



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



February 10th Fourth before Lent

Services in the Benefice today

9.30am Kelsale Holy Communion

Leader and President: Andy; speaker: Nic S.

9:45am St John's Connections CAD

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

Prayer for the Week

O God, you know us to be set
in the midst of so many and great dangers,
that by reason of the frailty of our nature
we cannot always stand upright:
grant to us such strength and protection
as may support us in all dangers
and carry us through all temptations;
through Jesus Christ your Son 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
Wednesday, 9am	Morning Prayer
Friday, 7pm	Choir Practice

...two Parent & Toddler Groups and numerous Homegroups!

EVENTS

Mission impossible? Of course not...!

Holiday Club is fast approaching, running between 8th and 11th April. Whether you have volunteered before or you're new to this, please join us for our first planning meeting on Saturday 16th February at the Church at 9am. If you have any questions please get in touch with Kirsty Christmas stjohnsyncwork@talktalk.net

The HUB



Our new after school drop-in has begun. Held 'At the Crossroads' church shop, we welcome young people, school years 5-8 (ages 9-13), between 3:30-5:30pm for games, homework space and a luxury hot chocolate. Please invite young people to join us, and pray for the success of this new venture.

Bereavement Café

A new Ministry begins later this month. Our Bereavement Café offers a chance to meet 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 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 2 till 3:30pm At the Crossroads, starting on **February 20th**. 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*

Lent Course

This Lent, as a Benefice, we will be running a course entitled "Six Steps to Loving your Church". This is a course for the whole church (not just those who take part in Home Groups) and will take place on Thursday evenings, starting on March 7th and ending on April 11th, in St John's Church, at 7:30pm. Most Home Groups have decided to suspend their meetings during Lent and we very much hope that as many members as possible of our churches will join us for what promises to be an uplifting and empowering course. *Andy and Nic*

Wednesday Toddler Group - Help, please!

We are looking for extra helpers. Most importantly to set up 8.45- 9.15 and pack away 10.45-11.00. Term times only. Help throughout the session would be good, make teas and coffees for parents, talk to parents, supervise the craft, help at drinks time.

Or if you want a new exciting challenge, take over the running of the group. Please talk to Jill Sedge, Annie Reive, or Wendy Mills.

Thanks

Thank you everyone for helping to make last week's Family Service so special. Participation was everything! A special thanks, also, to the all those who sorted out the furniture!! *Adrian*

Funerals to come

The funeral of Rachel Battle will be held at All Saints, Great Glemham on 15 February at 11 am. The funeral of Bernard MacDonald will be held at a time to be confirmed during the morning of 21 February at Seven Hills Crematorium.

Coffee Evening and fun stuff!

The Barnabas and Emmaus Home Groups will be holding another fun evening in St John's Church Hall on Monday February 18th from 7.30pm. There will be coffee, a bric-a-brac stall, tombola, cake sale, and crafts, as well as games. All funds raised will be for Kelsale church re-ordering fund. Do come and join us.

NOTICES

Giving in Grace.

From this Sunday, February 10th, until Sunday March 3rd, in our churches, we are having a sermon series on stewardship entitled "Giving in Grace". It is based on four passages from Luke's Gospel and seeks to put our giving into the context of Jesus's teaching and his own giving of himself on the cross for us. Do come and join us! *Andy and Nic*

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 for St John's or 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.
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 Margaret Bezant, recovering at home.

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

... for the family of Pauline Hayter, Wendy Browning's sister, who died on 23rd January.

Next Sunday: February 17th Third before Lent

9.30am Kelsale Morning Prayer

Leader: Pauline; Speaker: The Rector.

11am St John's Holy Communion.

Leader: Jill S. Speaker and President: The Rector.

6:30pm St John's Evening Worship

Leader: Viv WC; speaker: Malcolm S.

Readings: Ecclesiastes 2:17-26. Luke 12:13-21

Please send your contributions for the next Weekly Welcome Sheet – and any prayer requests - to notices@saxstjohns.org.uk by noon on Thursday.