

st JOHN'S

Living God's Love

Parish Magazine

SPRING 2019

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Living God's Love

*Spring 2019
in this issue*

Letter from the curate <i>by the Reverend James Brown</i>	5
Parish registers	7
Letter from the churchwardens	9
Introducing your new vicar	10
Project Phoenix	11
'Offer expires on...'	13
Elizabeth's shortbread	15
Lent and Holy Week at St Johns	16
Getting to know the congregation	21
Mural at school	23
Christian Aid Week	25
Eco Church	27
Forthcoming events	28

ADDRESS

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Letter from the curate by the Reverend James Brown

Each season brings its own metaphors for life. Having come through the reflective hibernation of winter, we emerge like fresh shoots in spring. The natural symbols of spring and Easter in this part of the world chime so freely. It is a time of new life, emergence and hope.

People have always connected their deepest stories with the rhythms and realities of the natural world. The ancient creation myths of the Old Testament describe humanity as of the earth, as dust in a different shape. Remembering this, we begin the journey to Easter on Ash Wednesday. Ash is scratched onto our foreheads with the words 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return'. It is a surprisingly liberating thing to have someone smudge this dusty, dirty powder on your head and remind you of your mortality. Were this a new public craze it would be a revolutionary therapy. But it is ancient and traditional and all the more profound for it.

We are of the same substance as our planet, so to love it and know it brings abundant and deep treasures. With this awareness, a walk in the woods becomes something to do with our souls. To encourage bird and insect life in the garden is a spiritual act.

At St Johns we have recently launched our Eco Church project (which you can read about on page 27). There are obvious reasons to care for the environment and with increasing urgency. Beyond the need to survive and protect, we find a deeply human and divine command to engage in our physical, natural location.

We are doing that in a small way on Easter morning, as we celebrate the dawning light and life of Jesus' resurrection with a service at sunrise. There are many ways to connect with the story of Easter in and out of church. I encourage you to step into the story with the different things going on at St John's over Lent and Easter.

The events of Holy Week are some of the most dramatic and meaningful imaginable. Come and get a sense; enter into it as if into immersive theatre, through the services and storytelling, through the worship and the music. Come and hear the Bishop of St Albans reflect on the darkest day of Good Friday. Come and discover new hope of Easter morning. We are of the dusty substance of this earth and we are people of the light. We join with countless others around the globe and across history choosing to face up to death as they head towards the greatest celebration of life.

I wish you all a holy Lent and a happy Easter.

Revd James Brown

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Parish registers

Baptisms

Welcome to the family of God

18 November 2018

George Henry Shewbridge

25 November 2018

Thomas Arthur Gale

16 December 2018

Jennifer Marie Bray

27 January 2019

Darci Christina Jayne Murray

27 January 2019

Frankie Colm Kryss Murray

Marriages

Joined by God

There were no weddings in this period

Funerals in Church

May they rest in peace

25 October 2018

Michael St John Hopper

29 October 2018

Simon John Marchant-Jones

5 November 2018

Henry Lindsay Gray Stroyan

12 November 2018

James Martin Pavitt

3 December 2018

Geoffrey Ludlow Andrews

26 January 2019

Elizabeth Phyllis Brown

19 February 2019

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Letter from the Churchwardens

With the days getting longer and a feeling of Spring in the air, it is good to be able to look forward to new life here at St John's.

In our last article we were approaching Advent and Christmas and entering a vacancy. We joined other parishes in the Church of England with the 'Follow the Star' campaign, erecting a star on our flagpole which lit up every evening as a sign of encouragement to travel in the footsteps of the Wise Men. Our Christmas activities included Beer and Carols at The Engineer pub, a community carol service, at which representatives of the local community read the lessons, and 'Walking to Bethlehem' on Christmas Eve, with about 70 people of all ages walking through Southdown and telling the story of the journey to Bethlehem along the route. We are grateful to everyone who made the Christmas season so special: to Roger Carter and the choir for the hard work they put into the music to enhance our worship, particularly at the community carol service; to the flower guild for the amazing floral decorations; to Bishop Steven Venner for celebrating and preaching on Christmas morning; but most of all thanks to our curate, James Brown, for his energy and commitment throughout the season.

James has had extra pressure since Nicholas retired at the end of September and he has definitely risen to the challenge. We have welcomed a number of guest preachers and celebrants, old friends and new, and are grateful to the ministry team, particularly David Nye,

for using their contacts to offer these invitations.

