



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

7th October 2018

*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 + Baptism

Genesis 1:26-31

Thursday 11th October 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect)

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Services at St James Church

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion weekly

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sundays

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship on the 2nd 4th and 5th Sundays

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

Sunday 6.30pm Evening Worship on 2nd and 4th Sundays

Dates for your Diary

Every Friday Morning 9.30am – 10.30am Prayer Meeting in Church
Monday 8th October 2.00pm MU Deanery Meeting in church
Thursday 11th October 2.00pm MU Meeting in church
7.30pm Southam Deanery Meeting
St Nicholas Church Radford Semele

Due to major internal church repairs there will be no services or other events in church between Monday 15th and Saturday 27th October inclusive.



‘CROSS OF NAILS’ Friday noon prayers and coffee
Coffee served from 10.30am - 12noon.
Contacts are Chris Cooke or Jan Ford 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

URGENT.

Help needed for Jolly J’s on Mondays mornings,
could you please give an hour to help with refreshments
on a rota basis 10am – 11.30am
Contact Chris Cooke or Rose Evans

Friday coffee morning – HELP NEEDED!!

Our loyal and long serving team of helpers has become depleted recently as Pam Gilkes and Liz College have had to stand down after many years of service. Our thanks to both of them for all the time they have put it so cheerfully!

We need a few more willing volunteers to join our rota – could it be YOU?!

Please contact Chris Cooke or Jan Ford (813373) if you'd like to help us!

The commitment is about once a month between 10am and 12.30 for teams of two each week. The rota is arranged about four times a year, and if dates clash we swop with others on the rota.

Each Friday between 10.30 and noon, refreshments are served in church in exchange for a small donation from the customers. The donations are sent on a regular basis to the Mothers' Union International Fund, totalling several hundreds of pounds each year. The morning ends at noon with the Cross of Nails prayers; these prayers are said worldwide by churches and communities belonging to the Fellowship of the Cross of Nails.

Men's Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 27th October in the Village Hall

Our Speaker is James Rose and he's a dad on a journey. After 25 years in the automotive industry he jumped off the commercial gravy-train and joined the Home for Good team. He is passionate about seeing the church stepping up to the mark in our call to care for the vulnerable, and then wrapping around and supporting families.

In Warwickshire there are around 700 children who are in Local Authority care and Home for Good's vision is a home for every child who needs one. There is a need for more foster families and there are not enough people coming forward to adopt. The Church can make a difference and Home for Good raises awareness of the need for foster and adoptive parents. It encourages families to provide loving homes for the children in care, and equips the Church to offer welcoming communities for them. It is dedicated to inspiring, equipping and coordinating the network of local churches and individuals who are making the vision a reality.

Numbers continue to increase each month - at 29 in September, we were just one short of our maximum - so to guarantee your place and Roger's famous "Full English for a Fiver" give Barry Parker a call on 01926 811254 or email him: champagnebuff@gmail.com

PS Another date for your diary – 24 November, when Bernard Cadogan from the Southam Heritage Collection will be our Speaker

Thought for the month for October from Stephen Adams

Recently we were spending some time at a caravan rally, meeting with other Christians from various parts of the Midlands. One of the group was relating a story of when he was a child and got lost whilst on a visit to the seaside with his family. After wandering around for a while, his parents were very relieved to find him and he was very relieved to be found! But he recounted how he remembered hearing an onlooker in the crowd shouting out “he deserves a good hiding”.

It reminded us of one of the amazing stories that Jesus told. Jesus was a master story-teller and manages to capture so much in relatively few words. One day he was speaking to a crowd trying in various ways to get across just how extraordinary God’s love is.

The story, about a man with two sons, is known by many as the “Story of the Prodigal Son” and the focus is often on the son who left home, wasted his inheritance, and eventually came to his senses and went back to his family – “prodigal” means wasteful, reckless, dissolute, profligate. After his money ran out, this son ended up starving and looking after pigs – a total “loser”.

