



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

27th October 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

1 Peter 2:1-10; Isaiah 28:16-19a; Psalm 118.

Thursday 31st October 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect) The Last Sunday After Trinity

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that
trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing
joy of 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

Verses from Psalm 33, for the month of October.....

“The Lord foils the plans of the nations, He thwarts the purposes of the people. But the plans of the Lord stand firm for ever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.....”

Dates for your Diary

Every Friday Morning 9.30am – 10.30am prayer 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.

Thought for the month of October from Barry Parker – Churchwarden

The last are first and the first are last

Over the past few months, as a church family we have been looking at the parables of Jesus.

What are parables? Parables are stories about everyday occurrences used to illustrate a deeper, valuable moral lesson. The stories are told at two levels, to those who wanted to know more about the kingdom of God and those who were happy to listen to what they perceived to be just stories, dismissing them as no more than that. Jesus knew the power and effect that his stories would have, using them to both confront and challenge.

Many of Jesus's parables describe the kinds of things that would have been familiar to his listeners, for instance: what happened after a roadside mugging? "The parable of the good Samaritan", why did a shepherd leave his flock of 99 sheep to search for one that had wandered away? "The parable of the lost sheep" or what happened after one of two brothers demanded his inheritance, left home and squandered it before returning? "The parable of the prodigal son". Whilst these stories were told over 2,000 years ago they are as relevant today as they were then.

One parable I found particularly challenging was "The parable of the workers in the vineyard"

This is the story about a vineyard owner who offers work at dawn to a group of men, agreeing with them how much they would be paid. He makes several trips back to the market place throughout the day to hire more men each time agreeing to do right by them. The last group of men to join the team are hired an hour before work finishes. At the end of the day the first men to be hired, who are the last to be paid, realised that everyone has been paid the same. As you might expect, they felt they had been hard done by.

Christian author Jerry Bridges tells of how he would tell this story to business leaders and ask them if the vineyard owner was being fair. Invariably they would say no, that's not how we do things, we instinctively think we should treat people fairly. A fair day's work deserves a fair day's pay – doesn't it?

But Jesus is not just using this parable to teach us about economic policy or employment practices but about God's generous grace. The vineyard owner isn't being unfair to those hired first as they have been paid exactly what they signed up for. You could argue that he is being unfair to those hired last - extravagantly, abundantly and generously unfair.

And this is the point Jesus is making. Jesus says that God is like the vineyard owner. He is not a hard taskmaster or someone looking over our shoulders marking us down on everything we do wrong. God loves to give good gifts to those who simply do not deserve them.

Gods' kingdom is upside down, where the last are first, and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all.

St James Strollers

We will meet again on **Sunday, 3rd November 2019**, and travel to the village of Braunston and the start of a "stroll" of about five miles on footpaths, quiet country roads and canal towpaths.

As we will need to travel to the start point, can those who are able to please come in cars and we'll meet at 2pm at Wood Street car park, when we can arrange transport for everyone.

We hope to be back in Southam soon after 5.00 pm.

I hope you will be able to come.

"Spike" Thorne – Southam 814468.

From John and Mary Home

A Church Warden from St Cuthbert's Church in Portsmouth. came across a leaflet about the work we did in Laikipia for Bees Abroad and wrote to the administrator that they decided the charity would be something different to collect for their harvest service on Sept 22nd.

We were delighted and suggested that we could put it towards the work of the Mothers Union at St Andrews Church in Nanyuki as we knew some members were beekeepers. The following is a report from our team in Kenya about the potential of a project.

Attachments area

**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA (ACK) ST. ANDREWS MOTHERS UNION
INTRODUCTION**

ACK St. Andrews Church is in Nanyuki town with membership communicants living within the town, most of the church members employed and others involved in business for their livelihood.

The Mothers Union of the Anglican Church of Kenya St. Andrews Nanyuki parish is in Nanyuki town, Nanyuki Sub County, in Laikipia County. It is mainly a ladies fellowship in the Church that has been actively involved in Anglican Church activities including evangelism, mentorship to motherhood and also in Church development projects.