We are delighted to announce that after a challenging day of interviews from a strong shortlist, Revd Dr Berkeley Zych was appointed as our new vicar. Berkeley is currently on the staff of St Albans Cathedral and has written a short article that appears on page 10 to introduce himself. His institution and installation is on the evening of Thursday 16 May, so please do make note of that date. In the meantime, we pray for Berkeley and his partner Alex as they prepare to join us.

The plans for our new parish centre have been finalised and an application made for planning permission. This is an important step on the road towards providing a building that allows us to provide enhanced facilities for the benefit of the community. We will be exploring ways in which people in the congregation and parish can contribute to this project, and will be providing regular updates in magazines and on the website.

During Lent and Easter we are offering a number of additional services and also discussion groups. We are particularly pleased that the Bishop of St Albans, Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, will be leading our three-hour reflection on Good Friday. Details of all our activities appear on pages 16 and 17 – please do feel free to join us for any or all of them!

James Hillman and Mary Jean Pritchard
Churchwardens

Introducing your new Vicar



When people see my name written down for the first time, especially if its before meeting me, they often wonder where I'm from. Many assume I must be American. When they ask, I tell them the truth: I am an Essex boy, even though my father is from the Czech Republic (hence the unpronounceable surname, which causes such confusion).

In my loft there is a hessian-bound project-board book from my time at primary school. Inside are drawings and data about the planets of the solar system (nine of them, since Pluto was a planet at that time but was voted out by astronomers in 2006 for being too diminutive). It reminds me of the fact that from as young as I can remember I have had an interest in the heavens. As I look up at the night sky I am filled with awe by its beauty. That sense of awe is what led me to explore both Science and my faith in God.

Serious interest in Science led me to university to study Astronomy and,

further on, to complete a PhD exploring how many stars were forming in galaxies outside of our own. That work took me all around the world using telescopes in remote places, including Chile, Hawaii, Australia and the Canary Islands. It was, as you can imagine, great fun; but I also realised there was something missing from my life at the time. I realised that what I enjoyed most was the time I spent teaching and the time I spent with people, rather than the (considerably larger) portion of time I had to spend in front of a computer. It was my faith that helped me realise what was missing and what eventually led me to being ordained as a priest and working in the Church of England.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know the people of St John's Parish alongside the wider community, when I join you on 16 May this year along with my partner, Alex. Even if I don't bump into you on the Common whilst walking our dog, Gus, I hope to get to know many of you as we settle into the parish. My role as your new Vicar is to be alongside you, if needed, in those important moments in life, as well as to reveal how God is blessing each and every one of us as we learn how to live and work alongside each other. Unlike Douglas Adams in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, I can't offer you the answer to Life, the Universe and Everything, but I'll try my best to do what I can!

Berkeley

Project Phoenix

We are pleased to be able to report that the exciting plans for the building of our new parish centre have now moved on significantly. A successful public consultation held in November gave us the opportunity to meet and discuss these plans with a number of interested parties and our neighbours. We were very appreciative of everyone's time, consideration and helpful comments which generally signified an enthusiastic and positive response.

We are now awaiting the result of our planning permission application, which was submitted in January, and we look forward, once this has been granted, to moving forward with our fundraising strategies.

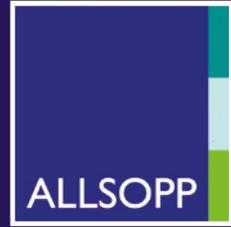
Our architect's computer generated images shown here give a flavour of our vision for the new parish centre, designed to benefit St John's and all Southdown residents. Further details, including floor plans, can be found on our website: www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk.

We look forward with eager anticipation to reporting on further progress as our hopes now begin to develop.

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'Offer expires on...'

What makes you try something new? When we go around the supermarket, filling our baskets and trolleys with the items that we need, what makes us try something different? It might, sometimes, be eye-catching branding but often it's a financial incentive, like 'buy one, get one free'. It starts from an early age: children want to buy the comics that have a free gift on the outside, for example. As adults we certainly won't refuse that free sample of detergent or tea bags. What is there to lose when something new is offered for free?

