

Friday 16th March *Readings: Exodus 27, John 6, Proverbs 3, Galatians 2*

Alec's day off

Nathan taking part in St John's Knutsford Weekend Away (Friday - Sunday)

Teresa leading a visit from Sir Leslie Martin Nursery around St John's (1.30pm)

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

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 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 17th March *Readings: Exodus 28, John 7, Proverbs 4, Galatians 3*

Mike attending Diocesan Synod (9.30am-1pm)

Sunday 18th March *Readings: Exodus 29, John 8, Proverbs 5, Galatians 4*

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 8am | Morning Prayer in St John's |
| 9.30am | Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room |
| 10am | Holy Communion in St John's (Exodus 20:16 & Ephesians 4:25-5:2) |
| 2pm | A Better Story door-to-door visiting – meet in the Church Extension |
| 6.30pm | Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Corinthians 10:1-13) |
| 8pm | Crossover meet at Nathan & Jo Phillingham's home |
| 8.30pm | 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 March 2018

The Collect for today – Fourth Sunday in Lent:

Grant, Almighty God, that we, who deserve to be punished for our evil deeds, may by your grace and mercy be spared through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

our mission partners: Helen Eccles (St Catherine's, Tranmere) & Robert Matati (Anglican Minister in Butere, Kenya).

those serving in the Armed Forces:

our local schools: Cloughwood Academy & Greenbank School, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.

Hartford Church of England High School.

Notice Sheet for Sunday 11th 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 20:15 & 2 Corinthians 8:1-9; *The Eighth Commandment*

6.30pm Holy Communion – 1 Corinthians 9:15-27; *Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!*

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

8.15pm After 8s meet at Rob & Kathryn Payne's home

Preachers elsewhere today:

Michael Field at Over URC, Winsford (10.30am)

Jeremy Hunns at St Mary's, Whitewell (11am)

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

Thank you for all the hard work that so many of you are putting in to your events. Here are four small things that we can all be doing as the week approaches: Pray for a guest, Invite a guest, Accompany a guest, Follow up a guest. The key principle of this week is to encourage personal, relational opportunities to share the gospel with friends, families and colleagues. Please continue to pray that God's Spirit would work powerfully in people as His Word goes out. *Alec.*

Door-to-door in preparation for A Better Story

We will be gathering at 2pm, on Sunday 18th March, in the Church Extension to pray before going on to deliver gifts and invitations to the Better Story Mission. If you feel you'd like to come, please sign up at the back of church, or contact Alec to let him know you're coming. This is so that we can make sure we have the right number of gifts etc.

Electoral Roll revision

If you are not already on the Electoral Roll but would like to be included, you must: have been baptised, be at least 16 years old and either resident in the parish or have worshipped here regularly for at least 6 months. Forms (available on the Welcome Desk) need to be completed and returned to Pippa Wood by **Sunday 1st April** for inclusion on the roll. Completed forms can also be left in the box on the Welcome Desk. If any of your details have changed, you should also inform Pippa by the same date. After Sunday 1st April, the roll will be closed until after the AGM and only people who are already on the roll will be entitled to vote at that meeting.

Navigating the Storm

This is a women's event at Christ Church, Wharton, on Saturday 24th March. There will be a guest speaker and the day will run from 10am to 3pm. Refreshments are provided but you will need to take your own lunch. There will also be a bookstall run by 10ofthose. Tickets cost £5 and for more information please see flyers on the Welcome Desk or contact Christ Church office (861860).

Easter Choir

If you would like to be in the choir singing for the Easter services, there will be practices on Thursdays 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.

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.

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. Our next one starts on Tuesday 1st May 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.

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. 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.

Prayer for the Chelashaw family

Please continue to pray that Bethany's platelet count would increase and the family would know when they should return to Kenya.

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.

'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.

Crewe Church Plant - update

Those of you who heard Matt Guest last week, will remember him talking about the Crewe Church Plant. They now have a website (www.preparingtoplantcrewe.com) and have started meeting monthly to pray. All are welcome and this is for anyone who wants to pray for the plant, not just those who may be considering becoming involved.

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 March 2018

Monday 12th March *Readings: Exodus 23, John 2, Job 41, 2 Corinthians 11*

Nathan taking assemblies at Hartford CE High School (Monday - Thursday, 2.50pm)

Full Governors' Meeting at Hartford Church of England High School (5pm)

- 9.30am-5pm Church Office open in the Church Centre (Monday-Thursday)
- 9.30am Staff meeting
- 9.45am Ladies' Walk – meet in the Church Centre car park
- 4pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
- 8pm Uganda Trip planning meeting in the Church Centre

Tuesday 13th March *Readings: Exodus 24, John 3, Job 42, 2 Corinthians 12*

Michael Field leading 'Walk Through the Bible' sessions at Cloughwood Academy (9.15am) and at Hartford Manor Primary School (1pm & 2pm)

- 9.10am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
- 10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre
- 8pm God's Big Picture course in the Church Centre
- 8pm St John's Vision Group meet at The Vicarage

Wednesday 14th March *Readings: Exodus 25, John 4, Proverbs 1, 2 Corinthians 13*

Mike and Phil taking part in the Christian Controversies Conference at Chester Cathedral

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)

- 10am Tots and Tinies meet in the Church Centre
- 12pm Chester Association meet in the Church Centre
- 2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Rev Dimitri Alldridge
- 8pm Housegroup Socials/Catch-up Week

Thursday 15th March *Readings: Exodus 26, John 5, Proverbs 2, Galatians 1*

Mike's day off

Alec attending Curacy Training session at Church House (am)

Phil attending the High Schools' Chaplains' meeting (10am-12pm)

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

Nathan 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 Easter Choir practice in St John's
- 9.30pm Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

Church Office phone number 01606 872255