

**St John's Church
Selsdon**



The Holy Eucharist
The Fourth Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday
2019

Welcome to St John's this morning!

Whether you are here for the first time, or a more regular worshipper, we are delighted to have you with us today, and we hope that you enjoy the service. All that you need to follow the service from beginning to end is contained in this booklet, except for the hymns which we will sing from the hymn books you have been given. **Hymns numbered 1-799 can be found in the green hymnbook. Hymns numbered 800 and above can be found in the blue books.**

Suggestions are given in this booklet for posture – when to sit, stand and kneel. These are suggestions only. Please adopt whatever position is most comfortable for you, and helps you to concentrate on your prayers. Since the Eucharistic Prayer is one complete prayer, it is best to have the same position from beginning to end – i.e. from “The Lord be with you” to the Lord’s Prayer.

Please join in anything written in **bold type!**

Today is the fourth Sunday of Lent – a season of 6 weeks of preparation as we get ready for Easter. Lent can sometimes be heavy going, so the Church gives us “Refreshment Sunday”, also known as Mothering Sunday. An opportunity to renew our focus on God’s love for us by celebrating and thanking him for the love we receive from those who care for us, often, but not always, our mothers. Today Mary, Jesus’ own mother has a special place, and we celebrate the role of the Church itself in its nurturing of our faith and commitment to her Son.

We want to look after everyone in church today! Parents and carers can help by supervising their children at all times.

Please help us to keep everyone safe in church! Small children running around can so easily trip or tip something over and hurt themselves or others. Please try to keep children out of the sanctuary area (where the altar is) during the service and out of reach of the candles!

We hope you enjoy worshipping here. There are toilets and baby changing facilities in the hall opposite the church – if you need directions, please just ask!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ST JOHN'S

If you have children with you, you may want to take advantage of the Children's Area – a special part of the church where parents/carers and children can share the service together, perhaps using the toys, books and puzzle sheets provided. If you have any suggestions on how we can make it even better, or help you enjoy the service more with your child, please let Jenny know.

Please do not worry or feel embarrassed if your child makes a noise; your children may actually be happier at the front where they can see what's going on, so don't be shy!

Please stand for the First Hymn

During this hymn the choir and clergy will process to their places.

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Keep me praising till the break of day .

*Sing Hosanna, sing Hosanna,
Sing Hosanna to the King of Kings.
Sing Hosanna, sing Hosanna,
Sing Hosanna to the King.*

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
Keep me resting till the break of day.

Sing Hosanna, sing Hosanna...

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day

Sing Hosanna, sing Hosanna...

Give me oil in my lamp, keep it burning,
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.

Give me oil in my lamp, keep it burning,
Keep it burning till the break of day.

Sing Hosanna, sing Hosanna...

Traditional

A time to say 'hello' and draw together for worship

The president greets everyone

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

This is the day which the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The president welcomes everyone to today's service.

**We have come from different places today, a people
seeking the Lord, a people of praise, a people of hope.
Gather us in Lord,
and make us your family.
Open our hearts to the power of your Spirit.**

A time to say 'sorry' *(remain standing)*

The president introduces the confession

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall
be; that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The president declares the forgiveness of our sins

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A time to praise

Knowing that God will always love us, and assured of his forgiveness, we praise him in the words of the Kyrie



1. Lord, have mer- cy on us, hear our hum- ble plea; Lord, have mer- cy on us, set our spi- rits free.

**Lord, have mercy on us, hear our humble plea;
Lord, have mercy on us, set our spirits free**

**Christ, have mercy on us, hear us as we pray;
Christ, have mercy on us, take our sin away.**

**Lord, have mercy on us, hear our humble plea;
Lord, have mercy on us, set our spirits free.**

Silence is kept, then the president says the Collect, the prayer for the day:

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A time to hear God's Word *(sit)*

We listen to two readings from the Bible

Please sit for the first reading from the Book of Numbers read by
Bobby Cass (2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

We are careful not to judge people by what they seem to be, though we once judged Christ in that way. Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new. God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us, and he has given us the work of making peace between himself and others.