What other incentives are there to trying something new? A friend recommends a different place to eat out perhaps; they want to share their experience of something good and enjoyable. It could be an item on a new menu they've discovered; perhaps a pudding containing a strange but intriguing Heston-style ingredient. This might be a little off-putting, but the spoon is loaded and held out, 'Here, try this, it's delicious. No, go on, you must, it's really good'. In our lives we have held out the spoon and have received the one proffered. It's human nature. We want to share the things that give us pleasure with those whom we love.

I'm writing this, of course, for the parish magazine and anyone who has followed my other contributions will know the direction in which I am likely to be going. In recent years my own faith has been re-awakened and deep-

ened, having been a self-confessed 'dormant' Christian. I had been baptised as an infant and confirmed through school when I was a teenager. My churchgoing had totally lapsed but I convinced myself that holding a quiet faith on my own was sufficient. At the instigation of my elder daughter, when she was about ten, who wanted to go to church with some school friends, I stepped through the doors of St John's for the first time in considerable hesitation and trepidation. It felt a little strange and I remember that feeling of having to pluck up the courage to do so. It was somewhat akin to entering a party where you don't know any of the other guests. Irregular churchgoing became regular and frequent, and my journey – now about 20 years down the line – has got me to the point where I need to hold out the spoon and encourage you to try it, too. So here is the offer: step through the church doors and discover for yourself God's love, because it is wonderful and I think you will find that it adds joy and comfort and happiness to your life.

There is one out of the many great features of this offer that should attract even the most hardened and sceptical of consumers: it's a total freebie. Coming to church is free, of course, but God's love is freely given to all as well; God loves each and everyone of us and welcomes all of us into his kingdom of love, here on earth and later in heaven. It is quite unlimited in time. There's no

expiry date to this offer – you can take it up this week, next week, whenever. There is no small print to read and there are no conditions. Coming to church is something you can do when you like, entirely on your own terms; you don't have to sign up for every week. Most importantly, God's love is completely unconditional. We are all loved for who we are, for wherever we are along our individual journey of faith. Age doesn't have to equal wisdom of God or knowledge of the Bible – there are no entry exams or preconditions to fulfil. Everyone is welcomed through the doors of our church to experience the fellowship of others who are also learning about their faith and hoping to get closer to God.

What would it be like to walk through the open door for the first time? Well, on a practical level, finding yourself in a new environment does and will feel strange the first few times, but you will be welcomed and helped to find your way around our services as much or as little as you want to be. You can ask for a 'buddy' to show you the ropes if you think you might struggle the first time you go, or you can sit quietly and work it out for yourself. St John's doesn't belong to the clergy who minister there or the congregation who regularly worship there - it is the Lord's church and is open for all who wish to worship there. There are no pre-designated seats, and parents and carers are as welcome as their children are.

I had an argument to justify my own previous lack of church attendance. If God is everywhere - in every place we are and in every task that we perform

- why do we need to go to church? What is the point? Well, Lent about six years ago was my epiphany. That year, rather than vowing to give up either alcohol or chocolate, I decided to attend Wednesday morning spoken Communion in the Lady Chapel. My prayer habit (of which I have previously written) got a huge boost and my own journey of faith reached super highway speed. Why? Well for the same reason that you go to live concerts, to art exhibitions, to plays at the theatre, to visit friends, to travel to new countries and destinations. Most things could be looked at online or in a book but experiencing the real things 'in the flesh', as it were, brings them to life and into your life in a way that changes who you are, your perception of things and your opinions. You share them with other people too. They are not provided for your sole enjoyment as an individual. Life and love are inextricably intertwined and life without love is barely life at all. Life is therefore not a solitary journey but one to be shared with others in order to get the most out of it - to share the view of that sunset, to taste that divine pudding. Alone, there is no one to hold that spoon out to. Coming to church is like that. It enables us to share God's love amongst others, with those who are there encountering Christ at his table with us as well as working alongside us to share that abundance and joy with those who haven't yet walked through our doors. Coming together to find God strengthens us and focuses our minds on finding new ways to share the Good News of Christ's love for us all with our neigh-

bours and our loved ones.

