



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

3rd March 2019

*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

Luke 9:28-36

Thursday 7th March 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect)

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives, set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory 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

Tuesday March 5th 2.00pm PCC Meeting in church office

Saturday March 9th 11am – 1pm Massive Messy Church at The Grange

Thursday 14th March 2.00pm Mothers Union Meeting in church



‘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

The Real Easter Egg offer: a choice of three types of fair trade chocolate Easter eggs, profits from which support charitable causes worldwide.

The Original Real Easter Egg is £3.99

Special Edition Egg £9.99

Dark chocolate Real Egg £5.50

Orders to be placed before 6 March please for free delivery, please sign up on sheet near main door. Payment upon delivery to Jan Ford (813373).

Thought for the month of March from Barry Parker Churchwarden

Lent is a special time in the Church's calendar that takes place each spring and this year starts on March 6th, Ash Wednesday. Lasting 40 days (not including Sundays) Lent is a time when Christians remember how Jesus spent 40 days and nights alone in the wilderness being tempted by the devil.

In the bible, there is abundant advice for what path in life will provide the most meaning and fulfilment. Path refers to the way we live and what we decide to do with our limited time on earth. So, during Lent Christians set aside time to think about how we are living our lives. We will ask for God's forgiveness for the times we mess up and for his help to live in the way that he wishes. We especially remember all that Jesus did for each of us when he died on the cross on the first Good Friday and how he overcame sin and death by rising from death on the first Easter Sunday. Many Christians will give up eating certain foods (fasting) or other luxuries, reminding us that Jesus did not eat for the forty days that he was in the wilderness. More recently some people prefer to take something on rather than give something up.

The day before Ash Wednesday is known as Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day!) and on that day those observing the fast would remove from their houses those items they were to forgo for the 40 days, including eggs, fats, milk and sugar. These ingredients easily combine to make pancake batter, hence why here in the United Kingdom Shrove Tuesday is now synonymous with the making, tossing and racing of pancakes.

But you do not need to be a Christian or religious to take time out during this time to reflect on your life because by so doing it will help you be a better person.

None of us are perfect and we've all hurt people in our lives. So Lent is a good time to say sorry, apologising to anyone you have wronged. Lent is also about forgiveness and we all need to forgive someone. That bitterness you hold in your heart for that person hurts no one but yourself!

Not everyone can give up something that they love. But if you really want to see exactly what you're made of, I challenge you to give up one luxury. Just one.... coffee, Facebook, cakes, meat, alcohol, tobacco - the choice is yours. It's not only a good way to kick a potentially bad habit but it shows you just how strong you really are. Why not donate the money you save to charity? Alternatively, or even in addition to giving something up why not take something on. This could range from taking more care of yourself (for instance by taking exercise), to making sure that you do something more profitable one night of the week than watching TV.

You might even consider helping out as a volunteer somewhere or deciding to visit someone who is lonely or not well.

No matter what you believe, Lent is a season for us all. So let this be a time of reflection, choosing a new direction, giving up what you have been and reshaping your future.

FANCY SOME READING OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS?

I'm currently juggling a few books as each book is hard to put down, so I thought that I'd recommend two of my favourites so far. You may wish to read them over the next few weeks of Lent leading up to Easter. Both books are accessible as far as material goes, but that doesn't mean to say that the writings won't challenge you too!

The Merciful Humility of God by Jane Williams

The 2019 Lent book.

The write up blurb says...

As we follow this book through Lent and through the Biblical narrative what begins to emerge is that God's merciful humility is the source of life. The chapters include 'Humble Beginnings'; 'How to win friends and influence nobody'; 'Reigning from a tree' and 'Risen and ascended into humility'.

Jane was one of my lecturers at St Mellitus college and was also my personal formation tutor and I cannot rate her highly enough! She writes with beautiful description and is not 'heavy' when it comes to theology, but will still prompt you to think and be challenged but in a gentle thought provoking way.

Dust that Dreams of Glory by Michael Mayne

The back cover says...

In these previously unpublished writings, Michael Mayne reflects on Lent and Holy Week. Lent, he finds, is not a bleak, forbidding time, but a positive and optimistic opportunity for remembering who we are.

Michael Mayne remains one of the Church of England's most gifted and influential voices a decade after his death. Previously Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC, he served as Dean of Westminster Abbey until his retirement.

Dust that Dreams of Glory includes reflections for Good Friday and on the seven last words of Christ, which will be welcomed as a profoundly rich and inspiring resource for worship and personal devotion during Holy Week.