What we mean is that God was in Christ, offering peace and forgiveness to the people of this world. And he has given us the work of sharing his message about peace. We were sent to speak for Christ, and God is begging you to listen to our message. We speak for Christ and sincerely ask you to make peace with God. Christ never sinned! But God treated him as a sinner, so that Christ could make us acceptable to God.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing the **Gradual hymn**

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember, and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,
love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past, and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

Brian Wren (b 1936)

*Remain standing for the reading of the Gospel and turn to face the Gospel book
so we can meet Jesus in the story.*

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

(Luke 15.1-3, 11b-32)

Tax collectors and sinners were all crowding around to listen to Jesus. So the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law of Moses started grumbling, "This man is friendly with sinners. He even eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this story:

Once a man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, "Give me my share of the property." So the father divided his property between his two sons.

Not long after that, the younger son packed up everything he owned and left for a foreign country, where he wasted all his money in wild

living. He had spent everything, when a bad famine spread through that whole land. Soon he had nothing to eat.

He went to work for a man in that country, and the man sent him out to take care of his pigs. He would have been glad to eat what the pigs were eating, but no one gave him a thing.

Finally, he came to his senses and said, “My father’s workers have plenty to eat, and here I am, starving to death! I will go to my father and say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son. Treat me like one of your workers.’”

The younger son got up and started back to his father. But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt sorry for him. He ran to his son and hugged and kissed him.

The son said, “Father, I have sinned against God in heaven and against you. I am no longer good enough to be called your son.”

But his father said to the servants, “Hurry and bring the best clothes and put them on him. Give him a ring for his finger and sandals^[d] for his feet. Get the best calf and prepare it, so we can eat and celebrate.”²⁴ This son of mine was dead, but has now come back to life. He was lost and has now been found.” And they began to celebrate.

The older son had been out in the field. But when he came near the house, he heard the music and dancing.²⁶ So he called one of the servants over and asked, “What’s going on here?”

The servant answered, “Your brother has come home safe and sound, and your father ordered us to kill the best calf.” The older brother got so angry that he would not even go into the house.

His father came out and begged him to go in. But he said to his father, “For years I have worked for you like a slave and have always obeyed you. But you have never even given me a little goat, so that I could give a dinner for my friends. This other son of yours wasted your money on prostitutes. And now that he has come home, you ordered the best calf to be killed for a feast.”

His father replied, “My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.³² But we should be glad and celebrate! Your brother was dead, but he is now alive. He was lost and has now been found.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A time to respond to God's Word

Please sit for the address by Revd Jenny Rowley

Please stand

A time to declare our faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

A time to pray

Please sit or kneel while we pray together, led by Kyra Sey.

Please join in with the following response:

Heavenly Father
hear our prayer.

The prayers finish with words to say together:

**For yours is the majesty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen**

The Lenten Candles

Our attention turns to the display of six purple candles and one white candle, the Christ candle. Each week, one candle will be extinguished as we remember before God the darkness of our lives and of our world and the sin which separates us from God and from each other. The white candle, or Christ candle is extinguished on Good Friday as we remember the worst that the world can do. It is re-lit on Easter Sunday as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death, the Light of the world which the darkness can never overcome.

We have these Lenten candles to remind us of Christ, the light of the world, whose light was taken from the world on the cross.

A candle is extinguished

Jesus born of the blessed Mary, you came as a light to all your children who believe and trust in you. Your life, that light, was extinguished on the cross of Good Friday. But may we, your children, always keep within us the light of hope and faith.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

A time to meet Jesus in each other

Please stand as we share the Peace of Christ with each other. The president says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please shake hands with those around you as a sign of sharing God's peace with each other

A time to meet Jesus in bread and wine

Please stand to sing the **Offertory** hymn

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

v1-4 John Newton (1725-1807) alt.
v5 John Rees (1828-1900)

During the hymn, bread and wine and any money gifts are collected and taken to the altar. The bread and wine are put on the altar and everything is prepared. If you'd like to help get things ready, please come to the altar.