But running all through this story that Jesus told is an immensely strong undercurrent of love. In the culture of the time Jesus’s listeners would have understood it like this, that when the son asked for his inheritance he was basically saying “Dad I wish you were dead.” There would have been sharp intake of breath from the crowd. Such a son would have become a pariah, an outcast from the community. But it is clear that his father never stopped loving him because Jesus said when he finally made his way home again his father saw him when he was still at some distance away. To see him on that very day the father would have to have been looking out every day, watching and waiting and hoping that one day his son would return.

Jesus described the father running to meet him and wrapping his arms around him and kissing him. Running would have been considered most inappropriate in their society, and this son had come from the pigsty – the lowest of the lowest place for a Jew. Pigs were religiously “unclean” and not to be touched, anyone who had anything to do with pigs was also “unclean”. This young man would have also been filthy and smelly yet his father shows intense and unrestrained love! And the next thing that happens is that the father throws the party of all parties because as he says “this son of mine was dead and is alive again, he was lost and is found.”

And that was just an illustration, an attempt to convey some measure of God’s amazing, deep, unending and unchanging love for each one of us. No retribution, no repayment of the wasted inheritance, no recriminations, instead there is extraordinary and uninhibited love, total forgiveness and great celebration back home in the Father’s House.

St James Strollers

Our next “stroll” will be on **Sunday, 7th October 2018**, when we will go for a circuit of a little over three miles starting from the village of Marton and go through undulating countryside to the neighbouring village of Frankton.

So, can we please meet at 2pm at Wood Street car park, and, as we have before, if those who are able to will please come in cars, we can then organise transport for all to the start.

I hope you will be able to come. “Spike” Thorne – Southam 814468.

2Harvest Services on Sunday October 14th

Once again we are supporting the wonderful work of the Fosse Food Bank and Leamington Night Shelter by sending them the gifts brought to all of our harvest services.

Having consulted with one of the coordinators at both organisations, I have found that the following items will be especially useful to them at this time.

Small cartons of long-life milk
Small bottles of plain water
Tinned fruit, rice puddings and custard
Sweets and chocolate

Of course, any non-perishable food items and general household items will also be extremely useful and greatly welcomed. Please check that tinned and packet foods are within their use by dates.

Thank you for your generosity. Jenny Thorne

Dear Deanery friends

You are invited to the next of our Deanery evenings based on the three elements of the Diocesan Vision.

This evening will be focusing on **Transforming Communities**, which can go in a number of different directions.

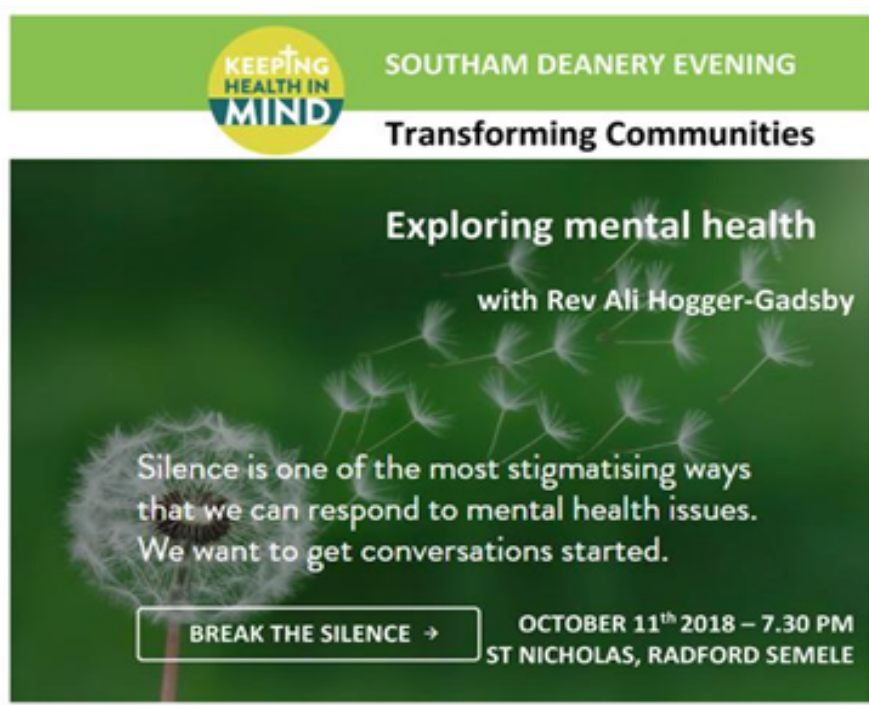
However, for this particular evening, we thought that the issue of mental health in its various shades was a significant feature of most of our churches and communities, and we need to be increasingly aware of how to support each other.