I've found such treasure in this book and each 'chapter' is fairly short and stands on its own, so ideal to read with morning coffee!

Enjoy



Massive Messy Church

Saturday, March 9th 2019
The Grange, Southam
11.00am – 1.00pm

Ideal for Young families with Picnic lunch provided.

Full details from Rev Gillian Roberts
Tel: 01926 815831 Email: gillian@thebridgesgroup.org.uk

Easter Flowers Coffee Morning

I will be holding a coffee morning and bring & buy on Wednesday March 20th
10am – 12noon to raise funds for Lilies to decorate the church for Easter.
Donations of cakes or raffle prizes would be very welcome.
Do come and join us for a cuppa and a chat. I look forward to seeing you all.
Jacky, Beech Loft, 5 Warwick Road, Southam 813652

Men's Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 23 March in the Village Hall Ufton

We shall be delighted to welcome as our Speaker Louise Jelley, Fundraising Officer of Warwickshire Vision Support. Formerly known as Warwickshire Association for the Blind, the Warwick-based charity has provided support to visually impaired people for more than a century.

We are always warning that places are allocated on a strict 'first come, first served' basis, but that proved to be true for our February event when attendance reached our 30 maximum AND we had a waiting list.....

So, to enjoy Chef Roger's famous "Full English for a fiver". Do please get in early and book now with Barry on either 01926 811254
or champagnebuff@gmail.com

"The Word is very near you" (Deut. 30.14)

But are you listening? Today, millions upon millions of words are pouring out every day. Like Noah's Flood they cover the whole earth. Too often, they drown out the Word of God. Our need for God's living creating Word has never been greater. You are invited to make a space in your life to listen deeply to the Word of salvation which is "spirit and life."

Book now to reserve a place for the
QUIET DAY organised by **The Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer** at
The House of Bread, The Mill, Shipston on Stour, CV36 5AF

MONDAY 25th MARCH 2019 9.30 to 3.15

For information and booking please contact the
West Midlands FCP Quiet Day Co-ordinator:- Robert Kyte
3 Windmill Heights, North Leigh, Witney, Oxfordshire OX29 6ZD
Phone: 01993-880368 Email: kyterobert@gmail.com
Early booking is essential as places are limited.

Archdeacon Morris to leave Coventry

It has been announced that Archdeacon Morris is to become the House-for-Duty, Priest-in-Charge of St Patrick's, Patterdale - a small village in the heart of the Lake District, in the Diocese of Carlisle. The village has a resident population of about 400 people, but has a huge tourist footfall, as it lies at the foot of Helvellyn. The Mountain Rescue Team is a short walk from the vicarage – we hope Morris may join the team rather than need to call for its services!



Morris has been associated with the Diocese for 33 years (25 years ordained). He served 5 years as a lay person in St Paul's Leamington, 3 years ordination training, 4 years as a curate at St Mark's Leamington, 13 years as vicar of St Mary's Leamington, and nearly 9 years as Archdeacon Missioner.

St James Strollers

Our next "stroll" will be on **Sunday, 3rd March 2019**, when we intend to follow a route straddling the Warwicks/Northants border which will be a little over four miles - starting from the village of Sawbridge.

Therefore, as we need to travel to the start point, can those who are able to please come in cars and we'll all meet at 2pm at Wood Street car park, when we can arrange transport for everyone. We hope to be back by about 5.00 pm. I hope you will be able to come. "Spike" Thorne – Southam 814468.

Carriers of Hope - some years ago, parishes in the Coventry Diocese were invited to volunteer one week each year as their **annual allocated date** to provide to the charity supplies of household goods, groceries, toiletries, baby goods, in fact almost anything from which a needy family could benefit. We volunteered to cover the last week in March, so on Tuesday 26th I'm hoping to take a car load of full carrier bags to their meeting place in Coventry.

Any donations of items listed above will be most welcome and very gratefully received. Please bring them to church and leave them in the area near the bookcase on right of the door, or deliver them to me at 10 Gorse Lea, or contact me to collect (813373). Many thanks for all the support you have given to this charity over the past ten years, and in anticipation for future goodies! Jan Ford

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:-

The Rest of Mayfield Road (Flats) Linley Road, Springfield Grove

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 10 th March	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Morning Worship with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Service
Thursday 14 th Mar.	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 17 th March	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday 21 st Mar.	10am	Holy Communion

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.