



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

14th 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*

8am Holy Communion

10am Harvest and Renewal of Giving Service

6.30pm Evening Worship

Readings to be confirmed with Readers

Thursday 18th October No Service

Special Prayer (Collect)

God, our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives, that we may see
your goodness in the land of the living, and looking on your beauty may
be changed into the likeness of 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

Saturday 27th Oct. 8.30am Men's Breakfast at Ufton Village Hall



'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)

Church Closure & Services UPDATE

Due to the work being carried out on the south aisle, St James church will be closed from Monday 15th October until 26th October inclusive.

ANY help with:

the clearing of chairs and covering over equipment with dust sheets after the 10am Service on the 14th

Or

Tidying up and getting the church ready on Saturday 27th for the services on the 28th would be greatly appreciated! Time from 10.15am on Saturday 27th.

There will not be a Thursday HC on October 18th, but the Thursday 25th will be held at Tithe Lodge in the activity room (opposite library entrance).

Both the Congregational Church and the Community Church have extended a warm welcome to join either church on Sunday October 21st. Both start times are 10:30am so you even get a lie in!

Many thanks,

Vikki

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

‘DROWNING IN PLASTIC’

On Thursday 18th October at 7:30pm at The Bowling Green we’re going to begin the conversation of how through local impact we can have address the global problem of plastic pollution. Please do come along and we’ll see where the conversation takes us. It would be really helpful if you could let me know if you’re coming asap so that an appropriate area of the pub can be reserved. Many thanks, Vikki

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 Projects, 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 Ufton 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.

1 Harvest 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

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:-

Kestral Row, Kingfisher Drive, Mallard Close,
Swift Gardens, Heron Close.

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*

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 21 st Oct.	Church Closed	
Thursday 25 th Oct.	10am Service will be at Tithe Lodge in the Activity Room which is opposite the Library entrance.	
Sunday 28 th Oct.	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Morning Worship with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 1 st Nov.	10am	Holy Communion

Rev. 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

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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.