My cereal packet reminds me each morning that life is not a dress rehearsal. It's not. This offer from God to come and discover his love is not one to miss out on. It's not time limited, it won't expire, but our own lives are finite and brief, so don't miss out on this offer. It's free, you have nothing to lose by giving it a try. Over Lent there will be many different ways that you could cross the threshold of St John's for the first time, maybe for a regular

service, perhaps for a special service on Ash Wednesday or during Holy Week, or maybe pop in for a bowl of soup one Thursday lunchtime (take a look at the services in the middle spread of the magazine). Everyone is welcome, absolutely everyone. God's love and blessing is abundant and free and there is more than enough for everyone. I shall load up my spoon and hold it out to you, 'Go on, try it – it's delicious'. ●

Emma Bresslaw

Elizabeth's shortbread

St John's lost a valued and much-loved member of its community when Elizabeth Brown died just before Christmas. At her memorial service in January, people spoke about her enormous commitment to the life and worship of the church; her work with the Mothers' Union in the parish as diocesan and provincial president and as a delegate to the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women; her kindness to strangers and friends alike; her resilience in coping with her illness; her love for her family.

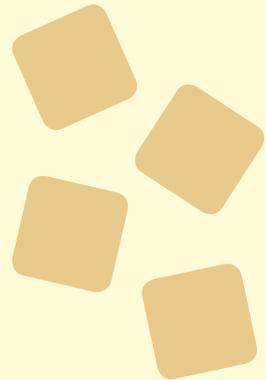
More than one person referred to her legendary shortbread, which was baked in all those areas of her life – for church events, for coffee with friends, for her family. It was suggested that sharing the recipe for her shortbread through the magazine would be an appropriate way to celebrate all that she gave us, and David kindly agreed to share that with us.

Recipe

Uses a large swiss-roll tin

12oz butter
13.5oz plain flour
4.5oz cornflower
6oz caster sugar

Melt butter in small stainless steel saucepan.
Sift together plain flour, cornflour and caster sugar.
Add to melted butter and mix to a smooth dough.
Spread into tin, firm down and mark with a fork.
Cook at Gas Mark 4 (160°C Fan) until golden.



Lent and Holy Week at St Johns

Soup Lunches

12noon Thursdays in St Johns Church

Simple soup lunch with short reflection and good company

Voluntary financial donations to Foodbank

14 March

21 March

28 March

4 April

11 April

Study groups

Making 'sense' of the Passion of Christ

An exploration of the Passion through sight, smell, sound, touch and taste.

Running for five weeks beginning 11 / 12 March. Same content runs at two alternative times and locations. Feel free to join either.

Monday 8pm at St John's Church Hall

Tuesday 3pm at Southdown Methodist Church

Morning and Evening Prayer

8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday for the whole of Lent

Following material from the Church of England's 'Lent Pilgrim'

Compline

This simple and beautiful service of night prayer takes place in the Lady Chapel at St Johns.

Monday 9pm (The study group will finish in time for you to do both should you choose)

Thursday 9pm

Special events and services through Lent

All normal services will continue throughout Lent and they are supplemented by these special events.

Sunday 10 March, 6.30pm - A special evening service of readings for the first week of Lent.

Sunday 17 March, 6.30pm - Amici Voices and St James's Baroque - a liturgical performance of Buxtehude's meditation on Christ's passion. *Free entry, with a retiring collection.*

Sunday 7 April, 6.30pm - Carillon - Heinrich Schütz St Matthew Passion. *Free entry, with a retiring collection.*

Holy Week

Palm Sunday 14 April

8am - Parish Communion

9.30am - Commemoration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem with the blessing of palms, the Passion story from Luke's Gospel and Parish Communion.

6.30pm - Special evening service of prayers and readings as we begin Holy Week

Holy Monday 15 April

8pm - Stations of the Cross

Holy Tuesday 16 April

8pm - A shared evening service at Southdown Methodists

Holy Wednesday 17 April

9.30am - Holy Communion

8pm - Taizé style worship

Maundy Thursday 18 April

11am - Chrism Eucharist at St Albans Cathedral

8pm - Foot washing, sung Eucharist. A watch follows the service.

Good Friday 19 April

10.30am - All-age walking service - begin on the green in Southdown, opposite the Co-op and end in St Johns. Free hot cross buns.

12noon - 3pm - Three hours with Bishop Alan Smith. Free standing short reflections and silence, feel free to drop in and out.

Easter Sunday 21 April

5am - Sunrise service. Being on the common opposite the church. Followed by breakfast.

8am - Parish Communion

9.30am - Parish Communion followed by Easter egg hunt

6.30pm - Evensong

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St Luke's Cell prayer group

Would you like us to pray for you?

We pray for anyone in the parish who has asked for our prayers for themselves or for their loved ones. St Luke's Cell prayer group is named after the disciple and physician Luke, who is the patron saint of doctors. The group meets monthly to pray and is made up of members from St John's and Southdown Methodist churches.

