

## Prayer Diary – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019

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

*Almighty God, look mercifully upon your people so that by your great goodness we may be always governed and preserved both in body and soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Please pray for...**

*the sick the bereaved:*

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

*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 the House of Lords to reject proposals for new legislation that will make many elements of sex education (some of which are contrary to the Word of God) compulsory for all pupils.

## Notice Sheet for Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019

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

**8am Morning Prayer**

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

**10am Morning Prayer** - John 10:22-42; *Jesus the Messiah, the son of God*

**6.30pm Evening Prayer** - 1 Timothy 5:1-6:2; *Family values*

### **KAT - today**

Today there will be KAT for children in year 9 and below. Young people in year 10 or above will be staying in church.

### **New Electoral Roll**

A new Electoral Roll has to be prepared this year and everyone who wishes to be included on it must fill in a form, ***even if you were on the previous Electoral Roll***. Completed forms must be returned to Pippa Wood ***today*** and then the roll will be closed until after the AGM. Alternatively, please give your form to a minister. To be eligible for the roll you must be: over 16, have been baptised and either live in the parish or have worshipped here regularly for the last six months. To be able to vote at the AGM, should an election be required, your name must be on the Electoral Roll.

### **Make, Taste & See**

Make, Taste & See will take place in the church on Mondays during school holidays; the next date is 8<sup>th</sup> April. Feel free to come along and drop in anytime from 10am until 12pm. This is for people of all ages, with or without children, and there is no charge. Join us for coffee, cake, craft & chat, and watch some film clips too. If you are able to help on these dates, or can bake cakes for us, please let Teresa know. Thank you.

### **Easter Choir**

If you would like to be in the choir singing for the Easter services, there will be practices on Tuesdays 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April, at 8pm, in church. All are very welcome to come along. For more details, please speak to Mike Jones or just turn up.

### **Tots & Tinies Easter Service**

... will take place in church on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 10am. All parents, friends and carers with children aged 0-4 are welcome to join us for our celebration of Easter. This short service will include stories about Jesus, singing songs, making crafts and having refreshments. For more information, please speak to Teresa.

### **Good Friday - Make Taste and Sing**

On Good Friday morning, we welcome all children, families, grandparents and carers to come together and consider the good news of the Lord Jesus in a child friendly way. We will serve refreshments from 10am and there will craft, quizzes and activities for all. At approximately 10.15am, we will gather to sing and pray, read the Bible and appreciate Jesus as He dies on the cross in our place. This will last for about half an hour. All are welcome, and this interactive but also contemplative service is particularly aimed at children. For more details, please contact Nathan.

### **Reflections at the foot of the cross**

This year, following the Good Friday meditation service at St John's (6pm-7pm), there will be a collaborative art event run by Dee Rollinson and Ann Lawes, beginning around 7.10pm and lasting for 30 minutes. As we contemplate the cross of Christ, and the love of God, we will seek to be led by art, music, Word and Spirit. To guide our reflections, selected artwork by Dee will be shown on the big screen and a new piece entitled "No Greater Love" will be on show. Selected readings from scripture will accompany the artwork, and Ann will respond to the images and words as she seeks to be led by

the Spirit in musical improvisation. Many of you know Dee and the arts ministry she heads up. Ann, a relative newcomer to St John's, is a professional and accomplished violinist who is keen to introduce, and develop, the violin ministry she began at her previous church. While Dee's focus is on the visual arts, Ann's is to communicate through music. They both passionately believe that music and the visual arts are deeply powerful and that God can use them to speak to us. We do hope that you will come to this event and that it will be the first of many such collaborative events. *Dee & Ann.*

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

This year's trip is currently scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> August, and we will be looking to finalise numbers for those who would like to take part during April. If you are interested in taking this opportunity to join us in making a real difference to the school at Nyakabungo and the wider community, please get in touch with Helen and Martin Barber by **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April**, please, so that we can make the necessary arrangements. *Martin & Helen.*

#### **Living Christianity - a Christian Institute meeting**

On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 8pm, at St John's Church in Knutsford, The Christian Institute will be holding a meeting. The event will help Christians think about how to apply their faith to the whole of life. Some of the topics that will be covered are the state undermining parental authority in family life, Gospel freedom and Gender Ideology. For more details, please see the flyers in the Welcome Area.

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

This year's convention is on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-4.45pm, at Holy Trinity, Platt. The day is entitled: 'The Gospel: Jesus' Plan To Pass It On' and will focus on Matthew 9:36 to 10:15. The speaker is Graham Daniels, General Director of Christians in Sport. His three main headings(!) are: Jesus' motive for the Gospel, Jesus' confidence in his plan to pass on the Gospel and Jesus' strategy for partnership in the Gospel. Tickets must be purchased in advance and cost £10 each. If you would like to come along, please contact Will Hughes or Kevin Eccles.

#### **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. ***We specifically need help with setting up tables & chairs in the Wardle Hall and clearing up afterwards***, please. 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.

#### **New Evening Welcome Team members needed**

Thank you to all who have volunteered to join the morning Welcome Team; this has really brought the groups back to full strength. We now have a need for two replacement team members to cover the evening services. If you can help or would like to know more, please contact Debbie Nobes.

#### **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.

#### **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](mailto:dee@stjohnshartford.org)). We also have direct access to Chester Diocese's Counselling Service; contact Jane Knight (01270 652034 or 07918 732806).

#### **Church Diary – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 11-12, Psalms 13-14, Proverbs 26, 1 Thessalonians 5*

Mike and Richard away until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

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

10am Make, Taste & See in St John's

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 13, Psalms 15-16, Proverbs 27, 2 Thessalonians 1*

Teresa away until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Nathan away until Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April

8pm Easter Choir practice in St John's

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 14, Psalm 17, Proverbs 28, 2 Thessalonians 2*

2pm Ladies' Fellowship meet in the Church Centre – Holy Communion (*George*)

8pm Prayer Fellowship meets in the Church Centre (*Jeremy Hunn's housegroup*)

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 15, Psalm 18, Proverbs 29, 2 Thessalonians 3*

12.30pm Thanksgiving for Life Service in St John's (*Alec*)

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 16, Psalm 19, Proverbs 30, 1 Timothy 1*

Alec's day off

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

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 17, Psalms 20-21, Proverbs 31, 1 Timothy 2*

Nathan's day off

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** *Readings: Leviticus 18, Psalm 22, Ecclesiastes 1, 1 Timothy 3*

8am Holy Communion in St John's

9.30am Time to Pray in the Eddowes Room

10am Morning Prayer in St John's (John 11:1-16)

6.30pm Evening Prayer in St John's (1 Timothy 6:3-10)

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*