



# 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

**1<sup>st</sup> March 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*

**10am Holy Communion with children's group**

**Blessing our Community: Custom**

**Luke 4:16-21**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 10am Holy Communion**

**Special Prayer (Collect)      The First Sunday of Lent**

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

***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

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March      2pm Women's World Day of Prayer at St Wulstan Church

**Notice:** Please note there will be no International coffee morning in church next Friday 6 March and the office will be closed on Friday 6 March.



**'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 March from Rev. Vikki Bisikker

“I go to bed hopeful and I get up thankful”

Have you ever had a time when someone’s words seem to stay with you or strike a chord in you? I heard these words, “I go to bed hopeful and I get up thankful”, in a short video that Archbishop Justin had recorded about Exploring Prayer. He was recollecting a person whom he knew who had said these words and why this person had a grateful heart.

I got to pondering on this short sentence of simple words....What is it that makes us hopeful....what is it that we are thankful for...what is it that makes us get up out of bed?!

From experience, it’s easy to say we’re hopeful and be thankful when times are good, but sometimes that’s not so easy when we’re facing tough times, particularly if that’s over a long period. We can get worn down and it can be difficult to see the everyday blessings in life.

A while ago, in a little notebook, I started to write down at least five things each day that I was thankful to God and include these things in my prayers. Thinking of things to be grateful for on some days wasn’t as easy as other days! Some days I must confess that I didn’t do it, not through lack of wanting, but due to busyness, tiredness or forgetfulness. (Terrible confession I know, but Vicars are only human too!)

But even spending that short amount of time each evening saying Thank you can shift our thinking and move our hearts into ones of gratitude and maybe go to bed more hopeful knowing the Creator God who made us has more blessings for us each new day.

If you think that prayer isn’t for you or you wouldn’t know where to start, can I ask you to rethink that....? You don’t have to find fancy words or have your prayer all planned out before you utter a word or think that you could never pray like someone else does. You just have to be you, because that’s who God created. The Thankfulness notebook mentioned above is a way of thanking God and is a way of praying. Someone calling out to God in desperation is praying...there are plenty of examples of this in the Book of Psalms in the Bible!

There are lots of ways of praying, because prayer is about relationship. It’s about our relationship with the One who made us and how we respond.

If you’d like to come and find out more about prayer, different types of prayer, be prayed for, be prayed with, or just come and sit in the atmosphere of prayer, St James church will be hosting an evening of prayer on Friday March 20th at 20:00. This is part of our commitment to the 2020 initiative to make this year a year of prayer and committing to pray on the 20th of each month at 20:00 (8pm) for 20 minutes.

All are welcome to come and explore and we pray that He may give us eyes to see and thankful hearts to respond.

Blessings, Vikki

**Notice:** Please note there will be no International coffee morning in church next Friday 6 March and the office will be closed on Friday 6 March.

**Easter Raffle** – We will be holding an Easter Raffle at the Tythe Lodge, Table Top Sale on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. All proceeds will go to  
**PARKINSONS UK**

Your support would be very much appreciated. Rose and Derrick

**World Day of Prayer2020**

Praying with Zimbabwe Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at  
Our Lady & St. Wulstan R.C. Church rooms at 2pm.  
A service for everyone. All welcome



**SATURDAY, 21<sup>st</sup> 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

## St James Strollers

Our next venture will be on **Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



Mothers Union members met at Annie's house for their February gathering to share stories about a hat that has meaning in their life.

A warm welcome was shared along with announcements of forthcoming MU events, notices and prayers were said.

Stories of hats from childhood, weddings, through to Royal invitation were shared along with photographs enabling the members to reminisce and hat poems written by members were quoted. There was much chatter, tears and laughter and the afternoon gathering was complete with an afternoon tea of sandwiches, cheese scones, cakes and chocolates all contributed by various members.

All in all a very heart warming afternoon of fellowship! And the sun was shining!

Our next meeting is on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> in St James church at 2pm “Zimbabwe Reflection “ with Heather Shackleton & Jenny Thorne

All welcome Blessings Annie Lane

Treasurer, Secretary & Branch Administrator Southam Mothers' Union



## **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:-

Lias Close, Little Trace Avenue, Quarry Road, Solus Gardens.

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

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Morning Worship including Baptism with children's group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thurs. 12 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Holy Communion with children's group
Thurs. 19 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	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.*