If you would like us to pray for you or someone else then please be in contact with Michael Hughes 01582 765576



Lord Jesus Christ,

Lord Jesus Christ, remind us of the experience of your followers on that first Easter Day – meet with us when life is hard and grant the assurance that despite appearances, your loving purposes continue unchanged, your strength remains undiminished, and your love for us is indestructible. Speak again your words of peace and hope.

(Nick Fawcett, in *Prayers for Healing*, Kevin Mayhew, 2013)

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Getting to know the congregation

An interview with churchwarden James Hillman

How long have you lived in the area and what do you like about the community?

We moved to the area 17 years ago with our son, who was a few months old at the time. Our daughter was born a year or so later. We have moved a couple of times within Harpenden, before settling in the West Common area. We chose this area for a number of reasons: the convenience for London, which has been a work base for many years for me; the availability of green spaces and good walks; and relatively easy access to both the north and east, which is to where our respective parents lived. We moved to Harpenden from an island in the middle of the Thames in Oxford, with its own community identity, and we appreciate the same here too - both Southdown and Harpenden are small enough to have their own individuality, large enough to be exciting, and energised to be able to arrange and coordinate many and varied activities in and around the town.

How do you spend your time in and out of work?

I work as an actuary and am based primarily in London, although I spend a fair proportion of my working week in other parts of the UK. I have been lucky enough through my career to have experienced extended and exciting periods of time in other locations and countries, including working for a few months in Japan, a number of years working in the Netherlands, and frequent business visits to continental Europe and the United States. We continue to enjoy visiting new places as a family and try to visit a new area, city or country, primarily in Europe, each year. Closer to home I can hit a golf ball a reasonable distance (not necessarily in the right direction) and regularly enjoy a good walk spoiled at Alwickbuury Park. I am also

a member of an intensive and demanding book club that meets monthly in London and I am working my way through a list of classics that I feel I ought already to have read. One current project is helping to teach my 17-year old to drive (or at least helping him practice). It keeps the pulse racing!

What is your involvement with St John's?

We have been attending St John's since soon after moving to Harpenden. Both of our children were baptised at St John's and we have always felt at home. I was elected as Churchwarden three years ago, having deputised for two years prior to that. I also edited the parish magazine for a period. As one of the churchwardens I have a particular responsibility during the current vacancy and I have been heavily involved with the Bishop of Hertford, the archdeacon and rural dean, as a parish representative in the selection of Berkeley as our new vicar, who will start with us in May. Exciting times!

What does your faith mean to you?

A big question! I have a conviction that we are but stewards - both of God's creation and of His church and that it is God's will and our duty to make every effort to leave the world in a better place than we found it - and as Christians to remain relevant and progressive in society today. To that end what my faith means is all-encompassing and I hope influences the way that I act (however imperfectly) at work, at play, in business, with family, with friends and with colleagues. ●



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Mural at School

The Bishop of St Albans, Rt Rev. Alan Smith, visited St Nicholas CE school in Harpenden to unveil an exciting new art work, specially commissioned to mark the school's 160th birthday. Each pupil took part in the painting of the 32-foot mural, which traces a timeline from Queen Victoria's reign in 1858, when the school was founded, to the present day.

Local artist Liz Sergeant, who led the project, gathered ideas from the school's archives to develop the design. It depicts the evolution of playground games, music and technology, alongside local and global historical events, such as the Nickey Line steam train and the first man on the moon.

The children were thrilled to see their ideas adopted: 'We suggested the Emoji, the Minecraft figures and the Bloodhound which all feature on the

2018 board,' said Alfie, aged 10.

'I painted around the gramophone, and I learned that it played music in the olden days,' said Sophia, aged 6.

'So many people have played their part in making this project happen,' said headteacher Rizelle Crouch. 'We were delighted to have the bishop with us to celebrate this milestone in our school community's life.'

'The children have been so enthusiastic,' said Liz Sergeant, a graduate of Central St Martins who works with a number of schools in the district. 'It was such a thrill when the Bishop drew back the curtains to reveal the finished work, to hear the children excitedly pointing out to one the another the images they had painted.'

'It's a beautiful mural,' said parent Emma Roberts. 'My boys have been very proud of their involvement.'



