



# St. James Church Southam



*Within Coventry Diocese we believe our primary purpose as part of the Christian Community is:  
Worshipping God, Making new Disciples and Transforming Communities*

## CHURCH BULLETIN

**3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017**

*A warm welcome to you all. If you are new, or just visiting  
and would like to know more about us, please do introduce yourselves*

**10am Holy Communion with children's group**

**6.30pm Advent Carol Service**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 10am Holy Communion**

**The Journey to Bethlehem: Zechariah**

**Luke 1:5-25**

**Special Prayer (Collect)**

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

**Services at St James Church**

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion weekly

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

with the whole church family coming together for worship and Holy Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

Sunday 6.30pm Evening Worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

## ***Dates for your Diary***

Every Friday Morning 9.30am- 10.30am Prayer Meeting in Church Prayer Room

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 6.30pm Advent Carol Service

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2pm MU Carol Service in church



**'CROSS OF NAILS'** Friday noon prayers and coffee  
**Coffee served from 10.30am - 12noon.**

Contacts are Chris 01926 813482 or Jan 01926 813373

***Jolly J's*** Monday 10.00am – 11.30am in church (*excl. Bank Holiday*)

## ***Weekday Homegroups in Southam***

Monday Evening Juliet Houghton (01926 812104)

Tuesday Evening Pat and Stephen Adams (01926 813753)

Wednesday Evening Jill Parker (01926 811254)

Thursday Afternoon Averil Brown (01926 817138)

## **Gift Aid**

If you are a taxpayer and putting cash in the collection it would be appreciated if you would put the money in a yellow gift aid envelope so that the church can claim back 25p in every pound from the taxman.

Many thanks. Ruth Tresidder, Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary.

## **Old £1 coins**

As old £1 coins are no longer legal tender in shops we are happy for you to continue to include them in your collection as we will have no problem banking them!

**Advent Lunches** in aid of Children with Cancer UK on Tuesday

December 5th, 12th and 19th 11.00 am - 1.00 pm in

Our Lady & St Wulstan's Church Hall.

With many thanks Fr Bernard

### 3Christmas at St James

Christmas is often a busy time for many and this is certainly the case at St James with extra services, the schools coming in for their Christmas celebrations, a special day event called 'the Christmas Experience' for all the Year 6 children, plus the Christmas Fayre and Paul Kerensa Comedy & Carols event. Phew I'm tired just thinking about it all. With some folk away at different times, the PCC wondered whether anyone has some time and would like to volunteer for the following....

**Carols by Candlelight (December 17th)** - someone to help put the candles in jam jars out around the church and up the path (weather permitting!)

**Family Celebration on Christmas Eve** - someone to provide and serve refreshments for when people arrive. You don't have to be an amazing baker - shop bought items are gratefully received too so don't let that put you off!

**'Midnight' Holy Communion on Christmas Eve** - someone to help put the candles in jam jars out around the church and up the path (weather permitting!)

I'm sure other jobs will become apparent through Advent, so watch this space on how you can be involved at this very special time. And we promise not to add you to a future rota, unless you want to! Thanks in anticipation, Vikki

### 3Renewal of Giving

On behalf of the PCC and myself, we'd like to express our thanks for your response, both financially and how you serve at St James', to the Renewal of Giving back in October. I know that a number of people review their financial giving throughout the year, but it's always good to have a time each year set aside to consider these things or maybe to get around to actually responding when we've been meaning to for ages. There are always things on the 'List to do' aren't there?!

Through the Renewal of Giving, the annual financial giving has increased by £1050 PLUS a one off donation of £500 PLUS we have a new volunteer to help lead at the 10am services. Please join with us in giving thanks for God's provision to us as a church family and if you ever want to chat about being more involved at St James then I'm always happy to catch up over a cuppa. With thanks, Vikki

## **Myton Hospice**

Back on the 22nd October Rachael Stevens from Myton Hospice spoke at our 10am service bringing us up to date with the work that the hospice was doing, not only in its three premises across our area but also out in the community. A retiring collection was held at all three services that day and I am delighted to announce that £197 plus appropriate gift aid was raised to support the work of the hospice.

Rachael has asked me to thank the church family for thinking of The Myton Hospice. In her words 'a huge thank you to you all'.....

## **Give a Christmas Gift to the Myton Hospice**

Instead of, or in addition to, sending Christmas cards to your friends at church the PCC thought the following would be a great way to share Christmas greetings and raise money for Myton Hospice. On the table at the back of church is a 'large' Christmas Card from Myton - simply write your Christmas message to the church family on one of the snowflakes inside the card and place your donation in the envelope. If you are a tax payer you also have the opportunity to make your donation worth an extra 25% by completing the form on the back of the card.