After the hymn, we pray:

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

We shall remember Jesus.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president begins the Eucharistic Prayer – the great prayer of thanksgiving over the bread and wine that recalls all that God has done for the world.

**Remain standing, or seated, or kneeling
throughout the prayer**

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give thanks and praise

It is always right to give you thanks,

God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,

Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross;

he died to save us from our sins;

he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

Who was and is and is to come,

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

Father, on the night before he died,

Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took the bread, and thanked you.

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.
Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.
For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
glory to the Lord God almighty:
glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
glory to the Lord God almighty:
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen,
glory, glory, glory to the Lord.**

*The president introduces **the Lord's Prayer***

Trusting in God's love for us,
we pray in the words Jesus gave us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

All kneel as we sing:

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,
Jesus is the Lord God almighty:
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,
Jesus is the Lord God almighty:
who was, and is, and is to come;
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord,**

The president invites everyone to receive communion

Come, not because you are strong but because you are weak,
come, not because you must but because you may,
come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right
to come, but because you need mercy and help,
come, because you love the Lord a little
and would like to love him more,
come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Anyone who normally receives communion in any Christian church is most welcome to receive the bread and wine (communion) this morning. If you don't usually receive bread and wine in church please still come forward for a blessing.

Please ask one of the churchwardens or other helpers if you would like some help to come up to communion, or if you would like the clergy to bring communion to you in your place.

Choir anthem today: Ave Verum Mozart

During the distribution of Communion the choir will sing an anthem and the following hymn will be sung. Please join in singing the hymn if you would like to

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name;
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share His love as He told me to.
*He said: 'Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give;
go in My name and because you believe,
others will know that I live.'*

All power is given in Jesus' name
in earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share His power as He told me to.
*He said: 'Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give;
go in My name and because you believe,
others will know that I live.'*

Carol Owens (born 1931)

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A time to say 'thank you'

Please kneel for a special prayer celebrating God's gifts to us

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Then we all pray together:

**We thank you, gracious Father,
for welcoming your children to feast in your kingdom;
by your love unite us
and with your Spirit send us,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please sit while notices are given out about the life of the parish and community.

After the notices, posies of flowers will be blessed and handed round. You may wish to present your posy to a mother, or take it away to give after the service, or put in a special place as you remember love shared – or you may wish to present it to someone here this morning as a token of thanks for love or kindness shown.

When the posies have been given out, the president prays the following prayer, expressing gratitude for love given and received, both human and divine:

God our Father, in love you create each one of us in your image;
out of love for the world you gave your only Son;
through love you sustain us in our weakness;
help us so to reflect your love in our lives
that we may love one another as you love us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

Please stand to sing the **final hymn**

One more step along the world I go
One more step along the world I go
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you

Round the corners of the world I turn
More and more about the world I learn
All the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you

As I travel through the bad and good
Keep me travelling the way I should
Where I see no way to go
You'll be telling me the way I know
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you

Give me courage when the world is rough
Keep me loving though the world is tough
Leap and sing in all I do
Keep me travelling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you

You are older than the world can be
You are younger than the life in me
Ever old and ever new
Keep me travelling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you

Sydney Carter (b. 1915) © 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd,
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A time to go out and serve God

The president blesses everyone and sends them out into the world taking the Good News of Jesus Christ to all those they meet.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

You are called and loved by God the Father
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.
Mercy, peace and love be yours;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Do stay after the service to enjoy refreshments which are served in the hall opposite the church. Hosts today to welcome you are Jane Guglielmi and members of St John's Wives group.