Artist Liz Sergeant, Rt Rev. Alan Smith and headteacher, Rizelle Crouch, in front of the mural

Amici Voices: Buxtehude Membra Jesu nostri. Sunday 17 March, 2019, 6.30pm



Join Amici Voices and St James's Baroque for a liturgical performance of Buxtehude's meditation on Christ's passion. The perfect start to Lent. Free entry, with a retiring collection.

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Climate change is more important than Brexit! There, I've said it! Yet the media output, at least in the UK, would indicate otherwise.

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) gave the world a

final warning: the rise in global temperatures must stay under 1.5 degrees, rather than 2 degrees, by 2030 or else we face irreversible and catastrophic consequences. Though in this country it is hard to distinguish between unusual weather events and the effects of climate change, in poorer countries where Christian Aid (CA) has been working for many years, the impact is all too evident. The Philippines is one of the most affected areas. According to the World Risk Report 2014, more than half the population live in disaster-prone areas. About 20 typhoons hit the country each year and many cities are vulnerable to rising sea levels; yet rich industrialised countries like ours have created most of the carbon pollution. CA is supporting projects that help local fisher folk adapt to these devastating changes by developing more sustainable fishing methods and replanting mangrove forests to protect against storm surges. Training is offered to develop new businesses so that communities are less vulnerable when fish stocks fail.

Last year, Christian Aid Week in Harpenden raised an amazing £16,668, including Gift Aid. We very much hope that we can be as successful this Christian Aid Week (12-18 May). Each of us can play our part, by volunteering as collectors and/or by responding generously when that red envelope pops through our letter box. During Lent, too, we can reflect more seriously on our own individual responsibilities as citizens of the world. Repentance calls us to change direction and to turn from our old ways towards God's way of abundant life for everyone. We must, as a matter of urgency, reduce emissions and invest in a more sustainable future. The survival of the world's children depends on us all.

Pat Hudis

St. John's Fellowship & Study Group

This Fellowship & Study Group has, sadly, 'lost' some of its members in the last couple of years, and would be glad to have other interested members of the congregation join it. We are a lot more about fellowship than Bible study.

We meet on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Committee Room for an hour or so in blocks of four or five weeks, usually on either side of half-term, which means it's not a huge weekly commitment. Our last study text was C.S. Lewis' 'The Great Divorce', and we all spent much time teaching one another with the aid of Google!

We begin again on Monday, 11 February, when we're going to use Tom Wright's 'Surprised by Scripture – Engaging with contemporary issues' as the basis of our thinking. From Monday, 11 March, we become the St John's Lent Group, linking with Southdown Methodist Church, who will host a day-time group on Tuesdays. Contact Anne Edwards (767449) or Carol Cooke (769600) to find out more.

Anne

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The environmental crisis is perhaps the greatest challenge of our age. The Church of England is committed *to safeguarding the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.*

This is not simply a matter of minimising our negative impact on the local and global natural environment, although that is essential. More profoundly, it is to lovingly and harmoniously engage with the world as God has made it, and as we do so, we find that it is spiritually enlivening, deeply humanising and inspires worship of our creator God.

The Christian conservation charity A Rocha, who contributed to the Cultivate Arts Festival, has a scheme called Eco Church, which helps focus our thoughts and efforts. This has been endorsed by the Church of England along with other mainline churches, and has been taken up by hundreds of communities up and down the country.

St John's have signed up to this scheme and we begin by taking an audit of all areas of church life from worship to buildings to resourcing. Following this, we will work towards the relevant level award - bronze, silver, or gold - as a target to improve our environmental friendliness.

What next?

Look out in future magazines for updates and creative ideas for us all to live well and healthily in the natural rhythms of the world.

Find out more about the scheme at ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

If you have an interest or expertise in any aspect of environment care that might help the life of St John's church and the wider parish, then we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch through james@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk.



St John's installation for last year's Cultivate Arts Festival inspired a greater environmental awareness for the church and its involvement in Eco Church. Photo credit: Stuart Burnett.

