

**Friday 9th March** *Readings: Exodus 20, Luke 23, Job 38, 2 Corinthians 8*

6.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room  
10.30am-3pm Church Office open in the Church Centre  
7.30pm Pathfinders meet in the Church Centre

**Saturday 10th March** *Readings: Exodus 21, Luke 24, Job 39, 2 Corinthians 9*

Mike's day off  
Nathan attending NWP Children's and Youth Leaders' Conference in Knutsford (10am-4pm)

3pm Koinonia meet in the Church Centre – a talk on podiatry

**Sunday 11th March** *Readings: Exodus 22, John 1, Job 40, 2 Corinthians 10*

8am Holy Communion in St John's  
9.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room  
10am Morning Prayer in St John's (Exodus 20:15 & 2 Corinthians 8:1-9)  
6.30pm Holy Communion in St John's (1 Corinthians 9:15-27)  
8pm Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home  
8.15pm After 8s meet at Rob & Kathryn Payne's home

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

#### **Prayer Diary – 4th March 2018**

**The Collect for today** – Third Sunday in Lent:

*Almighty God, consider the heartfelt desires of your servants and stretch out the right hand of your majesty to defend us against all our enemies, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Please pray for...**

*the sick and the bereaved:*

*our mission partners: St John's, Over & Joseph Mayan (Barnabas Ministries in Uganda).*

*those serving in the Armed Forces:*

*our local schools:*

St Nicholas Catholic High School & St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, and other schools which members of the church are involved in. Hartford Church of England High School.

For those who visit schools regularly from St John's: Mike, Phil, Nathan, Alec, Teresa and Michael Field.

#### **Notice Sheet for Sunday 4th March 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 20:14 & Malachi 2:10-16; *The Seventh Commandment*

**6.30pm Real Issues Service** – 2 Peter 1:12-21; *Who chose the gospels?*

**8pm Crossover** meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home

**Preachers elsewhere today:**

Phil at Christ Church (10.30am)

#### **A Better Story – (24th March – 2nd April)**

You'll find a list of events, dates and times available in church. Have a look and begin to pray about who you might invite to certain events. Please prepare by considering how you might introduce people to others within the church family before the week begins. This can be done in a very low key way, perhaps have them round for coffee or arrange a dog walk together, or join together on a bike ride... *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.

#### **CAP prayer meeting**

Following the closure of the CAP Debt Centre at the end of September there will be a prayer meeting on Tuesday 6th March particularly to pray for the continuation of the debt help work of CAP in our area. We will also be praying about the work of CAP more widely. The meeting will be in Christ Church, starting at 8pm, and lasts for just one hour. All are welcome. *Danny Greaves.*

#### **Easter Choir**

If you would like to be in the choir singing for the Easter services, there will be practices on Thursdays 8th, 15th & 22nd March, and Monday 26th March, at 7.30pm in church. All are very welcome to come along. For more details, please speak to Mike Jones or just turn up.

#### **Door-to-door in preparation for A Better Story**

On 18th March a team from St John's will be going door-to-door in different parts of Hartford to deliver an Easter gift and an invitation to the Better Story week. We will meet in the Church Extension at 2pm to pray together and then go out in pairs. Everyone is welcome to serve in what is usually a very well received act of kindness. If you've never done door-to-door and you're worried, please do come. You won't be on your own and you're not going to be trying to convert people on the door step - instead smile, give a gift from the church, and offer an invite to the week of events and services. Anyone can take part in this: adults, teens and families. Please speak to Alec if you'd like to be involved, or if you have questions.

#### **Promoting church events on Facebook**

For those of you who use Facebook, please can we encourage you to "like" our church page? There are almost daily updates and it is a great way to find out what is taking place in the life of

our church so that you can pray for things as they are happening, share events with your friends and be encouraged in your day to day life during the week. If you would like information to be included on the page, please email Teresa with the details, including any photos or logos that may be appropriate. This could be particularly useful in the run up to our A Better Story mission when we will set up the various things that are happening as Events, so that you can share the details and invite your friends. Thank you. *Teresa.*

#### **Reformation 500 Event**

If you are planning to come to the Reformation 500 Tudor Dance evening on Friday 30th March, at 6.30pm, in the Church Centre, please will you sign up on the sheet at the back of church or let the Church Office know. This will give us an idea of whether we have enough people to make the event viable, and how many to cater for.

