



ST JOHN'S LOCKS HEATH
Life • Hope • Joy

JUNE 2022

Welcome to St John's Church

We invite you to join us at our services, activities or groups. Come and visit or come and stay. You're always welcome.

This month, we will be celebrating our Patronal Festival - where we think about our patron saint, St John the Baptist.

One thing he taught us was that it's ok to be different. It's fair to say that he wasn't 'normal' even in Israel in AD something. From wandering in the desert, to wearing clothes of camel hair, and living off locusts and honey, John the Baptist certainly would cause a few raised eyebrows, but aside from questionable fashion and a diet that wouldn't be out of place on 'I'm a Celebrity', we can see that it's ok to go against the status quo for what we believe.

In a world that is rapidly changing and challenging, our faith can sometimes feel at odds with people around us.

If we want to live as Christians it is important for us to remember that our lives will often call us to go against the grain, but we can take courage from the example of John the Baptist to live life as we're called, not how society expects.

But with that said, we can be like John and trust that God will take care of us because we belong to him.

Just remember, when the unbelieving world hates you, they first hated me. If you were to give your allegiance to the world, they would love and welcome you as one of their own.

But because you won't align yourself with the values of this world, they will hate you.

I have chosen you and taken you out of the world to be mine. (John 16:7)

Whether you're searching, starting or continuing the journey of faith, our goal is to help you find the courage to stand for what is true, while experiencing life, hope and joy in the process, through the various services, courses, activities and events we host.

While you're doing that, we hope that you find a warm welcome, a place to belong and get involved, a group of friends, and lots of love and support.

GET IN TOUCH

www.sjlh.org.uk

office@sjlh.org.uk

01489 578 082

What's on – Sundays

Sundays:

Each week we usually have a **9am & 11am** service. There is a combined service coming up - see below for details

You can watch our 9am service online

<https://bit.ly/SJLHYouTube>

Children's groups - see next page

On the **first Sunday of the the month** we have our All Age service at 11am (so no children's groups that day). There's a **free lunch after the service** and the service will still have something for everyone no matter what age you are.

Sunday 5th, (Pentecost) Our speakers are Cliff Bannister at 9am and Hazel Foster at 11am

Sunday 12th (Trinity Sunday), Mike Moritz is preaching at both 9am and 11.

Sunday 19th At 9am David Wilson is our preacher and Hazel Foster is at 11am

Sunday 26th (Patronal Festival)

Combined Service 10.30am Mike Moritz is the preacher for this special service with food and fun afterwards

Weekdays & Saturdays

Wednesdays 10am:

Holy Communion Services with refreshments after the service.

The service leaders will be as follows:

1st	Ian Meredith
8th	Ian Meredith
15th	David Wilson
22nd	Cliff Bannister
29th	Mike Moritz

Please pray for those leading, preaching and all involved in bringing our worship services to us each week.

Ladies Prayer breakfast - Not on this month, but back again July 3rd.

Monday Café - A chance for a natter, a sweet treat and a cuppa (every Monday, even on Bank Holidays). All welcome **10.15am-12.00 noon**

Mainly 4 Men Thursday 9th June -

Doors open 7pm for an evening entitled Forty Weddings and Some Funerals! With a special musical interlude. BYOB and enjoy the evening with a good curry. Please let them know you're coming by emailing m4m@sjlh.org.uk

Spirit Café Saturday 11th June -

Doors open at 7pm. Join us for another evening of musical selections, while raising money for a community defibrillator.

Fellowship Wed 15th June, 12.30pm

Please note the earlier start time as we will be indulging in a Jubilee Lunch. Cost is £20pp. Call the office for details.





Children & Youth - Sundays

The first Sunday of each month there are children's activities during the 9am service. The 11am is an all age service, so no children's groups, but lots going on in the main service, suitable for all, with a light lunch served afterwards (free).

For the rest of the month...

Scramblers/Explorers (primary school children) run alongside the 11am services.

CONNECT (School years 7+) meet every Sunday night in the Hall at **7pm**.

To receive details or for more info please contact hazel@sjlh.org.uk.

Children & Youth - Weekdays

Toddlers are meeting in the Grove Room/Church **every Thursday** during term time **10.00-11.30am**

(No group on 2nd June for half term)

Contact hazel@sjlh.org.uk for details

Messy Church - Wednesday June 8th. Doors open **3.40pm** enter via the Grove Room (Church Road side of the building).

Primary school age children are invited to join us for crafts, games interactive stories or music and a meal. There's no charge, although donations are welcome.

Let us know any allergies or dietary requirements at least 24 hours before you arrive, but no booking required.

Please email hazel@sjlh.org.uk



Thy Kingdom Come

Once again it's that time of year when the global initiative **PRAY FOR 5** from 'Thy Kingdom Come' encourages us to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for 5 friends or family members who have yet to come to Christ.

While we need to always be doing this, sometimes we benefit from a more intentional approach.

This year they are 'lighting up the world' with prayer. So if you're going to commit to praying everyday for 10 days from 26th May to 5th June for 5 specific people.

