

ALPHA - STARTS AT ST JOHN'S ON WEDNESDAY 17TH JANFor more information call 020 8650 3515 or visit sjep.org and alpha.org

Please be praying about our new Alpha Course starting in January. Is there someone you would like to invite along? Are there questions which you yourself would like to ask? Alpha is for anyone who is curious and would like to explore the basics of Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Please pick up an invitation card (or cards) from the Information Table.

BIBLE READING NOTES

If you want to read the Bible and don't know where to start or if you want a deeper understanding about what God is saying to you and to His church today why not try using Bible Reading Notes. Come and talk to Jenny and John in the Bookstall and we will find something that will suit you as there are publications for all ages. We will be ordering the January 2018 editions soon and if you pay for the year we will deduct 5% from the total.

FOOD BANK - The Food Bank continues to run and needs your support so please try to remember to bring your donations which are all gratefully received. Dried and tinned goods, laundry products, toiletries etc. all donations welcome.

Refreshments will be served on Sunday 10th December by members of Heather Freeman's group.



Vicar: Rev'd Liz Lander ☎ 8650 6110 ✉ landerliz@yahoo.co.uk (Liz's day off is Thursday)

Associate Vicar: Rev'd Scott Smith ☎ 8289 4819 ✉ smithscott@hotmail.com (Scott's day off is Friday)

Churchwardens: Julia Lewis ☎ 8462 3508 and Tony Peters ☎ 8402 1876

Church Office: Liz King ☎ 8650 3515 ✉ office@sjep.org Website: www.sjep.org

Office Hours: Mon, Weds, Thurs & Fri 9.00 am -1.00 pm **CLOSED TUESDAYS**

News & Notices**3rd December 2017**

A very warm welcome to you all, especially if you are new to St. John's or you are just visiting - we are delighted to have you with us. Refreshments will be served after the service so do please stay and join us for coffee/tea.

Sunday 3rd December - Advent Sunday

- 10.00 am Morning Worship - Roger Clarke
'Why read the Bible?'
Readings: Isaiah 55: 1 - 2 & 6 - 11 and 2 Timothy 3: 10 - 17
- 6.30 pm Holy Communion - Dr. David Plummer
Readings: Isaiah 11 v 1 - 9 and Revelation 22 v 12 - 21

Wednesday 6th December

- 11.15 am Holy Communion - Rev'd Liz Lander

Sunday 10th December

- 10.00 am Holy Communion - **David Hitching**
'What's going on when we pray?'
Readings: **Luke 11: 1 - 13 & Matthew 26: 36 - 44**

Special Prayer for the Advent Sunday

*O Lord our God,
as we wait for the coming of thy Son our Lord,
preserve us in watchfulness and faith,
that when he shall appear
he may not find us asleep in sin
but active to serve him
and joyful to praise him;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

If you would like prayer today - please speak to the person leading the service who will find someone to pray with you

Monday 4th December

1.30 pm FOCUS - A trip to Polhill Garden Centre - **Leaving St. John's at 1.30 pm**
8.00 pm CYFA

Tuesday 5th December

10.00 am The Ark

Wednesday 6th December

11.15 am Holy Communion
12.30 pm LINK
1.30 pm Art Class
2.00 pm Exercise class for all ages and abilities
5.30 pm Kingfishers

Friday 8th December

8.45 am Parish Prayers

Saturday 9th December

1.00 - 4.00 pm **CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET** (see notice opposite)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Ron Jepp
- Joyce Foulger recovering from hip repair operation.
- Rod Bassett now back home
- Stan Elsey
- Alan Abbott (stepson of Carole)
- Carole Abbott
- Nancy Day
- Joan Jones
- Jane Newman
- Keith Shelley
- Paul Allen
- Jim Cruse
- Kit Grant
- Brian & Rosemary Clayton
- Essie Grives

Special prayer topics

- Homemakers - those caring for families at home
- Residents in Hawksbrook Lane also Langley Boys & Girls Schools



Today we pray for the persecuted church in
Egypt

- For Christian converts who are ousted from their homes for leaving Islam, that the Lord would provide for them
- For Christians who are discriminated against in social, political and legal affairs - that they would entrust their situation to God
- That God would bring the leaders of Islamist groups to Christ..

We welcome Rachel Williams from Christians Against Poverty who is joining us today to give us an update on the work of CAP. In addition to the usual offering for the life and mission of St John's, there will also be an opportunity to give to the work of CAP through a 'Retiring Collection'. Envelopes are available if you wish to Gift Aid your offering.



Our Christmas Craft Market will be held this coming Saturday 9th December from 1.00 - 4.00 pm with a "Stay & Play" area for young children, with face painting and fun craft activities. There will be light refreshments available and carol singing during the afternoon. In the large hall there will be around 30 craft stalls selling a variety of goods for Christmas!

We will need some help with a few of the activities, so if you think you are able to help, even if it is just for one hour, please take a look at the board in the coffee area and sign up if you can.

Our Christmas leaflet is available. There are still a few packs that need delivering so if you are able to spare some time in the early part of this week - that would be great!

We also have posters to advertise this event. If you are able to display one in your window - do please pick one up from the Table. Also, if you usually visit local shops - please could you offer them a poster to display in their window. Many thanks.

TRAIDCRAFT - Today is the last chance to pick up your fairly traded goods from the Traidcraft Stall, or to order things for Christmas. Please do come and visit the stall today.



If you are thinking of getting a real Christmas tree this year why not get it from Kings Christmas trees. This is a scheme run by Kings Church Catford who use the profits from the trees to go to their work with homeless and vulnerable people. Trees can be collected locally or delivered. Please see kingschristmastrees.org for more information or speak to Martin or Judy Bedford.