Rev Ali Hogger-Gadsby is coming to lead what I know will be an inspiring and helpful evening - and if you want to find out a little more about her, do visit her website www.keepinghealthinmind.org.uk

This will be particularly appropriate for any in our churches in leadership, pastoral and prayer teams, small groups, foodbank teams ... in fact anyone who has a heart for people ... so do please advertise this widely in your churches

Transforming Communities October 11th, 7.30 pm @ St Nicholas Radford Semele

Thank you once again for all your support. Rev Martin Green (Area Dean)



The Prayer Tree

*God
Answers
Prayers*



Flowers are now available to add to the prayer tree in church to thank God for answered prayers, perhaps a small step or complete answer so you might like to replace a 'leaf' prayer with a 'flower'; or add a flower for a personal prayer that has been answered.

Let us look with anticipation to the prayer tree in church and watch as it blooms as we see God at work!

You will also find some beautiful calligraphy hearts to hold while you pray, or to take away to carry in a pocket as an encouragement and reminder of the power of prayer and of God's love for you.

Prayer is at the heart of St James and I know that it's not always possible to give feedback on how our prayers are being answered, but they are! So please be encouraged and keep praying! With best wishes Vikki

Prayer Changes Things!

As a Church, we continue to pray for our community because God's desire is always to bless people. So each week we pray for God's blessing on the people of Southam, street by street.



What should we pray?

Pray BLESSINGS on your community,
BODY – health, protection, strength
LABOUR – work, reward, security
EMOTIONS – joy, peace, hope
SOCIAL – love, marriage, family, friends
SPIRIT – salvation, faith, grace

This week we pray especially for those who live or work in:-

Berry Lane, Kineton Road, Hurst Road, Tudor Lane, Beech Close,
Elm Close, Abbey Lane, Abbey Close, Old Road.

2018 Prayer for S† James

Heavenly Father, I do not know what 2018 might bring and I do not know if the road ahead will be easy or hard.

But today I want to offer myself to you again. I give you my time, my body, my gifts, my relationships, my life.

I give you my church and church family. Work in us and through us this year. In Jesus name. Amen.

*In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:6*



A BIG new job at Carriers of Hope

Thanks to the BIG Lottery's Reaching Communities' programme we are proud and happy to announce that today is the beginning of the recruitment process for the first of three posts in the Logistics Team at Carriers of Hope.

This person will lead on the following three areas of service delivery – the central office function, the warehouse and the Furniture Project. S/he will be a member of the Senior Leadership Team, managing the two other Reaching Communities' funded posts, the Warehouse Volunteer Coordinator and Furniture Project Volunteer Coordinator, as well as providing leadership and support to the office volunteers, maximising the benefits they gain from their volunteering experience.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: To support, co-ordinate and facilitate the efficient functioning, the day-to-day running, and the staff (paid and unpaid) involved in Carriers of Hope's central support functions in the office, the warehouse and the furniture project. Act as Data Controller for the projects ensuring the safe and compliant collection and storage of all data in accordance with GDPR requirements. Ensure that all necessary records are kept to meet the reporting requirements of our funders and the trustees.

We are looking for a Super Person who combines organisational and office skills - with People skills. If this sounds like you and you want to see the full job description and application form, please email Sue at sues@carriersofhope.org.uk. Closing Date: Wednesday 17th October.

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 14 th Oct.	8am	Holy Communion
Harvest Services	10am	Morning Worship with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 18 th Oct.	Church Closed	
Sunday 21 st Oct.	Church Closed	
Thursday 25 th Oct.	Church Closed	

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Revd. Vikki Bisiker (Priest in Charge)

07983 402614 email: vicarpad@gmail.com

For all enquiries please contact the Church Office or Churchwardens

St James Church Office

74D Coventry Street, Southam, CV47 0EA
01926 812413

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm (excl. Bank Holiday)

e-mail: southamchurch@yahoo.com

website: 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.

