



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

23rd February 2020

*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

Abundance: Have I missed out?

John 2:9-11

Thursday 27th February 10am Holy Communion

Special Prayer (Collect) The Sunday next before Lent

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory 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
Wednesday 26th Feb 7pm Ash Wednesday service in church
Saturday 29th Feb 8.30am Men's Breakfast at Ufton Village Hall
Friday 6th March 2pm Women's World Day of Prayer at St Wulstan 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.

Cheques made payable to St James Church

Due to changes in processing cheques at our bank please ensure that any cheques are made payable to **St James Church PCC.**

Many thanks. Ruth Tresidder, Treasurer.

Thought for the month of February from Stephen Adams Churchwarden

As I write this, a new year and a new decade has just begun, here in Britain we are waiting to see how Brexit will unfold, in Australia bush fires rage and in the Middle East serious conflict continues. Someone once said “I don’t know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.”

That someone had put their trust in God and so could have confidence to face the uncertainties that lay ahead for them. They knew the God who held them personally in his heart and who held their future in his own hands.

As Jesus faced impending betrayal and crucifixion he declared to his followers, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me.”

In the Bible it tells us that Jesus “is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” These few lines make a massive claim for the over-arching supremacy of Jesus over life, death and the universe, and everything in between. His early followers learned during their time living side by side with Jesus and through seeing and experiencing his resurrection from death, that Jesus could be totally trusted and that he was the Son of God, the God in human form that he said he was, and the one the ancient Bible prophecies had foretold would come to be “God with us”.

A British poet, Minnie Louise Haskins, wrote a poem about facing uncertainty, it begins:

“And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”

And he replied:

“Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”

When Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God, trust also in me” he implied the disciples should take positive personal action, like us reaching out and putting our hand into the hand of God. Imagine a blind man reaching out in darkness and uncertainty and finding their hand grasped firmly and warmly by their best friend. Picture yourself putting your hand into the hand of God, our all-powerful, loving heavenly Father – that shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.

Vacancies

We are looking for volunteers to cover the following roles:-

Health and Safety Officer - as a church we owe a duty of care to ensure the safety of those who visit or use our church or churchyard. Working with the PCC we are looking for someone to have specific responsibility for our health and safety policy and its implementation, assessing the risks to health and safety of users of the church. Experience in the area of health and safety whilst an advantage is not essential. If you think this might be you, please have a word with Barry Parker who can provide further information.

Web Master - We are looking for someone to take over from Barry Parker who currently manages the church website. This is an important role as it is imperative that any information regarding church services, activities, etc. are kept up to date. I am sure you would agree that the website is the public face of the church and the first place new people to the area look. With the website in place the role includes uploading the weekly Bulletin, maintaining the church diary and publishing items of latest news. Full training and support will be given. For more information please speak with Barry.

Fabric - We are looking for volunteers to be part of our fabric committee. The PCC is responsible for the care and maintenance of the church fabric and its contents (including the churchyard). Reporting to the PCC the fabric committee takes an active role not just in planning and commissioning routine maintenance works but also in those areas requiring major works/refurbishment, including the church tower and a leaking south aisle roof, together with an ageing central heating system. You can probably identify others. With the Diocese expected to cancel our arrears of parish share early in the new year, something we have mentioned in the Annual Reports over the past few years, we will then be in a position to apply for grant aid for items of major repair and refurbishment. Please have a word with Stephen Adams for more information.

These are all key roles in the maintenance, development and mission of St James in our community so please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help, and then speak to Vikki, Barry or Stephen. Thank you.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

The date of the APCM has been changed, and it will now take place in April. The process of revision is paused and will resume on a date which will follow the regulations. If, however, you wish to add your name to the Roll, you are invited to do this, by completing an Application Form, which is available on the table at the back of church, and may be returned to me, or to the church office. Margo Grant, Electoral Roll Officer.

Ash Wednesday

To mark the beginning of Lent, as we approach Easter, a service will take place on Ash Wednesday, 26 February 2020, at 7pm at St. James Church. An opportunity to provide space and time, out of our usual hectic lives, to reflect and pray. All are welcome to attend'.