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

Femi Ayoola, Sheila Bradstock, Joshua Dovey, Ian Geddes, Marion and Pat Hall,

Deirdre Lane, John Parsons, Arnold Ramdeholl, Margaret Rutland

We pray for those who have died recently:

Michael Chapman, Ann Crozier

We pray for loved ones on the anniversary of their death:

31 st March	Ronnie Corbett	(2016)
	Sidney Ferris	(2016)
1 st April	Grace Hall	(1968)
2 nd April	Joan Sheen	(2017)
3 rd April	Ethel Smith	(2001)
	Robert McDowall	(1999)
	Keith Holt	(2012)
4 th April	Elizabeth Kewn	(1977)
	Margaret Simmons	(1981)
	Michael McKenzie	(2006)
6 th April	Maurice Lishman	(1941)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please contact Jenny at rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com or 0208 657 2343. And if you would like to include the name of a loved one among the list of the departed on the anniversary of their death, please give details to Jenny.



If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call Jenny on 0208 657 2343.

Please give **NOTICES** for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Jenny (jennyrowley@waitrose.com) preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive these before *** Tuesday *** each week.

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Please note that Jenny's email address has changed to

[**rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com**](mailto:rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com)



St John's Website

The website for our church can be found [**www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk**](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

The Parish Office is open

Mon-Thur 9am-2pm Please call Amanda on to help with:

- Parish admin or queries
- Hall Bookings
- Publicity for the church or hall

Please call 0208 6579466 / 07958 682103

Or email [**bookingsstjohns@gmail.com**](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)



Meeting God in Silence

Mondays 6pm-6.30pm

An opportunity to share a time of quiet in the Lady Chapel.

at 3 Sylvan Close, Selsdon CR2 8DS

Led by Susan Oakes and friends

All Welcome !!!!

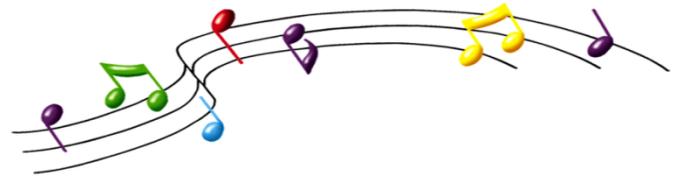


CHILDREN AND HOLY COMMUNION

Children are welcome at God's table – if you are baptised, but do not receive the bread and wine, but think you might like to, you could consider asking to be admitted to Communion.

If you think you might be ready to make this next step in your Christian journey, and would like to receive the bread and wine at our services, or just want to find out more, please speak to Jenny.

If you are a grown-up and want to know more about this important development in our life together, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church.



Do you like singing?

Come and join St John's Choir!

Even if you can only commit to one or two Sundays a month, please have a word with our Director of Music, Ian Brentnall if you might be interested. All voice parts welcome!

Tel: 8290 6594 or email ianbrentnall1@sky.com

ST JOHN'S SELSDON GARDEN ROOM

Work on the Garden Room continues...

The foundations are now in place and the walls are beginning to rise!

Inevitably there is still quite a bit of mess and disruption but it is now possible to access the Garden of Remembrance from the front of the church. The path from the main door is still closed. So you are welcome to lay flowers again in the Garden of Remembrance itself – just be careful of muddy bits and trip hazards! If you find that difficult please either ask for help or feel free to lay floral tributes for loved ones in the church around the font. Please speak to Jenny if you would like these moved into the garden or if you have any particular needs or concerns. And please continue to bear with us while the work goes on. Jenny

Although we've done really well with fundraising, and securing funds from external sources, we do still need to raise a bit more to cover all our costs. So our fundraising continues – please continue to support events which will raise much-needed funds for the project

*If you would like to **make a donation** towards the building of the garden room, perhaps in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for an event eg. an anniversary or significant birthday, or in celebration of an achievement, please take a “brick donation” pack from the back of the church.*

If you would like any further information please contact Gill Salter at 21 Rylandes Road, South Croydon CR2 8EB 0208 4059971 OR

salterg@outlook.com

The Garden Room project is supported by...



Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION



ALLCHURCHES TRUST LIMITED ®

OWNERS OF ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE GROUP



Garden Room Planned Giving

We have received requests for a planned giving form to enable direct donations to be made to the Garden Room project.

A standing order mandate form has been produced and will provide the means to make planned donations as a one-off payment or several payments over a period of time to be determined by the donor, making this a convenient way to be part of the Garden Room Project as it

grows.

Forms are available at the back of church. Please contact Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971 or salterg@outlook.com if you need any further information or help

Looking ahead to the Annual Meeting NEXT SUNDAY

7th April after the 10am service at 11.30am (approx.) in the hall.

At this meeting we hope to elect four new members to PCC.

Please would everyone in St John's church family give some prayerful thought to who could serve in this capacity in the coming year, and if you have any suggestions on who you would like to see on PCC, please mention names to Martyn and Robert, or to Jenny – Thank you!

The next Church Breakfast is on on Sunday 7th April at 9am Come along for a chat and a bite to eat. A great way to start off your Sunday !!



2019 CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The new electoral roll is on display today. Please have a look and check that you're on it, and that your details are correct! Thank you!

Any problems, please see **Janice White, Electoral Roll Officer**

This year we are planning to do a plant sale on

Sunday 26th May and Sunday 22nd September

If you are able to help us by planting Spring flowers ready for the first sale in May we would be really grateful for all donations of plants chutneys, cakes etc.



Please speak to Gill Salter or Helen Lishmund

ST JOHN'S CHURCH PLANT AND PRODUCE SALE



**SUNDAY 26TH MAY 2019
AT 11AM
IN THE CHURCH HALL**

CHURCHWARDENS (Don't read this, Martyn!)

At the Annual Meeting on 7th April, Martyn churchwarden will "retire" as Churchwarden. Recognising all that Martyn has brought to St John's in so many ways over the past year, we will be making a collection. If you'd like to contribute, please give your contribution to Andrew Hicks, Monica Turton or to Sue Tilley before Sunday 31st March. **THANK YOU!**



**Our Next Messy Easter
Session is Saturday 20th
April
At St John's
Church Hall
10am - 12noon**



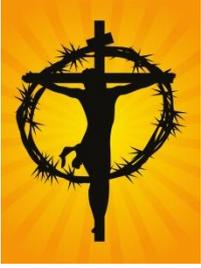
**We need your clean
yoghurt pots for Messy
Easter Session. Please
leave all clean pots in the
church lobby or give to Sally Geddes Thank you**



Pastoral Visitors.

Just a reminder that St John's has a team of Pastoral Visitors, co-ordinated by Sally Geddes. The Pastoral Visitors keep an eye on friends at St John's, especially those who may not find it quite so easy to get to church as regularly as they would wish, and visit those from our church family who can't be with us quite so often, to make sure they stay connected to and continue to feel part of this church family. This ministry is underpinned with prayer flowing out of the Thursday morning Eucharist service where, once a month we will remember the visitors and those they visit before God. You can help with this ministry simply by holding the pastoral visitors and those they visit before God in your prayers, perhaps undertaking to be at the Thursday Eucharist once a month as we remember their work. And if you know if someone you think might appreciate a visit, please let Sally or Jenny know.

Jenny



April

Once again this year, our Gospel reading Good Friday (19th April) will take the form of a dramatised reading. Andy Holton is looking for volunteers to help the reading come alive for us on Good Friday and would love to hear from you if you'd like to help. There is a "sign-up" sheet at the back of church, or call Andy directly on 8651 4696. There will be rehearsals at 9.30am on Sunday 7th

Thank you!

Andy

MESSY EASTER

on Saturday 20th April 10am - 12noon.

Sharing the Easter story with families and children through craft and play.

Clean (washed) yoghurt pots would be welcome - please pop them in the box at the back of church!

Can you help on the day? Would you like to come along and see what happens? Would you like to come along and join in?!! Helping hands always welcome! And please continue to pray for Sally Geddes and her Messy Team, and for all who will be touched by the story of Jesus.

