

Sunday 21st January Readings: Genesis 22, Matthew 21, Nehemiah 11, Acts 21

8am	Holy Communion in St John's
10am	Holy Communion in St John's (Exodus 20:1-3)
6.30pm	Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Corinthians 6:12-20)
8pm	Crossover meet at Kevin & Emily Dean's home
8pm	TFG meet at Will & Fiona Hughes' home

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

Prayer Diary – 14th January 2018

The Collect for today – second Sunday after Epiphany:

Almighty and everlasting God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth: in mercy hear the prayers of your people and grant us your peace throughout our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

our mission partners: Jemma Fitzsimmons (OM) and TLG (Transforming Lives for Good).

those serving in the Armed Forces:

our local schools:

Hartford Manor Primary School & Warrington & Vale Royal College, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.

Hartford Church of England High School.

For pupils to attend Christian Union groups that they might be encouraged in their faith.

Church Office phone number 01606 872255

Notice Sheet for Sunday 14th January 2018

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

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Eddowes Room

10am Morning Prayer – Exodus 19; *Covenant Preparations*

6.30pm Evening Prayer – 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; *Do not be deceived!*

8pm Crossover meet at Kevin & Emily Dean's home

8pm After 8s meet at Rob & Kathryn Payne's home

Preachers elsewhere today:

Michael Field at Hartford Methodist Church (10.30am)

Michael Walters at St John's, Sandiway (6.30pm)

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 Christianity Explored course started last week but it's not too late to join; Thursdays at 8pm in the Church Centre. Looking at Mark's gospel, the course explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him. Booking is not essential but is appreciated. For more information, please contact the Church Office or email ce@stjohnshartford.org.

Read the Bible in 2018

Have you always wanted to read through the whole Bible but never got round to it? Or are you resolved to find time to study a Bible passage every day? See the church website (www.stjohnshartford.org/faith) for suggested Bible reading plans, Bible Apps and podcasts, including the Daily Audio Bible podcast which will take you through the Bible in a single year. The notice sheet also has daily readings alongside each day on the diary page to help you follow a plan to read the Bible in a year, based on an original by the Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne. If you don't own a Bible to read, please ask any member of staff and we will make sure you get one.

God's Big Picture – Bible Overview

The 'God's Big Picture' Bible overview course traces the story of the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation to see how it all fits together, telling of God's wonderful plan to save the world through Jesus Christ. The course is based on the book written by Vaughan Roberts. There are 9 sessions, which each consist of a 10 minute video, followed by study of the Bible and some time for discussion. The first session will be on Tuesday 23rd January, at 8pm, in the Church Centre. For more details, please talk to Mike or contact the office.

A Better Story: Easter Mission 2018 (25th March - 2nd April)

This Easter we would love our friends, family and colleagues to hear a better story - a good news story of how our lives have a place within God's great unfolding story. We're hoping that each group from within church might put on an event that they feel they can invite friends, family or colleagues along to. Please could you come up with ideas of what you might do and email them to Alec, as soon as possible, so that we can plan and coordinate the week. Please also be praying now for those you might invite, for the week in general, and that God would use it for his purposes. *Alec.*

Crewe Church Plant - update

Those of you who heard Matt Guest a few months ago at an evening service, will remember him talking about the Crewe Church Plant. They now have a website (www.preparingtoplantcrewe.com) and have started meeting monthly to pray. The details are on their website but the next meeting is

Wednesday 17th January, 7pm, at the Guest's home for 45 minutes. All are welcome and this is for anyone who wants to pray for the plant, not just those who may be considering becoming involved.

Sex & Relationship Education in schools

The Government is running a consultation on changes to the teaching of Sex & Relationship Education. If you wish to respond, this is the website (<https://consult.education.gov.uk/life-skills/pshe-rse-call-for-evidence>). You can complete it as a parent, Governor, teacher etc but the closing date for comments is 12th February.

Crossover – change of time and venue

Crossover will be meeting at Kevin & Emily Dean's house during January. They will start at the previous time of 8pm and finish at 9.30pm. All those in school years 10 - 13 are welcome.

Can you help the Thursday Café?

Sarah Farmer is putting together the rota for this term so, if you would like to offer your services, please contact her as soon as possible. The Thursday Cafe is still 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.

Counselling services

Many of you may not be aware of the counselling services you can have access to, but Dee Rollinson (who used to be our in-house therapeutic counsellor) still acts as a counselling advisor, which can be useful if you want to chat something through as a one-off or discuss options regarding therapeutic counselling. We also have direct access to Chester Diocese's Counselling Service. This is a team of voluntary counsellors, all trained and supervised, who offer therapeutic counselling. To find out what they can offer please contact Jane Knight (01270 652034 or 07918 732806). Dee is happy to talk to anyone who wants to know more about their counselling options.

Ladies' Walks

... will restart on Monday 15th January and then they will be fortnightly until Monday 26th March. They will meet, on each occasion, in the Church Centre car park at 9.45am. For more details, please contact Mary Shorter.

Men's Walks

... are taking a break for Christmas and New Year but will be restarting on Thursday 18th January. For more details, please contact Stephen Williams.

Ichthus Christian Books – new opening hours

From 1st January 2018, Pete and Sue at Ichthus Christian Books will become semi-retired. As a consequence the shop will only be open Thursday and Friday (10am-4pm), and Saturday (10am-2pm). They would like to thank people for their continued support and understanding.

North West Partnership Conference

On Friday 26th and Saturday 27th January, NWP is holding its annual conference at St Andrew's, Leyland and the theme is 'Confident – the battle to keep the Bible central'. The speakers are Denesh Divyanathan and Tim Ward, and each day costs £15. Please see flyers on the Welcome Desk or www.northwestpartnership.com for more details.

Church Diary – 14th January 2018

Monday 15th January *Readings: Genesis 16, Matthew 15, Nehemiah 5, Acts 15*

Mike attending Reform Steering Committee meeting in London (all day)

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Old School House Nursery (9.30am)

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

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

8pm Evangelism Committee meet at Alec's home

Tuesday 16th January *Readings: Genesis 17, Matthew 16, Nehemiah 6, Acts 16*

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Kids Count Nursery (9.30am)

Mike and Alec attending Deanery Chapter (12pm)

Michael Field leading 'Walk Through the Bible' session at Charles Darwin Primary School (2pm)

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

10.30am Burial of Ashes in St John's churchyard (Alec)

8pm St John's Vision Group meet at The Vicarage

Wednesday 17th January *Readings: Genesis 18, Matthew 17, Nehemiah 7, Acts 17*

Michael Field taking an assembly at Great Budworth CE Primary School (10.15am)

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

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Sir Leslie Martin Nursery (2pm)

10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre

10am Staff meeting

12pm Chester Association meet in the Church Centre

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Share Time

8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Charles Hayward's housegroup*)

Thursday 18th January *Readings: Genesis 19, Matthew 18, Nehemiah 8, Acts 18*

Michael Field taking an assembly at Antrobus St Mark's CE Primary School (11.30am)

Teresa leading a visit to the Thursday Cafe from Hartford Manor Primary School (year 1)

10am Men's Walk – contact David King for meeting point

11.45am Thursday Café in the Church Centre

7.30pm Growing in Christ course at Christ Church, Wharton

7.30pm Ladies' Meal at The Indian, Castle

8pm Christianity Explored course in the Church Centre

Friday 19th January *Readings: Genesis 20, Matthew 19, Nehemiah 9, Acts 19*

Alec's day off

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 20th January *Readings: Genesis 21, Matthew 20, Nehemiah 10, Acts 20*

Mike's day off