



# 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

**7<sup>th</sup> July 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**

**Pharisee and Tax Collector  
Luke 18:9-14**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 10am Holy Communion**

**Special Prayer (Collect)      The Third Sunday after Trinity**

God our Saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power and help us to hold fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. ***Amen.***

### **Services at St James Church**

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion weekly

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
with the whole church family coming together for worship and Holy  
Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

Sunday 6.30pm Evening Worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

## ***Dates for your Diary***

Every Friday Morning 9.30am – 10.30am Prayer Meeting in church

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm Deanery Vision Evening Harbury Village Club

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2.00pm Mothers Union at Rose Evans

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 11am – 5pm Southam Open Gardens – Church open

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 11am – 5pm Southam Open Gardens – Church open

**Please Note:** Church Office opening times 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> July as follows:

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 9am – 11am Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July Normal 9am -1pm

Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Normal 9am -1pm,

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> **Closed**, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 9am – 11am

**Bulletin for 21<sup>st</sup> July** – any information required for this bulletin must be received in the office by 11.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July



**‘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.

## **Summer Fete**

Our Summer Fete held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June raised £726.35 – a magnificent result. Very many thanks to everyone who helped before, during and after the fete and a big thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event.

Forward date for your diary: **Christmas Fayre - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

## **Thought for the month of July from Stephen Adams Churchwarden**

Recently at St James we have been thinking about the various statements that Jesus spoke out while dying on the cross. The historian Luke when describing the events of the crucifixion recorded Jesus as saying, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

What was it that they were they doing? They were crucifying Jesus. He was about to die.

Why were they doing that? There were various groups with differing reasons and motivations.

The Romans saw Jesus as a threat to their peace and security. The political activists were angry that Jesus had not led a popular uprising against the Roman occupation. The Jewish leaders viewed Jesus as a dangerous troublemaker who broke their rules and turned society upside down. The rich opposed him because he upset the status quo by supporting the poor and marginalised. The priests and the religious leaders hated him because he claimed to be God, did miracles and healed people and that seriously threatened their status and power. Whatever their reasons for wanting him dead and out of the way, did anyone wonder how this man would react in his final hour?

The man who had said “Love your enemies” and “pray for those who persecute you” - how would he really respond to direct cruelty and personal pain? Would he be consistent to his own teaching when he himself was in excruciating agony?

Jesus proved to be totally consistent, his integrity was whole and complete. Even as he died he demonstrated the lifestyle of the kingdom, the central theme of his teaching and many of his parables **forgiveness**.

Jesus didn't rage or even hint at hitting back. He forgave and goes on forgiving. As he hung, nailed and alone on the cross, that awful instrument of torture and execution, he cried out “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing”

What they failed to realise but what Jesus understood was that every act of cruelty, every hurt inflicted, every inhumanity, damages not just the recipient but also the perpetrator, adding more toxins to the poison in the human system. And forgiveness is the only antidote, the only means of healing that damage and extracting the poison.

Jesus knew that the old rules of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, just don't work. Revenge, retaliation and the continuing cycle of pain and hurt can only be broken by the overwhelming power of forgiveness.

In the classic film "Ben Hur", Charlton Heston as Judah Ben Hur is seeking revenge against those who have caused him and his family great hurt and pain but after seeing Jesus being crucified on the cross he declares "that man took the sword right out of my hand".

As forgiveness is sown, it acts like a seed, and amazingly it produces a harvest of love. The act of forgiveness allows the power of the kingdom of God to enter the situation and the result is an overflowing of God's love. The chains of bitterness and resentment can only be broken by forgiveness.

Human love is usually restricted to our friends and those we like, and yes we may also feel concern for those in need, but to love those who have hurt us, to love those who make fun of us, to love those who deliberately inflict pain - that love is God's love - the love that we see at work on the cross. Will we chose to share in that love which can conquer the world? We recognise that it wasn't just the Romans and the religious leaders who put Jesus on the cross. It was for every single one of us that Jesus cried out "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

And Father God has forgiven us. Will we chose to receive that forgiveness? And in turn will we chose to forgive others and find ourselves released from bitterness or resentment?