St James Strollers

Our next venture will be on **Sunday, 1st March 2020** meeting, as usual, at 2pm at Wood Street car park. Will those who are able to please come in cars so that we can arrange transport for all to the start of our proposed “stroll” of about five miles in the area of the villages of Everdon and Little Everdon, just over the border in Northants. Much of the route is on quiet country lanes so that we will hope to avoid the worst of the still saturated fields which we hope will have dried out a bit by next month.

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



SATURDAY, 21st March 2020

**As it is nearly Mothering Sunday,
we will think about Mothers in the Bible**

Massive Messy Church

The Grange Hall, Coventry Road, Southam

11.00am – 1.00pm

Ideal for Young families. Picnic lunch provide





Welcome to the Bible Course – our 2020 Lent+ course

As a Deanery, we are planning a joint Lent course that will run either side of Easter.

- Have you struggled with reading the Bible?
- Have you ever got lost in the minor prophets, or aren't sure what or where they are?
- Have you ever wondered about the links between Old and New Testaments?
- Have you ever wondered where you fit in...

The Bible Course is produced by the Bible Society to give a good overview of the whole shape and story of the Bible – to see God's plan unfolding and find where we fit into it.

Come along to the Harbury Village Club and join in

March

- 4/3 session 1 Introducing the Bible
11/3 session 2 Creation & Covenant
18/3 session 3 Exodus & Promised Land *
25/3 session 4 Judges & Kings

April

- 1/4 session 5 Exile & Prophets

Easter Break

- 22/4 session 6 Jesus & the Gospels
29/4 session 7 Acts & The Church

May

- 6/5 session 8 Revelation & Review

@ The Village Club, Harbury Wednesdays at 7.30pm
Cost £5 for the workbook

* venue tbc

Growing Greener @ St James' Southam

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to support our crisp packet and bread bag recycling. Quick update – I am now taking the crisp packets and bread bags to the Graham Adams Centre; they are part of the TerraCycle scheme. When recycling is sent to TerraCycle, the Graham Adams Centre gains points for the community (points make money essentially). The money is fed back into community via GAC/ Schools/ Nurseries. To date there have been 2 drop offs of recycling which has in turn raised £116.70.

It obviously takes a lot of effort to sort and pack all the recycling. The next one is planned for Wednesday 26th February from 6pm-9pm. If anyone could spare even half an hour to help, I'm sure it would be much appreciated. The list of what can be recycled can be found below – I am working at finding more storage for our recycling to go into as it is filling up very quickly each week now. Please bear with me and if you have any dustbins or large boxes you don't need could I please have them for the Church? I would like to extend what we can collect at St James but I need the containers first!

Plastic is everywhere and we all need to do as much as we can to make a difference. Plastic has even been found in Antarctica.

Plastic Bottles and Coco-Cola. We are all doing our bit to cut down on single use plastic bottles. Coco-Cola however is refusing to stop making single use plastic bottles for its drinks. It makes around 200,000 bottles a minute. That is a staggering 3 million tons of plastic being made by 1 company in a year.

Plastic and People. We all eat some plastic without actually knowing about it. There is lots of research going on currently but it is estimated that we eat 5grams of plastic – that may not sound like a lot but that is the weight of a credit card. And over a year that means about 260grams.

Plastic and Nature. On the 14th January I was reading a paper online and came across a disturbing article that a killer whale had been found dead in the UK. The baby orca which was about 15 feet long and when examined it was found to have plastic in its stomach. I then did a bit more digging.

In November last year a wild deer was found dead about 400 miles off Bangkok with 15lbs of plastic in its stomach. Finally, in March in the Philippines a whale was found washed up with 80lbs of plastic in its stomach – that is almost 6 stone. These are only 3 stories and I am sure I could find many more.

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

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:-

Coventry Street, Heather Close, Meadow Road, Red Lion Close,
Southam Community Church, St. Mary's Close.

Upcoming Services at St James

Sunday 1 st March	10.00am	Holy Communion with children's group
Thursday 5 th March	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 8 th March	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Worship including Baptism with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thurs. 12 th March	10.00am	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.