Besides being actively involved in church activities, the mothers union has a welfare department that aims at supporting each member of the group. The welfare was started in 2009 with 10 mothers, today it has grown to 24 active and committed members undertaking group activities.

To join the group one has to be an enrolled member of the Mothers Union. The group members meet once a month at member's home to fellowship with the family, make monthly contributions which some amount is given to the host member and some put group savings also discuss the development the group.

Achievements

- The group has been able to visit every member's home identifying member's needs. The mothers realized that most of the time spent every day by the members is to bring food home and for that reason they initiated support for food budget to one member every month through their monthly contribution.
- Through monthly contribution the group have been able to make savings of Ksh. 500 x 24people x 12months = Ksh. 144,000. Through savings members are able to access fund to boost individual income activities at small interest.
- The group has been able to enrol more members into the mothers' union.
- The members of the mothers union are supporting each other on social wellbeing, in case of sickness, death, in times of happiness like weddings, newborn etc.
- The members of the mothers union have been able to raise fund and purchased a min-bus which is given out for hire as an income activity to support mothers' union projects in the church.
- Together they contribute to supporting church project eg. building of the church latrine which is now complete, support in building a house for the vicar in charge.

Future plans

- Members of the mothers union are saving together to start a kitchen garden project for every member.
- Saving together to support each member start a poultry keeping or dairy goat keeping for income and improve the nutrition of the families.
- Planning to source for the fund and their contribution to purchase a tent and chairs for hire to bring some income to the group.
- The members of the mothers union are planning for a long term project to purchase a group land through savings from their contributions, savings from their income generating activities, fundraising and through acquiring a loan from the bank. (This proposed land, they plan to set for some income project including beekeeping activities for the mother union).

Beekeeping activities

The union has seven members involved in beekeeping activities taking as a secondary source of income. This is not done as a group but as an individual project. Among the six involved in beekeeping, some are supporting the family project where the husband is involved in hives making, beekeeping and the wives engaged on value-added processing and packing honey in jars others buy semi refined honey, pack and sell some profit.

Key Challenges

- No enough space for beekeeping activities
- Bees phobia to most
- No skills to start beekeeping
- No skill in value addition
- Attitude and social believes in beekeeping (as men activities)
- Lack of beekeeping equipment including protective gears
- Inadequate support for beekeeping from county extension actors
- Lack of market outlet selling as an individual

Recommendations

The focus should be on enhancing production for those who have hives and making of value-added products for those who do not have a place for keeping hives

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.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO CARRIERS OF HOPE

You can make Christmas Special



Christmas Party in a Bag

Would you like to join us in doing something special to let Coventry's Asylum Seekers, Refugee and Migrant families know people really do care about their plight?

We are looking to give everything needed for a special Christmas dinner to 300 families. Can you help?

The bags, which cost us £25 each to make, include mince pies, tin of biscuits, a tub of chocolates, Christmas cake and a £10 voucher for a supermarket. Can you offer to make 1 or more bags this year; or to donate £25 so we can make one on your behalf?

NOTE: We are putting together, collectively as a church, monies and goods to make up Christmas Party Bags so if you cannot afford to fill a whole bag for £25 we will put all the contributions together to make up the bags.

Please put your donation in an envelope marked "Carriers of Hope" and leave it on the table at the rear of the church by 24th November.

Thank you.



If you are able to help one of our families to have a special Christmas we (and they) would be VERY Grateful, Thank you very much. Sue Sampson.

Upcoming Services at St James

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|--------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday 3 rd Nov. | 10am | Holy Communion with children's group |
| Thursday 7 th Nov. | 10am | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 10 th Nov. | 10.45am | Remembrance Service |
| | 6.30pm | Evening Worship |
| Thursday 14 th Nov. | 10am | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 17 th Nov. | 10am | Holy Communion with children's group |
| Thursday 21 st Nov. | 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.