## **Southam Deanery Vision Evenings Making New Disciples**

**"The Gospel in Chairs" A presentation by Brad Jerzak**

**Harbury Village Club Tuesday July 9<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm**

This is billed as a film night, because we shall be watching this inspiring and thought-provoking presentation on screen – with a chance to discuss together afterwards. Brad Jersak lives in Abbotsford, BC, Canada, with his wife, Eden, and their three sons. They serve in a vigorous church called Fresh Wind Christian Fellowship, which focuses on people with disabilities, children, "prodigals," and the poor. Brad is a member of the Eastern Orthodox Church and is deeply contemplative

**All welcome – drinks available at the club bar**

## **Men's Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 27 July in the Ufton Village Hall 8.30am**

We shall be delighted to welcome as our Speaker Sue Sampson from Carriers of Hope. The charity started in May 2009 when it was noticed that there were a number of asylum seekers, refugees and Eastern European migrants living in the Coventry area who were experiencing extreme poverty and lacking the most basic personal and household facilities.

Initially carrier bags of “useful things” were handed out, whilst encouraging friends and supporters, mainly from local churches, to join in and help to provide them; it was those carrier bags that provided the name ***Carriers of Hope***. This was quickly followed by an open morning in a church hall which in turn led by June 2012 to the establishment of a permanent site at Hillfields Church, together with a warehouse storing equipment and furniture.

Sue has an interesting tale to tell; average attendance is now 130 at their Tuesday Drop-In, Circle of Friends, 1,500 families have registered for their service and they have worked with families from over 60 different countries.

They don't advertise their service; people hear about it by word of mouth – something you might say we share with Chef Roger's famous “Full English for a fiver”. If you'd like to join us please get in early and book now with Barry on either 01926 811254 or [champagnebuff@gmail.com](mailto:champagnebuff@gmail.com)

### **St James Strollers**

Our next “stroll” will be on **Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2019**, when we intend to walk in three different counties – but all within a total distance of a little over six miles – starting from the village of Little Compton in the deep south of Warwickshire and taking in some of the lovely rolling countryside at the edge of the Cotswolds.

Once again we need to travel to the start point, so, 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 in Southam by about 6.30 pm.

I hope you will be able to come.

“Spike” Thorne – Southam 814468.

## Carriers of Hope

### What's happening over the next 4 weeks?

It's that time of year again! In the next four weeks we will be giving £15 to each of the children who are starting a new school in September, to buy a school jumper and other uniform items (we expect there will be 200 of them); and we will be thanking our very special client volunteers by arranging a family trip to the seaside. If you would like to help with either of these, please get in touch for payment details.

And, on Saturday 29th June, we have our Celebration of 10 years of being carriers of hope, together. Thank you for helping us to carry hope to so many families over the past 10 years. We couldn't do it without you

### **Sue Sampson**

**on behalf of Carriers of Hope, Coventry**

**Office address: Unit 2C Swallowgate Business Park, Holbrook Lane, CV6 4BL**

**Warehouse address: Unit 4B Lythalls Lane Industrial Estate, CV6 6FP**

**Phone: 024 7665 9393**

[www.carriersofhope.org.uk](http://www.carriersofhope.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/Carriers-of-Hope-Coventry-330328640393060/](https://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:-

Daventry Street, High Street, Our Lady & St Wulstan Roman Catholic Church, The Cloisters, Wood Street Congregational Church.

### **Upcoming Services at St James**

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Morning Worship with children's group & Baptism
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	Holy Communion

**Rev. Vikki Bisiker (Priest in Charge)**

07983 402614

email: [vicarpad@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:southamchurch@yahoo.com)

website: [www.stjames-southam.co.uk](http://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.*