

Saturday 17th February *Readings: Genesis 50, Luke 3, Job 16-17, 1 Corinthians 4*

Mike away until Sunday 25th February

Alec's day off

8am Men's Breakfast in the Church Centre

7pm Crossover Social at Ruth Port's home

Sunday 18th February *Readings: Exodus 1, Luke 4, Job 18, 1 Corinthians 5*

8am Morning Prayer in St John's

9.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

10am Morning Prayer in St John's (Exodus 20:12)

6.30pm Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Corinthians 8)

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 – 11th February 2018

The Collect for today – Quinquagesima Sunday:

Lord, you have taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and all virtues; for without love whoever lives is reckoned dead by you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

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

those serving in the Armed Forces:

those marrying next month:

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 Parliament to reject proposals for new legislation that will make many elements of sex education compulsory for all pupils. Many of the topics to be covered are contrary to the Word of God.

Church Office phone number 01606 872255

Notice Sheet for Sunday 11th February 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 20:1-11 & Matthew 11:28-12:8; *The Fourth Commandment*

6.30pm Evening Prayer – 1 Corinthians 7:25-40; *The time is short*

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 Pickmere Methodist (10.45am)

A Better Story - Preparation Evening 14th February at 8pm

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. The mission will run between Saturday 24th March and Monday 2nd April. Prior to this you are all invited and encouraged to attend a preparation evening on **Wednesday 14th February at 8pm in church**. Together we will think clearly about the purposes of mission, the reasons why we're doing it, and how we can best prepare ourselves individually, as groups and as a church - it will also be another chance to pray for people we know and love. *Alec*.

Time to pray

In the run-up to Easter and the 'Better Story' mission, we have set up times to meet and pray on each day of the week. Most meetings are for 20 minutes and the aim has been to choose times that will suit everyone. The meetings will start promptly and end on time. All the prayer meetings are in the Eddowes Room in the church unless stated otherwise. Please enter directly using the vestry door opposite the vicarage, except for Sunday when the church is open. All the times are in the notice sheet diary and on the church website, and will continue up to Easter. All are welcome and, if you have any questions, please contact the Church Office.

Prayer update from the Chelashaw family

"We are so grateful for the prayers of many and have seen the Lord providing for us in numerous practical ways since Bethany has been unwell. She has had more blood tests at Addenbrookes and the haematologist doesn't think Bethany has leukaemia. Instead, she probably has ITP, a condition in which the body attacks its own platelets. This normally gets better on its own, but may take a few weeks or months! Please pray for us, especially with the uncertainty of when Bethany will get better and be able to return to Kenya. Please pray for: her platelet count to improve quickly and that she will be protected from bleeding; decisions about me and the children also coming to England, and that we will be kept safe and well while we are still in Kenya." *Kip Chelashaw*.

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 (www.bit.ly/RES-EVIDENCE). **Young people under 19 can also respond** at the same website address but the closing date is **12th February**.

Ladies' Walk – 12th February

The next walk, on Monday 12th February, will be around the village of Antrobus. Please meet in the Church Centre car park at 9.45am to share lifts or in The Antrobus Arms car park, at approximately 10.05am, from where the walk will begin. For further information please contact Sandra Tipper.

Notice Sheet for 25th February

Due to holidays, the notice sheet for 25th February will be produced this week, though you won't receive it until the appropriate date. If you have anything you would like to appear in this edition, please let Jackie (jackie@stjohnshartford.org) know by **Tuesday 13th February**. This deadline also applies to items for 18th February sheet.

Make, Taste & See - 19th February

The church will be open from 10am until 12 noon on Monday 19th February for anyone to drop in. There will be coffee, cake, craft and film clips, and it is a wonderful way to invite friends and family into our church building. If you are able to donate cakes for this, please leave them (clearly labelled) in the Church Extension kitchen on Sunday 18th February, or bring them on the Monday morning. For more details, please contact Teresa (teresa@stjohnshartford.org).

Easter Eggs that share the Easter story

The Meaningful Chocolate Company has a range of Fairtrade Easter Eggs which include the Easter Story. This is a great and easy way to share the best story of all with children. Gift ideas for parents, Godparents, Grandparents and Easter egg hunters! Available from larger Tesco, Morrisons, Asda and Waitrose supermarkets, but you can sign up in the Church Extension if you'd prefer. Prices start from £3.99 and orders must be in by 6th March, please. *Judi Rigby*.

'Praise Be' art installation

If anyone has not had a template of their hand taken for inclusion in the art installation 'Praise Be' but would like to do so, please contact Dee (dee@stjohnshartford.org) as soon as possible. Dee is keen to give everybody the chance to be included but the project is nearing completion.

Ladies' Meal at The Bulls Head

The next ladies' meal will be on Thursday 15th February, 7.30pm, at The Bulls Head in Davenham. This is a great way to meet together informally and bring some friends along. Please contact Sarah Farmer (ladies@stjohnshartford.org) by Monday 12th February to book a place.

'Take-them-a-meal'

Occasionally there are members of our church family who really benefit from having meals made and brought to them for a short period. If you would be willing to go on a list of people to make and deliver the occasional meal, please pass on your email address to Mary Shorter. Thank you.

Counselling services

Dee Rollinson (who used to be our in-house therapeutic counsellor) acts as a counselling advisor for St John's. If you would like to discuss or explore counselling options, please contact Dee (dee@stjohnshartford.org). We also have direct access to Chester Diocese's Counselling Service; contact Jane Knight (01270 652034 or 07918 732806).

Church Diary – 11th February 2018

Monday 12th February Readings: Genesis 45, Mark 15, Job 11, Romans 15

Mike leading devotions at OM in Oswestry (9am)

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

Phil and Teresa taking a year 5/6 RE lesson at Great Budworth CE Primary School (2pm)

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

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

4pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

8pm Sunday School leaders meet at The Vicarage

Tuesday 13th February Readings: Genesis 46, Mark 16, Job 12, Romans 16

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

Teresa leading a visit to St John's from Winnington Park Primary School (year 1) (10.45am)

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

Teresa taking a KS1 assembly at Hartford Primary School (2.45pm)

9.10am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

9.30am Staff meeting

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

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

8pm Housegroup leaders meet at The Vicarage

Wednesday 14th February Readings: Genesis 47, Luke 1:1-38, Job 13, 1 Corinthians 1

Nathan's day off

Mike at Reform Council in London (all day)

Phil 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)

Alec attending a Curacy Tutorial at Church House (3pm)

10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Peter Ashburner (Auctioneer)

8pm Central Mission Preparation Meeting in St John's

Thursday 15th February Readings: Genesis 48, Luke 1:39-80, Job 14, 1 Corinthians 2

Peter & Julie Fraser taking assemblies with Teresa at St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary, Greenbank, Hartford Primary & Hartford Manor Primary Schools

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

10am Mens' 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 Bulls Head in Davenham

8.15pm Mike, Dimitri and the churchwardens meet at The Vicarage

9.30pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

Friday 16th February Readings: Genesis 49, Luke 2, Job 15, 1 Corinthians 3

Mike's day off

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

Pathfinders' Weekend Away at The Oakes in Sheffield (Friday - Sunday)

6.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

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