

Prayer Diary – 6th January 2019

The Collect for today – Epiphany:

O God, who revealed your only Son to the Gentiles by the leading of a star, mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may after this life enjoy the splendour of your glorious Godhead, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

the sick and the bereaved:

our mission partners: Charlotte Kirkham (St Catherine's, Tranmere) and Robert Matati (Anglican Minister in Butere, Kenya).

our local schools:

- The Grange Junior & Senior Schools, and other schools which members of the church are involved in.
- Hartford Church of England High School.
- For Ofsted to be less aggressive in schools when assessing 'British Values'.

Notice Sheet for Sunday 6th January 2019

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 - John 7:37-44; *Living Water*

6.30pm Holy Communion - Matthew 5:33-37, 6:1-4; *Articles 38-39: Generosity and Honesty*

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

Preachers elsewhere today:

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. Our next one starts on Tuesday 15th January 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.

Post-Christmas church tidying

This morning, immediately after the service, we would appreciate some volunteers to help move chairs and get the church back into its normal configuration, following the Christmas services. All offers of help will be gratefully accepted!

Ladies' Walks

... will resume on Monday 7th January and then they will continue fortnightly until further notice. The ladies meet, on each occasion, in the Church Centre car park at 9.45am. For more details, please contact Mary Shorter.

Jigsaw

... will restart this Tuesday, 8th January, for its regular Bible study. If you attended Jigsaw last term, please don't forget to bring the study book on Micah with you.

New Welcome Team members needed

We have lost some of our morning Welcome Team, due to family situations or ill health, and are looking to recruit five new members. You would be on a rota to serve about once every four to five weeks. If you can help or would like to find out more, please contact Debbie Nobes.

Read the Bible in 2019

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 and spend time praying every day? Please do check the 'Reading the Bible' section of our website. We have compiled a list of links to many resources, including free audio daily Bible readings apps for iPhones and iPads, Android smartphones and tablets along with other devices; including the Daily Audio Bible podcast and Bible in One Year (from HTB) which both take you through the whole Bible in a year. The notice sheet also has daily readings alongside each day on the diary page to enable you to do the same. The readings are linked to a daily Bible Reading Plan that is available in various formats from the 'Reading the Bible' page. Finally, if you don't own a Bible to read, please ask a member of staff and we will make sure you get one.

Walk Through the Bible - information meeting

As many of you know, Michael Field has been leading WTTB sessions in many of our local primary schools. Due to increasing demand from schools, coupled with Michael cutting back on his

commitments following his recent illness, we are keen to find some new volunteers who might be interested in training to become WTTB presenters. We will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 15th January, at 1.30pm, in the Church Centre (upstairs Conference Room), for anyone who might like to find out more. You will not be committing to anything just by coming along! If you know you would like to come, please speak to Michael or Teresa.

'Harambee' Uganda Mission 2019

On Thursday 24th January, at 8pm in the Church Centre, there will be an Information Evening where we will provide further background, insight and encouragement for those who may be interested or who have already expressed an interest in visiting Uganda next year. The aim of the 2019 visit will be to further develop our links with, and support for, the schools and churches over there, as a fundamental part of our 'Harambee' partnership growth. There will be more information early in the New Year, ahead of the meeting, but in the interim please treat this as a 'Save the Date'. If you would like to know more, please speak to Martin or Helen Barber.

North West Partnership Conference

On Friday 25th and Saturday 26th January, NWP is holding its annual conference at St Andrew's, Leyland. The speakers are Tim Lane and Mark Pickles. Tim will talk on 'Words that Matter: saying things that really help'. His talks will have a focus on how the Gospel is sufficient for this issue. Each day costs £18: please see www.northwestpartnership.com/events for more details.

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 – 6th January 2019

Monday 7th January *Readings: Genesis 7, Matthew 7, Ezra 7, Acts 7*

- 9.30am-5pm Church Office open in the Church Centre (Monday to Thursday)
- 9.30am Staff meeting
- 9.45am Ladies' Walk - meet in the Church Centre car park
- 8pm St John's Committee meet in the Church Centre

Tuesday 8th January *Readings: Genesis 8, Matthew 8, Ezra 8, Acts 8*

- 10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

Wednesday 9th January *Readings: Genesis 9-10, Matthew 9, Ezra 9, Acts 9*

Phil at Hartford Church of England High School Christian Union (1.05-1.35pm)

- 10am Tots & Tinies meet in the Church Centre
- 2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre - Amy Field
- 8pm Housegroups meet for Philippians Study 1

Thursday 10th January *Readings: Genesis 11, Matthew 10, Ezra 10, Acts 10*

Teresa's day off

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

Friday 11th January *Readings: Genesis 12, Matthew 11, Nehemiah 1, Acts 11*

Alec's day off

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 Friday Night Live (Pathfinders) meets in the Church Centre

Saturday 12th January *Readings: Genesis 13, Matthew 12, Nehemiah 2, Acts 12*

Mike's, Nathan's and Alec's day off

- 12pm Koinonia Christmas Lunch at Winnington Park Recreation Club

Sunday 13th January *Readings: Genesis 14, Matthew 13, Nehemiah 3, Acts 13*

- 8am Holy Communion in St John's
- 9.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
- 10am Morning Prayer in St John's (John 7:45-52)
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer in St John's (Isaiah 29:1-24)
- 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