Many thanks - The PCC

## ***Christ is surely coming***

*We are holding our Advent Carol Service on Sunday  
3rd December at 6.30pm in church.*

*A selection of readings and music for the Advent season will be  
followed by seasonal refreshments.*

*We are pleased to welcome the Melody Makers choir and  
Gerard Hyland on the organ again this year, to accompany  
our worship. Do come and join us!*

## **2Carriers of Hope November Update**

Some pieces of news from us all at Carriers:

1. Great news! Children in Need have awarded us 3 years funding for a part-time Children's Worker to enhance the work directly focusing on the children. We're excited! Watch this space.
2. There is a new phone number for Catherine on our Furniture Project, following her phone going missing. If you want to contact her about any collections please ring her on: 07378 300631.
3. The Christmas Elves have been hard at work (with the help of CLM's Life Groups - thanks so much, lovely people). We are now clearer about where we will have shortages. We still need more presents for Ages 6-8 years, 9-12 years, 13 plus, and men and women. please.
4. The target of 280 Christmas-Dinners-in-a Bag is coming along nicely. It feels as if we are around the 200 mark so far. Contributions of £10 gift cards, Christmas Crackers, Mince Pies, Christmassy desserts and Christmassy cakes will all help us to reach the target.

We are aiming to bring joy to at least 1,200 of our clients during w/b 18th December. Love from Sue Sampson

## **Prayer Changes Things!**

We, as a Church, feel challenged to pray for our community in a more structured way. Apart from being obedient to God's call to pray, (1Thessalonians 5 v 17) urging us to pray continuously. What should we pray? Because God's desire is always to bless people, we can pray for God's blessing on the people of Southam, street by street.

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| <p><b>Pray BLESSINGS on your community,</b><br/><b>BODY – health, protection, strength</b><br/><b>LABOUR – work, reward, security</b><br/><b>EMOTIONS – joy, peace, hope</b><br/><b>SOCIAL – love, marriage, family, friends</b><br/><b>SPIRIT - salvation, faith, grace</b></p> |
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Windmill Way, Welsh Road West, Southam College.

## **St James Strollers**

The next “stroll” will be on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, as usual, meeting at 2pm at Wood Street car park, when, because of the limited hours of daylight, we will set forth on a shorter stroll of a little over 3 miles along footpaths in the Stockton direction. We should be back in Southam before sunset by about 4.30pm. I do hope you will be able to join us.

“Spike” Thorne – Southam 814468.

## **Temporary Accommodation Sought - Can you or anyone you know help?**

We have had a request from a mature, professional, Christian woman who is seeking short term, temporary accommodation from 1st January 2018.

Sue is relocating to Cubbington for work and intending to purchase a property in the local area but needs to find temporary accommodation in the intervening period. When visiting for the interview, she was very drawn to Southam and felt God was calling her into the area.

If you are able to offer Sue a room (with use of kitchen, bathroom, etc.) to rent or know of anyone who might be able to help or properties that might be available please speak with Margaret in the Church Office to obtain Sue's contact details so that you can get in touch. Clearly if you are able to help you would have to satisfy yourself as to Sue's suitability.

## Christmas at St James 2017

### December

|                            |         |  |
|----------------------------|---------|--|
| Sunday 3                   | 10am    | Holy Communion   |
| Sunday 3                   | 6.30pm  | Advent Carol Service<br>Advent Readings and Music,<br>accompanied by Gerard Hyland with<br>items from the Melody Makers                              |
| Sunday 10                  | 8am     | Holy Communion   |
| Sunday 10                  | 3pm/4pm | 'Messy Christingle'<br>3pm Messy Church crafts & fun for<br>families<br>4pm service for all followed by light<br>refreshments – to finish around 5pm |
| Sunday 17                  | 6pm     | Carols by Candlelight  |
| Christmas Eve              | 3pm     | Family Celebration<br>for the young and young at heart   |
| Christmas Eve              | 11.15pm | 'Midnight' Holy Communion  |
| Christmas Day              | 10am    | Family Communion   |
| New Year's Eve             | 10am    | Morning Worship  |
| Thursday Holy<br>Communion | 10am    | December 7, 14, 21 and 28  |

**Revd. Vikki Bisiker (Priest in Charge)**

07983 402614

email: [vicarpad@gmail.com](mailto:vicarpad@gmail.com)

**For all enquiries please contact the Church Office or Churchwardens**

**St James Church Office**

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e-mail: [southamchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:southamchurch@yahoo.com)

website: [www.stjames-southam.co.uk](http://www.stjames-southam.co.uk)

Churchwardens: Stephen Adams (01926 813753)

Barry Parker (01926 811254)

*PLEASE NOTE -*

*For safety's sake in our large church building, parents are asked to always keep a watchful eye on their children. St James' "children's corner" may be used with supervision, by pre-school children.*