centre will have to close until another Centre Manager can be appointed, please can you stop your donations to the food bank until further notice. The new manager may start this again or instead decide to refer people to the Mid Cheshire Food Bank. Watch this space and please continue to pray for a new Debt Centre Manager so that the help, to people in unmanageable debt, can continue. *Janet Greaves.*

Can you help the Thursday Café?

The Thursday Café is in urgent need of more helpers, particularly to work in the kitchen, but also for setting up, working in the cafe and giving lifts to customers that wouldn't otherwise be able to attend. If you can help at all, please contact Sarah Farmer.

Help with reading in schools

We would love more church members to become involved in supporting our local schools, by joining our Pray Bake Read scheme. We currently have small teams of volunteers praying for four of our schools, going in to listen to children read and/or baking cakes for the children. The schools are very grateful for what we are already doing but there is a real need for more help. If you think this is something you would like to know more about, please speak to Teresa.

Church Diary – 8th October 2017

Monday 9th October *Readings: 1 Kings 12, Philippians 3, Ezekiel 42, Psalm 94*

Church Office closed today

Jackie away today

Mike taking assemblies at Hartford CE High School (Monday-Thursday, 2.55pm)

9.45am Ladies' Walk - meet in the Church Centre car park

10am Harvest Service for local preschools in St John's

11.30am Staff meeting

Tuesday 10th October *Readings: 1 Kings 13, Philippians 4, Ezekiel 43, Psalms 95-96*

Alec visiting Greenbank School (9am)

Nathan speaking at Youthworkers' Lunch at St John's, Knutsford (10.30am-1.30pm)

Michael Field leading 'Walk Through the Bible' sessions at Hartford Primary School (10.05am & 11.25am) and Lostock Gramam CE Primary School (1.15pm)

9.30am-5pm Church Office open in the Church Centre (Tuesday to Thursday)

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

8pm Christianity Explored course in the Church Centre

Wednesday 11th October *Readings: 1 Kings 14, Colossians 1, Ezekiel 44, Psalms 97-98*

Phil at Hartford Church of England High School Christian Union (1-1.45pm)

10am Tots and Tinies' Harvest Service in St John's

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Mr Mortisher (Prison Service)

8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Alec Ham's housegroup*)

Thursday 12th October *Readings: 1 Kings 15, Colossians 2, Ezekiel 45, Psalms 99-101*

11.45am Thursday Café in the Church Centre

7.30pm Growing in Christ course at St Peter's, Elworth

8pm God's Big Picture course in the Church Centre

8pm Operations' Committee meet in the Church Centre Conference Room

Friday 13th October *Readings: 1 Kings 16, Colossians 3, Ezekiel 46, Psalm 102*

Mike's and Alec's day off

Nathan leading a visit from The Grange Senior School (year 11) to St John's (10.30am)

Teresa leading a visit from Rosebank School to St John's (1pm)

Ministry team taking Hartford Church of England High School Chapel Services (2.55pm)

10.30am-3pm Church Office open in the Church Centre

7.30pm Pathfinders meet in the Church Centre

Saturday 14th October *Readings: 1 Kings 17, Colossians 4, Ezekiel 47, Psalm 103*

Nathan's day off

9am-12pm Working Party at St John's

10am-4.30pm Northern Women's Convention at Life Centre in Bradford

7.30am St John's Golf Society Annual Dinner at Eaton Golf Club (*Mike speaking*)