



# 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

**15<sup>th</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: Becoming a Blessing**

**Luke 4:20-21**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 10am Holy Communion**

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

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up  
what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised  
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 20<sup>th</sup> March    7.30pm-8.30pm    2020 Prayer at St James Church Southam

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> March      8.30am Men's Breakfast    Ufton Village Hall

Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> March    11am-1pm    Massive Messy Church    The Grange Hall Southam



**'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.

**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

## 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

## **Advance Notice of our Annual Church Meetings - Date for your Diary**

The annual meeting to elect our two churchwardens will take place on Sunday 26 April, immediately after our 10am Morning Worship service, to be followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to elect three members for Deanery Synod and three members for PCC. We will also receive and consider the annual report which includes Vikki's review of the year together with reports on the church finances, fabric, numbers on the church roll, etc. as well as reports from all aspects of our church life.

Please make sure this date is in your diary.

**The Electoral Roll** is a list of names and addresses of everyone who wishes to play a full part in the life of the church. It entitles you to vote at our annual meeting [APCM] and to stand for election to membership of the PCC.

If your name is currently on the Roll, you need do nothing. If you would like your name added to the Roll, please complete an application form [found on the round table at the back of church].

To qualify, you need to be over 16 years old, have been baptised, and have worshipped at St. James' for six months. You should be a member of the Church of England or of any church in communion with the Church of England, or of any church which believes in the Holy Trinity.

You can be on the Electoral Roll of more than one parish [e.g. if you live in one parish but worship in another]. You should choose which parish you want to vote in, as you may only vote in one.

Completed forms may be handed to me, or delivered to the church office. The Roll will be closed after Sunday 22nd March.

The new updated Roll will be posted in church from Sunday 5th April.

Margo Grant, Electoral Roll Officer

### **St James Strollers**

The next “stroll” will be on **Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020** meeting, as usual, at 2pm at Wood Street car park. Will those who are able to please come in cars so that transport can be arranged for all to the start of the proposed route of about four miles in the Kenilworth area. The route that has been chosen is one that will keep primarily to lanes and established paths in an attempt to avoid the worst of the still “soggy” countryside.

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

**“Easter Flowers for Church”** If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please call with your donation to the Church Office, 74D Coventry Street (open 9am-1pm Monday to Friday). Thank you.

### **Men’s Breakfast 8.30am Saturday 21 March in the Ufton Village Hall**

Our Guest Speaker, Gary Wooding, will be talking to us about REMAP, a national charity solely devoted to the provision of custom designed technical aids for disabled people. As with many charities, REMAP began in a small way some 50 years ago when an ICI engineer began to devise technical aids to help his sister who had suffered from polio. The commercial market provides a wide variety of mass-produced aids for people with disabilities, ranging from wheelchairs to specially shaped spoons, all of which are targeted at the most commonly encountered problems of disability.

However, there is still a requirement for the tailor-made, one-off design and also for adaptations to the commercially available aids. This is where REMAP comes into its own through a network of over 900 skilled volunteers responding to thousands of requests every year all of which are provided free of charge.

Our February event was at the maximum of 30 with 3 on the reserve list, so our “first come, first served” mantra becomes more important with each passing month. Don’t miss out on the March one. If you want to hear Gary AND partake of Chef Roger’s fabulous “Full English for a fiver”, call Barry ASAP on 01926 811254 or email him at [champagnebuff@gmail.com](mailto:champagnebuff@gmail.com)



[Volunteer](#) [Drivers Needed](#)

Drivers are urgently needed for the Southam's Volunteer Transport Scheme which takes disadvantaged people to medical appointments in the area.

Call the Town Council on [01926 814004](tel:01926814004) for more information.



**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 provided.**





## **Welcome to the Bible Course – our 2020 Lent+ course**

As a Deanery, we are running a joint Lent course that will run either side of Easter. Please join us if you can.

- 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**

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



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

### **Carriers of Hope - donors of the week**

The past few years, we have collected carrier bags full of food, cleaning and other household equipment for delivery to Carriers of Hope, a charity in Coventry for the homeless and the refugees. I hope to take a collection on 23 March.

Any donations – either to church or to 10 Gorse Lea by Mon 23 March – will be most gratefully received. A list appears below. Should you need anything to be collected, please contact me on 813373. Many thanks, one and all! Jan Ford

Nappies sizes 3,4,5.

Tins of number 1 & 2 Baby Milk (Aptamil preferred!)

Food items, (especially tinned tomatoes, baked beans, onions, potatoes, pasta and basmati rice.)

All toiletries, sanitary and baby products Household cleaning products

Brushes, mops, buckets, electric irons/ironing boards, airers

Household linen

Clothing: babies, children, adults practically anything, including underwear, new pants

Toys & books, small folding umbrellas

Push chairs & other baby equipment

Furniture & Kitchen equipment of any size (collection can be arranged)

NB if shopping is difficult for you, Carriers of Hope will gladly accept cheques and supermarket cards.

### **Reminder to Pray in 2020 on 20th of each month at 20:20 for 20 Minutes**

Each month it is planned that one of the Deanery churches will be open on the 20th day of the month from 8.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m. for us to gather to pray together.

This month: March 20th –at St James Church, Southam 7.30pm – 8.30pm

If you are unable to join the Deanery gathering then please pray wherever you are.

Pray that God will give many opportunities to speak about Christ (Colossians 4:3) so that the UK can hear the gospel proclaimed clearly, relevantly, and compassionately.

### **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:-

Cherry Tree Walk, Coventry Road, Merestone Close, Orchard Way,  
Sycamore Grove.

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

Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Mothering Sunday Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thurs. 26 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Breakfast Church including Baptism
Thurs. 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	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.*