



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

24th 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*

8am Holy Communion

10am Morning Worship with children's group

6.30pm Evening Worship

Luke 13:1-9; Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-9.

Thursday 28th March 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect) The Third Sunday of Lent

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised 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

Sunday 7th April APCM Meeting after 10am service



'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

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.

LET'S HAVE BREAKFAST!

On Mothering Sunday, March 31st, at 10am, why not come and have breakfast with the family of St James'. Sadly we can't do the whole bacon and eggs malarkey, but we do a great continental style breakfast with fresh coffee, tea or juice! It's a great way to get to know others and enjoy a croissant or two. Afterwards, there'll be a short family friendly service. No charge but donations towards costs gratefully received.

Don't forget that the clocks go forward the night before!

St. 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

Annual Church Meetings 7 April 2019

The annual meeting to elect our two churchwardens will take place on Sunday 7 April 2019 at 11.20am, immediately followed by the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Please put this date in your diary. Formal notices of the meetings will be on display.

The APCM is an opportunity to consider and raise any questions you may have with regard to the various reports covering the activities of the church, including the church finances and copies of the reports are available on the round table at the back of church. Please make sure you take a copy, ready for the meetings.

The PCC is made up of elected church members and they are the trustees of the church, responsible for much of the church's life and direction. At the APCM we will be electing three members as we have three members whose term of office is coming to an end.

So, as we approach the APCM please prayerfully consider who in the church family might have the gifts to serve as our church wardens or become members of the PCC and encourage them to prayerfully consider standing. Nomination forms for the various posts will be on the round table by the door as you come into church. The forms explain who is qualified to stand but if you want any further information about what is involved in the roles please speak to either Vikki, Stephen or Barry.

3 Sidespersons, 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.

2 Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

To all who supported the Mothers' Union raffle in Tythe Lodge on Tuesday 19th March. We had some lovely prizes and we raised £128.00 which will go towards the invaluable work of the Mothers' Union.

Thank you again your support is always appreciated. Rose.

Southam 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

St James Strollers

Our next "stroll" will be on **Sunday, 7th April 2019**, when we intend to follow a pleasant route mainly through pasture land of a little over five and a half miles starting from Kenilworth Castle.

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 soon after 6.00 pm.

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

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

The Mothers of Kishermoruak-evidence of sustainability even though the project is completed

John & Mary have received this encouraging news which they wish to share with friends at St James who know of their work in Kenya with the charity Bees Abroad.

An American lady working nearby developing a girls school and on a doctoral thesis about how small businesses can create cultural change has written the following:-

I want to encourage you in your work because you all at Bees Abroad are doing, is even greater than helping people help themselves economically. Regarding the economic and practical results, one woman told me she liked the beekeeping group because now "we don't lack for salt." As an American, that blew me away. I can't imagine not being able to purchase salt. The women purchased new clothes for themselves and they were so excited about this. The ladies say the products themselves have also changed their lives in a positive direction. Some of the money earned from the group goes towards educating girls, another wonderful benefit.

The part more important than economics is that this project is changing the culture. As I am sure you are aware, Maasai women and girls live under great oppression, and the Maasai as a whole are treated as second-class citizens in the nation of Kenya. The women in the beekeeping project have gained confidence in themselves. In the group environment, women share ideas and support each other. Some women were not educating their children, boys or girls. However, after spending time in the group, they

put their kids into school. They are proud that, because of their own efforts, they now have cream for their skin. The men in the community have seen that women can do a job well that men used to do. It is also glaringly apparent, that with the training Bees Abroad provided, the women are doing a far better job than the men did previously. This is because it is not on my honey but they are producing the soap and lotion. The women have gained respect from their husbands. I have no proof of this, but common sense leads us to hypothesize that if women's capacity is noted in the beekeeping area, perhaps at least some people will question their beliefs about women's capacity in other areas.

Carriers of Hope Coventry needs 3 very special volunteers to help in these key areas

Some news! We have recently changed our status and Charity Commission registration number. We are no longer a Charitable Trust, we are now a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation), with a Board of Directors, instead of Board of Trustees. Our new registration number is **1180105**.

We made this change for two reasons:

1. To offer more protection to the Directors.
2. To enable us to start to look at trading activities, to generate income, with a view to a sustainable future.

All of this has led the Board to consider what we need to put in place to be more robust on the business side. So.....we are looking for 3 key people:

1. Someone to help us by clerking the meetings of our Board of Directors (these meet every two months on a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon, from 12.30 to 4.30pm); and our Strategic Development Group which meets every month on a mutually agreed afternoon (occasionally we have longer sessions for this group to get to grips with business items). We are hoping to find someone who's really interested in the work of Carriers of Hope Coventry and who may have experience of clerking School Governors' meetings, or Parish Council meetings, or Boards of Trustees.

2. Secondly, we are looking for a finance officer, available to give around 8 hours a week. We have come up with a list of the various weekly tasks that this person could free up Sue from doing, to enable her to focus on helping in other development areas.

3. Admin support to Sue. Sue is also hoping to find someone to help her with some of the necessary clerical tasks (maybe 3 or 4 hours per week).

This time last year we had 4 paid staff. Now we have 9, all paid for by external funding grants. We continue to grow....as do the number of families we're supporting, and our business support arrangements need to adapt, to cope with all the changes.

if any of this sounds like you. PLEASE get in touch with Sue on sues@carriersofhope.org.uk.

Thank you very much.

Sue Sampson

Carriers of Hope Coventry CIO Number 1180105

c/o 55 Garth Crescent Coventry CV3 2PP 024 7665 9393

www.carriersofhope.org.uk

www.facebook.com/Carriers-of-Hope-Coventry-330328640393060/

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:-

Priors Meadow, Radbourne Close, Watergall Close, Welsh Road East.

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 31 st March	10am	Mothering Sunday – Breakfast Church
Thursday 4 th April	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th April	10am	Holy Communion with children's group
Thursday 11 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.