

CTiB Lent Course will be taking place here at St. John's on the following dates: Tuesdays 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March and 4th April. The aim of the course is for us meet with members of other churches in the deanery. These evenings offer a great opportunity to get together, to hear and understand both similar and diverse viewpoints and experience worship and fellowship together.

The format of the evening is as follows:

- 7.30 pm Arrival, coffee and fellowship
- 8.00 pm Welcome and opening worship
- 8.10 pm - 9.00 pm Lent Course Workshops
- 9.00 pm - 9.15 pm Closing worship

There are 5 workshops to choose from:

Come and Sing 'Messiah' choruses led by David Storey

Handel's 'Messiah' tells the story of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. We shall have four sessions to briefly consider the biblical texts that Handel used as we learn to sing some of the passion choruses.

Exploring the Bible through Art led by Chris McShane

Over the 4 weeks we build up a single piece of artwork exploring the imagery of the ark, the crossing of the Jordan, the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, and the Worship of the Lamb in Revelation, and present it on the 5th week.

Franciscan Spirituality led by Tina Kelsey

We will begin this course with a general discussion as to what spirituality means for us, and look specifically at each of the Orders through the lives of their founders and patrons: St Francis of Assisi, St Clare of Assisi and St Elizabeth of Hungary, relating their lives to our own through discussion and a writing activity. Each session will finish with a time of silent prayer.

The Lord's Prayer led by Maggie Wilkinson & Andrew Jones

This course consists of 4 sessions exploring the Lord's Prayer by discussing and reflecting on various passages from scripture.

Decisions, decisions led by Neil Draisey

We make decisions every day – big and small, unimportant and life-changing, good decisions and wrong, easy and hard to make. In this course, we will explore different aspects of life's decisions through Bible passages, personal experiences and discussion.

Forms are available on the Information Table for you to sign up for the Lent Course, alternatively register with Liz King by email: office@sjep.org stating which workshop you would like to do (also give a 2nd choice).

Refreshments

Refreshments will be served on Sunday 12th February by members of Grant Bones' group.



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

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 8.00 am-4.00 pm **CLOSED TUESDAYS**

News & Notices

5th February 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 5th February

10.00 am All Age Worship - Rev'd Liz Lander
Ruth
Ruth 1: 16 - 17

6.30 pm Hour of Prayer & Worship - Alasdair & Hilary Cameron

Wednesday 8th February

11.15 am Holy Communion - Rev'd Liz Lander

Sunday 12th February

10.00 am Holy Communion - Rachel Winn
Petition (Give us this day)

6.30 pm Evening Worship - Roger Clarke
Mark 1: v 40 to the end & Ephesians 5: v 1 – 17

Special Prayer for 5th Sunday before Lent

*God of our salvation,
help us to turn away from those habits
which harm our bodies
and poison our minds
and to choose again your gift of life,
revealed to us in 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 6th February

2.00 pm Focus

Tuesday 7th February

10.00 am The Ark

Wednesday 8th February

9.00 am Parish Prayers
11.15 am Holy Communion
12.30 pm LINK - (*don't forget to book your lunch in advance*)
1.30 pm Art Class - Beginners welcome
2.00 pm Exercise class for all ages and abilities
5.30 pm Kingfishers
7.30 pm Alpha (See note opposite)

Friday 10th February

8.45 am Parish Prayers

Please pray for:

- *Judy Bedford - recovering from surgery at home*
- *Margaret Murrell - recovering at home*
- *Clive Porthouse - very poorly at home*
- *Alasdair Cameron - waiting for a new date for his surgery*
- *Wilf Orton - having a hip replacement on 4th February.*
- *Brian & Rosemary Clayton*
- *Jane Newman*
- *Graham Mountford*
- *Paul Allen*
- *Keith Shelley*
- *Essie Grives*

As mentioned recently, we were sad to hear of the death of Joan Robinson. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joan's daughter Wendy and family and also her mum Kathleen. Joan's funeral service will be held at Beckenham Crematorium on Monday 13th February at 1.30 pm.

Special prayer topics

- People going out to work
- Residents who live in Monks Orchard Road



Congratulations to Jane & Scott on the safe arrival on their baby daughter Abby Hope born on Tuesday 31st January weighing 9lb 12ozs. Mum & baby are doing really well and Dad is very proud of his new daughter - a little sister for Zoey.

Alpha started on Wednesday this week but it is still not too late to come along. You will be very welcome. Just speak to Liz if you would like to join the group

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith.

Who's it for?

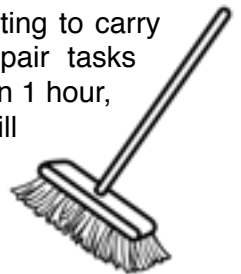
Alpha is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you like.

How does it work?

Alpha is eleven sessions with a day away in the middle. Each session includes food, a short talk and discussion at the end where you can share your thoughts. At any point, if you think Alpha isn't for you, that's not a problem. There's no pressure, no follow up.

WORK MORNING - Saturday 11th February

Next Saturday morning from 9.30 am we will be meeting to carry out a few more clearing, cleaning, moving and repair tasks around the church and grounds. If you can spare even 1 hour, your help will be greatly appreciated. Refreshments will be provided. Please speak to Tony Peters or Julia Lewis if you are able to come along and join us.



NEW CONTACT LIST

Available today is a new contact list with addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of our church family. please pick up your copy. A voluntary donation of £1 towards printing cost will be appreciated. If you prefer to receive a pdf. copy via email, please drop me a line to the office address: office@sjep.org and I will forward you one.