



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

18th August 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

3pm St James Church Picnic in the Park

A little bit of yeast

Matthew 13:33-35.

Thursday 22nd August 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect) The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy,
strong and faithful for your glory's sake 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

During August there will be no 9.30 am prayer meeting. It will recommence on Friday September 6th

Sunday 18th Aug. 3.00pm Church Picnic in the Park

Please Note:

The Church Office will be closed on Monday 26th August and reopen Tuesday 27th August at 9.00am



'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 August from Rev. Vikki Bisiker

Welcome!

One of the privileges of being a priest is being able to welcome babies, children and adults into the church family through Baptism (also called Christenings within the Anglican church). Generally with the warmer weather of summer months, the church becomes busy celebrating with families making their Baptism promises. This year, I've also had the privilege of helping both the Reception class of Southam St James CofE Academy and years 3/4 from Southam Primary with their RE curriculum specifically in the area of Baptism. (I'm also looking forward to another wedding re-enactment for Southam Primary's Reception class, but that's a story for another article!)

It was great fun to welcome the children into St James' church, help them learn about baptism and for them to explore the church building too. Reception class took part in a baptism re-enactment and celebrated with juice and biscuits afterwards. Years 3/4 came ready with a whole host of questions to ask me about baptism.....they certainly kept me on my toes and gave me a real grilling about what it all meant, the symbolism of the water and the lit candle, as well as asking questions like "Who's been the oldest person you've baptised?" and "What presents do you get when you're baptised?"!!! In the end we ran out of time for questions and they still had more!

The teachers had done a fantastic job of making this area of the curriculum engaging, informative and fun. All of the children had been asked to bring photos or gifts or mementos into school of either their baptism or maybe of a family member's baptism. So a big SHOUT OUT to those teachers doing an incredible job of making learning fun!

Whatever faith you are and whether that is a strong faith or no faith at all or anything in between, I feel that being welcome and belonging is such a deep part of what it is to be human. As Christians, through baptism, we are showing that we want to be part of, to belong to God's family. Being part of that family, we then try and live in the best way that we can as we follow Jesus together. That is what Church is. It's the family of God. It's not perfect and yes we all make mistakes and unwise decisions from time to time, we are only human! But from my experience God is a God of Love, Forgiveness and Grace and that's the journey that we are on too with each other and with those around us...our family, our neighbours, our work colleagues, our friends.....

"How does that look in practice?" is a question I'm often asked. Well here's a challenge for you....

The Church of England is encouraging individual Christians and churches to sign up to a voluntary pledge to help make social media and the web more widely positive places for conversations to happen. The comments that we make online can reach thousands and even millions of people across the globe. That includes negative as well as positive comments! I think we've all seen online or heard conversations in person turn toxic within a few comments. So the challenge is to be loving and generous online as well as face to face. Let's see if we can each play our part to make a difference to those around us and our amazing community. (If you'd like to sign up to the pledge then search online for 'Church of England Digital Charter' or if you're on Facebook then you could check our St James Southam Facebook page.)

Blessings, Vikki

“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 21st OCTOBER 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.

2 Growing Greener @ St James' Southam

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to support our crisp packet and bread bag recycling. Quick update – so far, I have given 3 black sacks full of crisp packets to my friend Val to be sent off to be made into plastic pellets. Mini Cheddars cannot be recycled, only crisp packets with the silver lining that 'pops out when scrunched' can be. Cup a Soup does not – this means it has a small amount of metal inside the packaging.

As it's the Summer Holidays if you are out and about in Southam and need to refill your water bottles up the following places have signed up for you to do so:

The Graham Adams Centre Fitness Worx Southam
Mrs Smiths' Hair Salon Tithe Lodge Café

This is hopefully just the start of a developing list. For those who are Tech Savvy there is an app you can download on your phone for free called Refill. The app lets you see where you can refill your water bottles and also allows you to track how many times you refill and therefore how many bottles and carbon you have saved. This is a UK wide app so also good for when you are on holiday!

FACT - If just 1 in 10 of Brits refilled once a week, we'd have 340 MILLION less plastic bottles a year in circulation!



I'm now talking with others about how we can recycle more in and around Southam. Lots of fantastic ideas coming from people with a passion to make a difference – watch this space!

Find us on Facebook for more top tips and let's begin making a difference. Until next time, Andrea



Eat Cake

A coffee morning and raffle to raise funds for the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Saturday September 21st from 10.30am at St James Church.

If anyone would like to bake or donate, please speak to Vikki

Keys To Unlock The Bible

A new group starting on Wednesday September 11th at 7.30.

Initially 6 taster sessions.

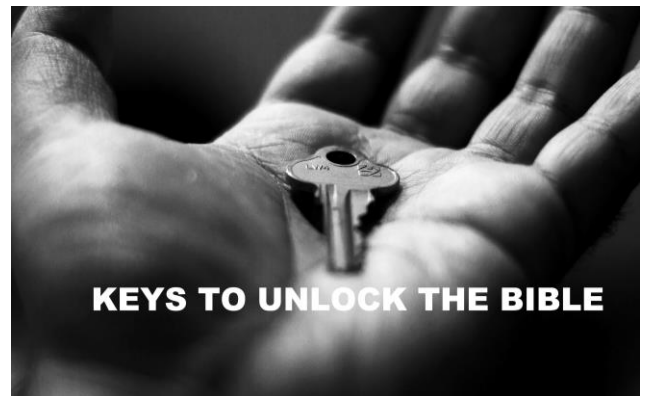
We will journey through scripture together to become familiar with the Bible. Looking at lines and words that have passed into use today. For example 'at their wits end' and 'scapegoat'.

If you would like to join us for the ride to get a

bird's eye view of God's big story and how Jesus is at the centre of it all please have a chat with Bill King, Margo Grant or Jill & Barry Parker.

Email: jillep101s@icloud.com

mobile: 07562724278



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:-

Horsewell, Little Park, Market Hill, Park Fields, Park Lane, St James Church.

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 25 th Aug.	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Morning Worship with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 29 th Aug	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 1 st Sept.	10am	Holy Communion with children's group
Thursday 5 th Sept.	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 811

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.