Forthcoming events

March 2019

Friday 1 March	10.30 am	Women's World Day of Prayer in church
Friday 1 March	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Saturday 2 March	9.45 am	Mothers' Union Spring sharing day, at St Mary's Church, Redbourn
Sunday 3 March	4.00 pm	Faith and Light in the parish hall
Monday 4 March	8.00 pm	Fellowship and Study group in the committee room
Tuesday 5 March	5.00 pm	Pancake supper in the parish hall
Thursday 7 March	8.15 pm	PCC meeting
Friday 8 March	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Monday 11 March	8.00 pm	Lent group in the committee room
Friday 15 March	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Sunday 17 March	6.30 pm	Amici Voices in place of Evensong
Monday 18 March	8.00 pm	Lent Group in the committee room
Thursday 21 March	8.15 pm	Standing Committee meeting
Friday 22 March	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Saturday 23 March	7.30 pm	Imperial Male Voice Choir concert in church
Monday 25 March	10.00 am	Mothers' Union Deanery event – Lady Day service at St Mary's, Redbourn
Monday 25 March	8.00 pm	Lent group in the committee room
Friday 29 March	3.00 pm	Tea at Three in the parish hall
Sunday 31 March	11.30 am	Family baptism

April 2019

Monday 1 April	8.00 pm	Lent group in the committee room
Wednesday 3 April	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union meeting in the committee room
Friday 5 April	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Sunday 7 April		Annual parochial church meeting in hall after 9.30 am service

Sunday 7 April	4.00 pm	Faith and Light in the parish hall
Sunday 7 April	6.00 pm	Carillon Chamber Choir performing Heinrich Schütz: St Matthew Passion
Monday 8 April	8.00 pm	Lent group in the committee room
Friday 12 April	2.00 pm	Dorcas in the committee room
Saturday 13 April	10.30 am	Coffee concert in church
Friday 26 April	3.00 pm	Tea at Three in the parish hall

May 2019

Wednesday 1 May	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union meeting in the committee room
Thursday 2 May		Hall is polling station all day for St Albans City & District Council Elections
Sunday 5 May	4.00 pm	Faith and Light in the parish hall
Tuesday 7 May	8.15 pm	Standing committee
Saturday 11 May	9.00 am	Flower workshop
Saturday 11 May	7.30 pm	Music Makers Choir Concert in church
Thursday 16 May	7.30 pm	Institution and induction of Revd Dr Berkeley Zych
Saturday 18 May	10.30 am	Coffee concert in church
Sunday 19 May	11.30 am	Family baptism
Sunday 19 May	9.30 am	PCC commissioned at 9.30 am service
Wednesday 22 May	8.15 pm	PCC meeting
Friday 31 May	3.00 pm	Tea at Three in the parish hall





Services at St John's

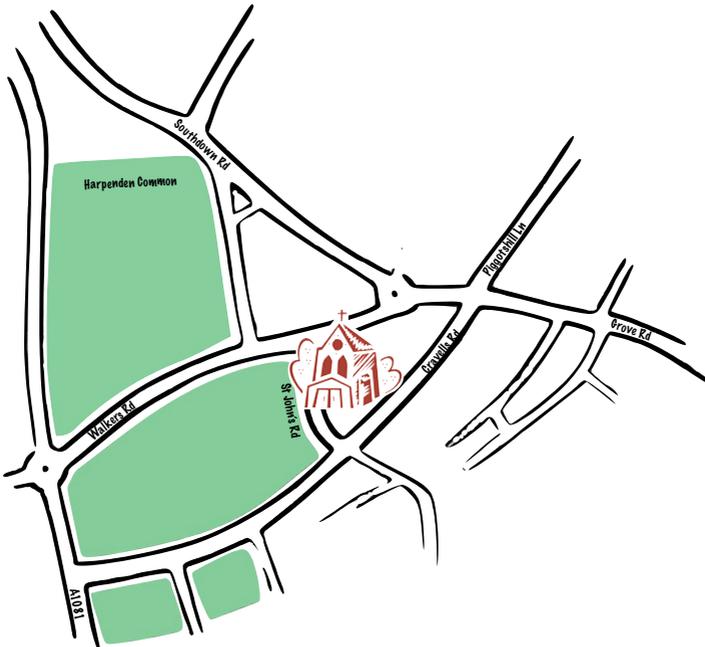
Sunday

- 8.00 am Said Eucharist
- 9.30 am Parish Eucharist followed by coffee time in the hall
All-Age Eucharist, *normally first Sunday of the month; see list inside*
- 9.30 am Junior Church, *except for All-Age Eucharists,*
and Little Gems in the hall
- 11.30 am Holy Baptism, *last Sunday of the month*
- 6.30 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday

- 9.30 am Said Eucharist

Major festivals advertised when appropriate in the magazine



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