

October 2017

# St. John's Church



After a short holiday our newsletter returns. We hope you have enjoyed your summer. As we look forward to Autumn we focus our attention towards Harvest where we celebrate the goodness of God in providing for our needs in the food we have to eat. It also gives us the opportunity to think of those through whom God works to actually grow and harvest our food.

On 8<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am we will celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving with a Family Communion Service, . We encourage you to bring tins/biscuits or any items which can be distributed to those in need.

Whenever Jesus talks about the harvest or about anything to do with food he nearly always referred to the people who do the donkey work, the sower in the field, the farmer who stores in barns, those who sort out the wheat from the tares, the labourers in the vineyard. In our world, however, such people are often overlooked or forgotten, especially if they are far away. We are very happy to find the fruits of their labours on our plates, the bananas or rice or chocolate or coffee or tea, but we seldom give the people who are primarily responsible for getting them there a second thought. This is not God's way. He is a God of justice and fairness and he calls his people to a similar pattern of life.

At harvest time, therefore, we are called to be thankful. Thankful to God, yes, but thankful also to those children of God who work so hard that we might be fed with all the delicious food we have the choice to buy here in Guernsey. But thankfulness is empty unless we give it substance. This is why Christians and others work so hard to try to create a fairer deal for the poor farmers and farm workers of the world. charity alone will never overcome the inequalities which exist in our world. That is why we are renewing our focus as a Church to support fair trade. We need to give poor farmers the chance to sell what they produce at a fair price.

Over the coming month we will be ensuring that all the items we serve in the church are Fairly traded. This harvest let us commit ourselves again to a fairer world in which the fruits of the earth may be shared more equally.

With my warmest regards and prayers.  
Matthew

**Sundays**  
9.30am  
Worship in Church

**Mondays**  
2.00pm Afternoon  
Group - Tea, chat,  
quizzes

**Thursdays**  
10.00am  
Holy Communion  
with Prayers for  
healing and  
wholeness  
All Welcome

For Baptisms, &  
weddings  
please contact  
Rev Matthew Barrett  
Tel 720879

Hall bookings  
Email:  
bookstjohnshall  
@gmail.com

Website:  
stjohnsguernsey.org.gg

**\*\*\* All Sunday Services begin at 9.30am \*\*\***

**Sunday 1 October**  
9.30am

**16th Sunday after Trinity**  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 8 October**  
9.30am

**Harvest Festival: Family Service**  
Family Communion with offering of  
harvest gifts.— please bring fresh  
fruit and veg or tinned produce/  
biscuits.

**Sunday 15 October**  
9.30am

**18th Sunday after Trinity**  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 22 October**  
9.30am

**19th Sunday after Trinity**  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 29 October**  
9.30am

**Last Sunday after Trinity**  
Holy Communion

Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find  
rest in the shadow of the Almighty Psalm 91:1

 Find us on  
**Facebook**

we now have a facebook page for St. John's  
where we will post exciting updates and photos  
go to @stjohnsguernsey and 'like' the page.

**Vicar**  
The Rev'd Matthew Barrett  
revmatthewbarrett@gmail.com  
Tel: 720879

**Mission Priest**  
The Rev'd Peter Graysmith  
graysmith.peter@gmail.com  
Tel: 715641

## The Long Road to Heaven

**Commences 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 October**, in the Church Hall when we will be watching the film 'The Way'

Watch the film then enjoy a Weekly discussion group  
Each one stands alone so come when you can! The course lasts 6 weeks although no meeting on Tues 24th October

## Harvest Lunch

Sunday 1st October at 12.30pm at the **Town Church**.

bring and share -£5 drinks includes raffle

## Team Meetings

We plan to have a refresher for all the different up front ministry teams. Bible readers, Intercessors, Servers welcomers over the coming weeks

Look out for the notice and be prepared to bring your coffee to the vestry for a short meeting.

## Thursday Mornings

10.00am

Holy Communion with Prayers for Wholeness & Healing

Coffee-Followed by Bible Study

All Welcome

## Monday Afternoon Group

Our popular Monday Afternoon Group meets at 2.00pm each Monday with our unique combination of quizzes, chat, news, tea and cake and our closing prayers and hymns.

2nd - Harvest preparation

9th - Rosemary & Peter

16th - Anita Carey  
*'travels in India'*

23rd - Half Term

30th - Kath - Quiz

*Newcomers always welcome.*

## Choir

6.30pm Tuesday Choir practice

All welcome speak to Dan Madden

## Welcome!

We serve free tea and coffee after all our services We hope you will join us so we can say hello.

We have a disabled ramp at the side door of the church, please ask if you need assistance and a disabled WC is in the foyer of the church

A Hearing loop is available in the front left hand pews

## Our Mission Statement

To meet the people of our diverse parish at their point of need, with God's love and hope.



Thanks to our amazing donors our food-bank is currently well stocked. However, we are low on the following items:

We currently need; Orange or blackcurrant squash, Coffee, Sugar, Pasta sauce, Corned beef or other tinned meat,

Please place the items in the Food Bank bin in Church or give to John Murr

## OASIS Bereavement support group

**Next  
Meeting  
Friday 6th  
October**

10.30 am –12.00 noon

**In the church  
coffee area  
Come for support,  
friendship,  
or a listening ear**

Annette Stewart  
Tel 236244

Bill Tostevin  
Tel 243544

Maggie Murr  
Tel 721899

**Vicar's warden:**  
Mr Alan Jewell  
alajewell@yahoo.co.uk  
Tel: 723359

**People's warden & LLM**  
Mrs Annette Stewart  
stewartfamily@cwgsy.net  
Tel: 236244

**Licenced Lay Minister:**  
Mr William Tostevin  
tostywmdc@cwgsy.net  
Tel: 243544