



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

17th 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 13:31-35

Thursday 21st March 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect) The Second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's suffering, and by following in his Way may we come to share in his glory; through 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 23rd March 8.30am Men's Breakfast 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)

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

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

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.

2St. James' Southam Electoral Roll

The new Roll for 2019 is posted on the church notice board.

Please feel free to check that your entry is accurate.

Margo Grant Electoral Roll Officer

3Sidespersons, Readers and Intercessors

At the upcoming APCM on 7 April 2019 we will be formally appointing/reappointing our sidespeople. The current list is pinned to the noticeboard as you come into church and includes those willing to be readers and lead our prayers for each of our Sunday services. We continue to be grateful to those who are on the list but it would be great if we can add to our number. So, if you think this might be an area of church life you might like to get involved with but are not exactly sure of what is required please speak to Vikki, Stephen or Barry.

3Southam Deanery Mission Team are pleased to announce...

AN INSPIRATIONAL AND ENTERTAINING EVENING OF GOSPEL, ROCK & BLUES

With Bryn Haworth on Saturday April 6th 7:30pm

St Nicholas Church, Radford Semele. Bar available

Tickets £6 each from Rev Martin Green 01926 613466 or See Vikki

1FANCY 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

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.

A Lent Retreat - Journey to the Cross

“When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.” Luke 9:51

Join us as we take a fresh look at Holy Week and Jesus’ walk to the cross

All Welcome

Wednesday 27th March 9.30am – 4pm.

St Lawrence Church Napton on the Hill CV47 8FL

£10. Breakfast, lunch and refreshments provided.

More info & booking at: servingchrist.org.uk/events

The Windmill Singers present

Music for a Palm Sunday Evening

at St Mary’s Church, Priors Hardwick Sunday 14th April 7.00pm

featuring

Masciangelo’s setting of Psalm 50 *Miserere mei Deus*

Albinoni’s *Adagio* Maunder’s *Olivet to Calvary*

Retiring Collection in Aid of Church Funds

CARRIERS of HOPE at the 10am Morning Worship Service on March 24th

I'm delighted that the founder of Carriers of Hope, Sue Sampson, is coming to speak at the 10am service on March 24th. At St James', we have supported this charity for a number of years.

Carriers of Hope started in May 2009 when it was noticed that there were a number of families in the Coventry area who were experiencing extreme poverty and lacking the most basic personal and household facilities. Most of these were asylum seekers, refugees or recently arrived Eastern European migrants (primarily Roma people from Romania).

The charity started by preparing and handing out carrier bags of 'useful things' and also encouraging friends and supporters, mainly from the local churches, to join in and help provide them. These carrier bags gave the name to Carriers of Hope.

The average weekly attendance at Circle of Friends has continued to increase with new families coming every week. It averages 130 per week. We don't advertise our services, people hear about us by word of mouth and just come. At this point over 1500 families have registered with our service. Since Carriers of Hope was established we have worked with families from over 60 different countries, with the majority of new families coming from Romania.

Please do invite friends to come and hear about this amazing work. We will take a financial offering to give to the charity on the Sunday and please see Jan Ford's note in the bulletin regarding donation and collection of items for Carriers. Many thanks, Vikki

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:-

Ascote Way Hodnell Drive, Stoneton Close, Welsh Road East.

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 24 th March	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Morning Worship with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 28 th Mar.	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 31 st March	10am	Mothering Sunday – Breakfast Church
Thursday 4 th April	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 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.