Write the names of your five people below if you like, to help you remember.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Praying as a Priority

Deepening the vibrancy and effectiveness of our prayer life should be a priority, especially in the current climate; it needs to underpin all the changes and new opportunities we face. There is an exciting opportunity to do this from **Sun 30 May – Wed 1 Jun** with many different sessions, mostly at Holy Rood.

If you want things to do children over half term, there are even three morning sessions for them! No need to book, just turn up!

There are details on the notice board in the Grove Room or call the office for more information.

Jubilee Celebrations



Get creative...

Join us to decorate the church for the Jubilee weekend. Saturday **June 4th from 10am**. Bring flowers or other decorations (red/white/blue theme) and fill a space in the church with your beautiful creativity

We did this over Easter and in conjunction with some lovely pedestal arrangements and it looked beautiful, so please come along again for the celebrations

Jubilee Celebration Sunday

This weekend we celebrate our Queen's jubilee. After our 11am service, we will have our usual lunch (free).

There's lots going on around the community and within the western wards churches, so however you're celebrating have a wonderful time.

Bank Holiday

The church office will be closed Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd June for the bank holiday.



Jubilee Posh Tea
Join us on
Saturday 4th June @3pm
in the church hall
Join us for a 'posh' afternoon tea to celebrate the Jubilee and raise money for the Christmas Tree Festival 2022
Everyone welcome.
Tickets £10 per person

Booking required (click this image to book). Once you've submitted the booking you'll receive an email of how to pay on line, or you can pay by cash/card in the church office



Miscellany of Music

Saturday 25th June @2pm will see a plethora of musical talent singing/playing their hearts out to fundraise for the Christmas Tree Festival (CTF) planned for December this year!

The CTF will be supporting Two Saints & The Gosport/Fareham Basics Bank as their chosen charities.

The music will vary from Sister Act to Strauss! So come and enjoy the event

June Walks

Join some folk from St John's Church on a weekly walk.

Meet at the starting point **at 10am.**

Enjoy a walk and a maybe indulge in a cake with a cuppa somewhere on the way.

- 6th Sarisbury Community Centre to walk along the Hamble
- 13th SJLH to Whiteley
- 20th Titchfield Canal
- 27th Fareham Lake to Portchester

For details contact the office

A new family have arrived!

It's great to see our initiatives are bringing results. We were excited to see the to-ing and fro-ing going on as Blue Tits are clearly nesting in the nest box on the dead ash tree at the south end of the east car park. The busy activity implies that there are nestlings being fed or arriving imminently.

In other Eco news, we've posted a list of items that can be recycled locally - it's on the website on our eco page www.sjlh.org.uk/eco or there's a paper copy on the notice board in the Grove Room.



May PCC News in Brief

(full minutes will be published once approved at the next meeting)

New Churchwarden Ian (top left) and PCC members (left to right) Sharon & Kirsty were welcomed

Induction session scheduled for June 13th.

The following appointments were made:

Chair and Vice Chair of PCC,
PCC Co-Opted member (Ann, top right)
PCC Co-opted Treasurer,
Standing Committee members,
Parish Representatives,
List of service Welcomers.

A steering committee has been formed for the PCT

The AV System upgrade was discussed

9am Service Review points were discussed and the progress made so far.

Unsurprisingly, there is no further news yet on our Vacancy, but we need to keep hoping and praying. although realistically we have been told to not expect any decisions before the autumn.

Our Vacancy Prayer

Heavenly Father,

During this vacancy, guard and grow our parish as we serve you together in this period without a Vicar.

Lord Jesus, we know that you have plans for us and that these plans are always good. We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers and visitors.

Holy Spirit, please guide those who are seeking the right person for us, and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow.

Amen



Jesus' life and priorities are a model for SJLH. What are we about? We are not a social organisation. We exist as a worshipping community. Our priority should be to express and share the Good News of God's salvation. This is done through our services, Alpha and homegroups. We should also be providing some practical relief to the problems people are facing.

But what should that look like? What do we offer already? What are the practical needs of our community, your neighbours, and friends? Is there something we as St John's could offer? A sacrificial service? A costly gift of time, money, or energy. A witness of our love of God to help the lives of those who have yet to discover him. Some churches run food banks, help with hospital lifts, provide financial advocacy.

It would be interesting to hear what you think our practical priorities could or should be at this time.

Ian Coombs
Churchwarden

In the Gospels we read about the life and ministry of Jesus, and from his behaviour, we can see his priorities. For example, when Jesus visited the synagogue in Nazareth he provocatively read from the book of Isaiah. (Actually, he found two sections from Isaiah and put them together!)

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for
the prisoners and recovery of sight for
the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*
Luke 4:18-19

So, Jesus' priority was to bring Good News. To proclaim the outrageous news that God has a rescue plan for all people. So that all the mess in our lives maybe turned around if people repent and believe.

A further priority is the idea of there being good news to the poor, the prisoners, and the blind. Are these actual poor, real prisoners and the genuinely blind or is this a metaphorical description of those who may be: socially poor, prisoners to behaviours and spiritually blind? Possibly both. But through Jesus' life, we see God's love in action turning lives around. Think about Mary with her perfume, Zacchaeus up the tree and the night-time questions from Nicodemus. We also know about paralysed people who can walk, lepers cured and in one case a dead person raised to life.