



Welcome to the  
Services in our  
Benefice  
CONNECTIONS CHURCH  
part of St John's Church Family



## February 3<sup>rd</sup> Candlemas - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

### Services in the Benefice today

9.45am St. John's Family Service

11am Kelsale Holy Communion  
Leader and president: Nic S; speaker: Andy

6:30pm St. John's Holy Communion  
Leader Malcolm S; Speaker and president:

Andy

Readings: Malachi 3:1-5 and Luke 2:22-40

### Prayer for the Week

*Almighty and ever-living God,  
clothed in majesty,  
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,  
in substance of our flesh:  
grant that we may be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts,  
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

### THIS WEEK

Monday, 6.30pm - Alpha Course  
Monday, 7.30pm - Prayer Meeting - @ the Crossroads  
Tuesday, 2-4pm - Scrabble Afternoon - @ the Crossroads  
Wednesday, 9am - Morning Prayer  
Friday, 7pm - Choir Practice  
...two Parent & Toddler Groups and numerous  
Homegroups!

### EVENTS

#### Mission impossible planning meeting

Our holiday club is fast approaching, running between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April. We are looking for a team of volunteers to help us make this year another fantastic week. Whether you have volunteered before or you're new to this, please join us for our first planning meeting on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February at the Church at 9am. If you

have any questions please get in touch with Kirsty Christmas.

#### The HUB



Our new after school drop-in began last Wednesday in the church shop - 'At the Crossroads'. We welcome young people, school years 5-8 (aged 9-13), between 3:30-5:30 for games, homework space and a luxury hot chocolate. Please invite young people to join us, and please pray for us as we open the doors.

#### Bereavement Café

We are starting a new Ministry next month. Bereavement Café offers a chance to meet with others who understand the experience of loss. It is a space to talk about the pain of loss, express those emotions and find mutual support and encouragement, when it is most needed. It is a drop-in session, so needs no advanced booking, and it will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, from 2 till 3:30 At the Crossroads, starting

on **February 20<sup>th</sup>**. Tea and cake will be provided! If you have experienced bereavement recently or are still struggling to cope with loss, do come along. Do also think about neighbours, friends and loved



ones who may be experiencing these feelings and invite them.  
(Nic and Jill)

#### Sizewell Weekend

Yes, it may be winter now but it'll soon be time to head for the beach again. The church weekend away will be held at Sizewell Hall from arrivals after 4 pm Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July to departure around 4 pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Do get it in the diary now - many more details to follow!



#### Opportunity to Pray

The monthly prayer meeting held in the shop is on Monday evening, starting at 7:30... for an hour.

#### Funerals to come

The funeral of *Susan Pickering* will be held at St John's on 8 February at 1.30 pm followed by burial at the Greenwood burial ground. The funeral of *Rachel Battle* will be held at All Saints, Great Glemham. A provisional

date and time of 15 February at 11 am has been offered, but confirmation is awaited.

## NOTICES

### **Fun and games!**

If you have any board and table games gathering dust, we might have a new home for them. Our children's and youth work team are in need of some additional board and table games for our new Youth Café. We would love to have a variety of games on offer, so if you can gift any to us please speak to Kirsty Christmas or email [stjohnsyncwork@talktalk.net](mailto:stjohnsyncwork@talktalk.net)

### **Party Time!**

You won't need to bring a bottle - it's not that kind of party. Tom Lodge (bless him!) is willing to coordinate a work party to get various jobs done around the church and hall. Things like repairing the curtain and rail in Swann chapel which had fallen down (the curtain not the chapel!) and fixing the bolt on the door in the lower hall. So - would you like to party with Tom? Please say 'yes' as he needs a few volunteers. Ring him direct on 604822 and he'll fill you in. Shirley T.

### **Electoral Roll - the A-Z of who we are**

The forms are now available!! This year we have to prepare entirely new Electoral Rolls before the APCMs – which means all who wish to be or remain church members will have to complete a new registration form and give it to our Electoral Roll Officers – Sue Potter for St John's and Auriol Marson for Kelsale cum Carlton.

### **Changes Afoot...**

At the last St. John's PCC, a couple of decisions were made in order to help out the Connections team during Tom & Lou's Sabbatical 'break'. These are:

1. To move the Connections 'CaD' service from the third week of each month to the second week of each month. This gives more planning and preparation time for those meetings which require film-clips and ice-breakers, etc., very helpful as the team is reduced in number. As a bonus, folk normally at the school for week 3 could now get to Communion in St. John's, if they so wish.
2. To relocate the Family Service out of the school and into St. John's. Again, very helpful as the Connections team will have only 2 rather than 3 weeks where P.A. kit has to be transported and set-up.

These changes have been agreed for the duration of 'the sabbatical'.

### **The APCMs!**

The St John's annual meeting this year is scheduled for *Wednesday, 20th March*, and Kelsale cum Carlton for *Sunday, 24th March* following the 11.00am service. Early warning, you might think, but that's only weeks away!! Shirley and Adrian for St John's, and

Elizabeth for Kelsale cum Carlton are aiming to produce booklet-style handouts – as last year – but this will only make sense if we have stuff to include. If you have been involved in helping with any event or 'happening' in the Benefice during 2018, **please consider writing just a paragraph about it** and submitting it and/or a **photo or two** by the end of January to either [churchwardens@saxstjohns.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@saxstjohns.org.uk) for St John's or [hen25ley@sky.com](mailto:hen25ley@sky.com) for Kelsale cum Carlton ... or hand them a good old-fashioned piece of paper. Thank you.

### **Parking Peril!**

For your information, 'cameras', which we believe are intended to limit the duration of parking to two hours, have been installed at Waitrose car park. More information when we have it... but in the meantime... beware! Tesco have a similar system in operation.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*ALPHA - with the Wild West Homegroup. Last Monday we lost three people from our first week... but gained two more. Sincere table-top chats and some laughter... and great bangers and mash! Actually - it's fun. Our next Session:- 'Why did Jesus die?' Thanks for continuing to pray.*

*...for Sally Hartley as she undergoes a course of chemotherapy, and for Paul and Lizi as they support her.*

*...for the family, friends and carers of Susan Pickering who died in Hospital on Sunday 20th January, aged 67.*

*...for the family, friends and carers of Rachel Battle, who died on Tuesday 22nd January.*

*...for Margaret Bezant, recovering at home.*

*... for the family of Pauline Hayter, Wendy Browning's sister, who died on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.*

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## **Next Sunday: February 10<sup>th</sup>**

### **Fourth before Lent**

#### **9.30am Kelsale Holy Communion**

Leader and President: Andy; speaker: Nic S.

#### **9:45am St John's Connections CAD**

'Give us this day our daily bread'

**on the 2nd Sunday for the next 3 months**

#### **11am St John's Praise Service**

Leader and speaker: Nic S.

#### **6:30pm St John's Evening Worship**

Leader: Stephen H; speaker: Shirley T.

**Readings: Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Luke 18:18-30**

*Please send your contributions for the next Weekly Welcome Sheet – and any prayer requests - to [notices@saxstjohns.org.uk](mailto:notices@saxstjohns.org.uk) by noon on Thursday.*