THANK YOU!



CROSS OF CHRIST

Palm Sunday 14th April, 6.00 pm

Sung by the choir of St. John's

Director - Ian Brentnall Organist – Jonathan Musgrave



A devotional service of anthems and familiar hymns, leading our thoughts through the events of Holy Week as we look forward to the joy of Easter

ST JOHN'S CHURCH



MESSY GARDEN

Calling children of all ages (and their parents/grandparents/carers)
At the service on Easter Sunday 21st April 2019 and at Messy Easter
10am-12noon on Saturday 20th April 2019, Flower Growing Kits for the
Children's Garden will be available to take home for planting in the pot
provided – an information leaflet will be included

If you would like to take part please look after your growing seeds at
home and return them to St John's at the

All age service on Sunday 9th June 2019 at the 10am service

Planting will be in the Children's Garden immediately after the service

Please come along and plant your flowers!

Refreshments will be provided

If you need any further information or help please contact

Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971

Reverend Jenny Rowley, Rector

Easter Lilies

On Saturday 20th April the flower team will be transforming the Lenten and austere church into a beautiful celebration of Easter with flowers. It is traditional to use lilies. If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these lilies in memory of someone close; there is a tin at the back of church for this purpose. Thank you in advance.



If you are thinking of joining the flower team please do come along at about 10.30 am on that Saturday morning to find out what it's all about.

St. John's Flower Team



LENT

Set aside **Wednesdays** during Lent for our Lent Course, “Finding a Voice” inspired by the film, “The King’s Speech” from 7.30pm to 9pm in the hall.

This Lent course explores the ways in which, like Colin Firth’s Bertie, we too can face and overcome our terrors to find our true and authentic voice. Each session covers something different so if you can’t make all sessions, don’t worry, please feel welcome to come to those you can.

Wednesday 3rd April 7.30pm **Week Four** “I was informed after the fact that my father’s last words were “Bertie has more guts than the rest of his brothers put together”. Couldn’t say that to my face”.

Wednesday 10th April 7.30pm **Week Five** “I have a right to be heard!” ...”Heard as what?” ...”A man. I have a voice!”

Helen is getting copies of the book “Finding a Voice” for everyone. If you felt able to make a contribution in the region of £5 per copy to the cost, that would be much appreciated.

THROW YOUR MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN during Lent to help the people devastated by the cyclone in East Africa.

The Drain will be in place through Lent until the end of April and money collected will be donated to the DEC Cyclone Idai Appeal.

Thanks in advance for your generosity



SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

31st March 2019

Monday

- 10.00am Baby and Toddler group
6.00pm Meeting God in silence at 3 Sylvan Close
7.30pm Eucharist in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham

Tuesday

- 10.00am Rector's Coffee Hour in Costa on Selsdon High Street. If you'd like to pop in for a chat or even just to say hello, please do!

Wednesday

- 10.30am Eucharist at Croham Place
10.30am Meditation Prayer group
7.30pm Lent Course - Week Four "I was informed after the fact that my father's last words were "Bertie has more guts than the rest of his brothers put together". Couldn't say that to my face" in the hall

Thursday

- 10.00am Baby and Toddler group
10.15am Said Eucharist.

Next Sunday The Fifth Sunday of Lent – PASSION SUNDAY

- 8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language
9.30am Rehearsal of the dramatised reading of The Passion
10.00am Parish Eucharist...followed by
11.30am (approx..) APCM

Readings next Sunday at 10am:

Isaiah 43.16-21 or Philippians 3.4b-14: John 12.1-8

Morning Prayer is usually said in Church each weekday (except Friday) between 9.00am and 9.30am. You are welcome to join any of these services.

If there's something on your mind and you'd like to talk it over with someone, or if you'd like to make your confession, Jenny will be happy to see anyone at any time by appointment. She can be contacted on: 0208 657 2343 or rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com

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