#### **Uganda Trip planning meeting**

There will be a meeting on Monday 12th March, at 8pm, in the Church Centre for anyone interested in going on the Uganda Trip in the summer.

#### **John Lennox event**

On 17th March, 7.30pm, at Parr Hall, Warrington, Professor John Lennox will be speaking on 'Why does God allow suffering?' John Lennox is respected by leading academics and has debated some of this generation's most prominent atheists. Spaces are limited so, if you would like to go, please book your free ticket at the Eventbrite website.

#### **Prayer for the Chelashaw family**

"We saw the consultant yesterday and there's been improvement with Bethany's platelet count which is good news. It's still not at a 'normal' level and the consultant would like to see her again, after which we can monitor from Nairobi (especially as the condition can recur). Please pray for wisdom regarding when we return, as we chat with our mission agency etc." *Kip Chelashaw.*

#### **Northern Men's Convention**

This year's convention is on Saturday 12th May, 10am-4.45pm, at Holy Trinity, Platt. The theme is 'Standing Alone: Holding to the word of God in the worst of times'. The main speaker is Rupert Bentley-Taylor but one session will be led by Tim Farron MP. Tickets are £10 and can only be bought in advance. For more details please see [www.christianconventions.org.uk/nmc](http://www.christianconventions.org.uk/nmc).

#### **Cancer Research Ultra Challenge – Christian Locke**

I'll be walking the 100km Ultra Challenge along the Cotswold Way, starting on Saturday 30th June. I'm hoping to raise lots of money for Cancer Research - I know that cancer affects so many people and I'd like to help speed up the research into finding cures for as many types of cancer as possible. Thank you in advance for donating to this worthwhile cause; please don't forget to Gift Aid your donation as well ([www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christian-locke100](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christian-locke100)). *Christian Locke.*

#### **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. 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.*

### **Church Diary – 4th March 2018**

#### **Monday 5th March** *Readings: Exodus 16, Luke 19, Job 34, 2 Corinthians 4*

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

Teresa taking a whole school assembly at Hartford Manor Primary School (2.50pm)

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

9.30am Staff meeting

12pm Funeral in St John's (*Michael Walters*)

4pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

8pm Evangelism Committee meet at 52 Stones Manor Lane

#### **Tuesday 6th March** *Readings: Exodus 17, Luke 20, Job 35, 2 Corinthians 5*

Michael Field leading a 'Walk Through the Bible' session at Cloughwood Academy (9.15am)

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

Teresa taking a KS2 assembly at St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (11.10am)

Michael Field leading 'Walk Through the Bible' sessions at Hartford Manor Primary School (1 & 2pm)

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

9.10am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

5.30pm Concert by the Tiny Choir Singers (from Mornant) in St John's

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

8pm Sunday Services' Committee meet at The Vicarage

8pm CAP prayer meeting at Christ Church

#### **Wednesday 7th March** *Readings: Exodus 18, Luke 21, Job 36, 2 Corinthians 6*

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

Nathan attending a NWP Youth Workers' Lunch in Leyland (10.30am-1.30pm)

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

Teresa leading a story & craft session at Sir Leslie Martin Nursery (1.30pm)

Teresa taking a KS1 assembly at St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (2.30pm)

10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Rev Rowland Crook

8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Phil Highton's housegroup*)

#### **Thursday 8th March** *Readings: Exodus 19, Luke 22, Job 37, 2 Corinthians 7*

Nathan's day off

11.45am Thursday Café in the Church Centre

7.30pm Growing in Christ course at Christ Church, Wharton

7.30pm Easter Choir practice in St John's

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

9.30pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

**Church Office** phone number 01606 872255