

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 35, John 14, Proverbs 11, Ephesians 4*

8am	Holy Communion in St John's
9.30am	Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room
10am	Morning Prayer in St John's (John 10:1-6)
6.30pm	Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Timothy 3:1-16)
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 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

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

*Almighty God, you see that we have no power of our own to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls so that we may be defended from all ills that may befall the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Please pray for...**

*the sick and the bereaved:*

*our mission partners:* Jonny & Erica Greaves (The Oakes, Sheffield) and Cornerstone Church, Crewe.

*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 Christian assemblies to be bold proclamations of the gospel; give thanks that we have opportunities to do this in many local schools.

**Church Office** phone number 01606 872255

### **Notice Sheet for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

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

**8am Holy Communion**

**9.30am Prayer Meeting** in the Eddowes Room

**10am Holy Communion** - John 9:35-41; *Who really sees?*

**6.30pm Evening Prayer** - 1 Timothy 2:8-15; *Men and women in God's household*

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

**8.30pm TFG** meet at Will & Fiona Hughes' home

**Preachers elsewhere today:**

Jeremy Hunns at St Michael's, Marbury (11am)

### **Forgiveness: The Forgotten F Word**

In 2003, during a raid on a house in Manchester, Detective Constable Stephen Oake was murdered by a terrorist. On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, at 8pm, in St John's Church Centre, come and hear from Stephen's father, Robin Oake, and his sister, Judi Rigby, as they share the compelling story of experiencing this tragedy and how they found forgiveness was possible. During this informal evening, light refreshments will be served and there will be a short presentation on the theme of forgiveness. Please invite family, friends and colleagues along with you to hear Robin and Judi's story.

### **Forgiveness: The Forgotten F Word – volunteers needed**

To be able to successfully run the Forgiveness event we could do with some volunteers for specific roles, please. We would like: 2 people to welcome at the door, some to set up the hall on the afternoon of 28<sup>th</sup> March, 5 people to be available to take coats as people enter, and top up drinks and nibbles during the event, 10 people to stay afterwards to tidy up. If you can help, please use the sign-up sheet at back of church, or contact Alec.

### **Easter Connexions**

The Easter edition of Connexions is now ready to be delivered to every home in the parish. It would be really helpful if you were able to take a bundle (or more!) to deliver during the next few days. It's less than two weeks before the Forgiveness event, and we would like them all to be delivered before then. If you are able to help, please put your name on the list in the Church Extension when you take your bundle away. If there are any discrepancies between the number of magazines on the slip and the actual number of houses, it would be very helpful if you could please let Jackie Barton know.

### **Ladies' Meal at the Riverside Inn, Acton Bridge**

The next ladies' meal will be on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30pm, at the Riverside Inn, Acton Bridge. This is a great way to meet together informally and bring some friends along. Please let Mary Shorter know, *by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March*, if you would like to come.

### **Clearing up help needed for Food with Friends**

Food with Friends (our Thursday café) would love to hear from anyone who could offer to help with clearing away after lunch. You would only be needed for about half an hour, starting at around 1.15pm. If you can help, please talk to Sandra Tipper.

### **Training for leading prayers in church**

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm-9pm, in the Whitefield Room, we are running a brief training evening which will equip people to lead prayers in church. If you are a regular member of church but have never really considered leading prayers, or felt that you wouldn't know where to start, then this is for you. Attending the training won't commit you to a rota but it will equip you and give you confidence

in how to go about leading prayers in church. Perhaps you already lead prayers but would like a refresher - you're welcome too. A sign-up sheet will be available at the back of church, or you can contact Alec directly to let him know.

#### **Additional help for our Grand Weddings**

There is already a team in place to look after various aspects of our Grand Weddings this year, but we would like to organise a pool of volunteers who could be called upon to provide extra help, if needed. The sort of areas where we might need assistance are; setting up tables & chairs in the Wardle Hall, serving drinks during the reception, clearing up afterwards and probably other things we haven't even thought of! The Grand Wedding dates for this year are 27<sup>th</sup> April, 8<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> September. If you would be willing to offer your services, please contact Jackie Barton.

#### **Plastic cup recycling bins**

New bins have been provided in the Church Extension and the Church Centre kitchen, specifically for recycling the plastic coffee cups. So once you have finished your drink, please can you put your empty cup into the recycling bin. Thank you.

#### **'No-pub-pub-quiz' - fundraiser for The Children's society**

Gill Martin is running the London Marathon this year and is raising money for The Children's Society. There will be a quiz night on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30–9.15pm, in the Church Centre and she would love you to join her for that evening. Tickets are a suggested donation of £2 for adults and all of this money will go to The Children's Society. Children 8 and over may attend (no charge) and there will be an age appropriate film that they can watch in one of the other rooms in the Church Centre, if they want to. Should anyone want to donate directly to Gill's Just Giving page the address is [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Gill-Martin-Running-the-london-marathon-2019](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Gill-Martin-Running-the-london-marathon-2019).

#### **924 Evening - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Doubts? Questions? Fears about faith? In Mark 9:24, a man said to Jesus, "I believe; help my unbelief!" If that sounds like you, come along to the second 924 Evening: 8-10pm, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, at The Vicarage.

#### **'Harambee' Uganda Mission 2019 - meetings**

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, immediately after the 10am services, there will be another opportunity, for those who are interested in visiting Uganda later this year, to meet members of the 'Harambee' team who visited Uganda in 2018. The meeting will be in the side chapel, last around 15 minutes, and will be useful to gain further background, insight and encouragement in relation to this year's visit. We will be looking to finalise numbers for the trip by mid-April so relevant arrangements can be made. For more details please speak to Martin or Helen Barber.

#### **Women's Inspire Convention**

Christ Church, Wharton are holding a Women's Inspire Convention on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-2.30pm. The speaker is Karen Soole and the theme will be, 'Being the best that I can be, for Jesus.' Tickets are £5 (payable on the door). Please bring your own lunch. For more details please see the flyers in the Welcome Area and, if you would like to attend, add your name to the sheet.

#### **Church Diary – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

##### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 29, John 8, Proverbs 5, Galatians 4*

Teresa leading sessions at Hartford Primary School interfaith week: year 4s (9.15am & 10.20am), year 3s (11.15am & 1.25pm)

Nathan and Teresa taking Big Bible Club at Hartford Primary School (12.30-1.15pm)

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

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

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

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

10am Staff meeting

##### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 30, John 9, Proverbs 6, Galatians 5*

Teresa leading sessions at Hartford Primary School interfaith week: reception (9.15am & 10.15am)

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

10am Jigsaw meet in the Church Centre

8pm Prayer leader training in the Church Centre

##### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 31, John 10, Proverbs 7, Galatians 6*

Teresa leading sessions at Hartford Primary School interfaith week: year 1s (9.15am & 10.20am), year 2s (11.15am & 1.25pm)

Nathan leading sessions at Hartford Primary School interfaith week: year 5s (Did God intend for Jesus to die?), year 6s (Is Christianity still as strong 2000 years later?)

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

10am Tots & Tinies meet in the Church Centre

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 (*Will Hughes' housegroup*)

##### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 32, John 11, Proverbs 8, Ephesians 1*

Teresa's day off

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

11.30am Food with Friends in the Church Centre

7.30pm Ladies' Meal at the Riverside Inn, Acton Bridge

##### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 33, John 12, Proverbs 9, Ephesians 2*

Jacqueline away today

Mike's and Alec's day off

Teresa attending a Diocesan Youth & Children's Conference (all day)

##### **Church Office closed**

6.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

7.30pm Friday Night Live (Pathfinders) meets in the Church Centre

##### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** *Readings: Exodus 34, John 13, Proverbs 10, Ephesians 3*

Nathan's day off

8-10pm Crossover 'Ask your questions' Café in the Church Centre