



BENEFICE NEWS

March 1st

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7 "The Fall"
Matthew 4.1-11 "Jesus tempted in the wilderness"

9.45 am St John's Family Service at Connections Church

11:00am Kelsale Holy Communion

6:30pm St John's Holy Communion

Prayer For The Week

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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

Next Sunday - March 8th

Genesis 12.1-4a - "The call of Abram"
John 3.1-17 - "Jesus teaches Nicodemus"

9.30am Kelsale Holy Communion

9.45am CAD at Connections Church

11.00am St. John's Praise Service

6.30pm St. John's Evening Worship

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Corona virus

Corona virus (COVID-19) - summary of advice from the CoFE and Public Health England regarding Holy Communion, updated 17th February. COVID-19 has NOT been declared a pandemic and, at present, there is no Government advice that suggests the use of the Common Cup should be suspended. However, parishioners with coughs and sneezes should refrain from handshaking during the Peace and receive Communion in one kind, the bread, only. Intinction (dipping), even by celebrants or communion administrators, represents an infection transmission route and is not recommended. Priests presiding at the Eucharist, communion administrators and servers should wash their hands, preferably with an alcohol-based (minimum 60%) hand-sanitiser.

Lent Course

The book 'Saying Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio (available from 'At the Crossroads') leads us through Genesis and into a Lent course that deepens our understanding of God's provision for us. It is being used in groups meeting weekly at different times across the deanery, so that you may attend one group or pick and mix as suits you.

Thursday Morning at 10.30am at Leiston Vicarage started on February 27th

Thursday Evening at 7pm at the home of Adrian and Jill Brown in Alde House Drive, Aldeburgh (453427) started on February 27th

Monday afternoon at 2pm in Aldringham Vestry starting on March 2nd

Monday Evenings at 7pm in The Rectory at Stratford St Andrew starting on March 2nd

Tuesday Evenings at 7.30pm at St John's Church Saxmundham starting on March 3rd

Wednesday afternoons at 3pm in Aldeburgh Vestry starting on March 4th

The Greatest Showman - 4th July

Open-air cinema for the Community. Save the date.

STOP PRESS

The PCC is delighted to announce that at its meeting this week, it enthusiastically and unanimously agreed to appoint Malcolm Shoote and Geoffrey Boulton to act as Parish Representatives for the process of selecting a new Rector. Together with the Diocese, they will work closely with our Patrons, the Church Pastoral Aid Society, as represented by Graham Archer. If you think you recognise the name... you probably do! Graham and his wife were our Guest Speakers on the church weekend at Sizewell, back in 2017.

Prayer Walk - an update

There is a very encouraging initial interest in having a Prayer Walk, thank you. The first one will be on Monday evening, March 9th. We will meet at St John's Church at 5.00 pm and aim to return there after approximately an hour, having followed a circular route. We will pause at strategic places to pray for the people within; for businesses, for public servants, medical staff, teachers & children, etc. If it's raining, we will postpone it! (check with me if unsure). If you are unable to walk too far, you can still join in! Let me know and I will give you details so you can join us from the comfort of your armchair. (Doug)

The Wall of Answered Prayer

If you can, visit <https://www.thewall.org.uk/> ... scroll down and be amazed!

Need to Talk?

Contact details for St. John's church officers can be found on our Website,

www.saxstjohns.org.uk/contact-us/ and on the notice board in the church.

Annual parochial church meetings (APCMS)

APCMS will be held at St Mary and St Peter's on 15 March at 11 am and St John's on 18 March at 7.30 pm.

Max Ratcliffe

Max Ratcliffe has died peacefully after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. His funeral will be held at St John's on Wednesday 25 March at midday. More details will follow, but please pray for Ann and the family.

Holiday Club Planning

This is our holiday club theme this year and we need your help! If you would like to get involved in the best 4



days of the year then please give Lou a call on 652970. We need as much help as possible to ensure the week runs safely and smoothly. There will be a planning meeting on 14th March 9am at Lou and Tom's house. Many thanks. (Lou x)

Blue Service Book Round Up!

The St John's blue service books are being updated this month. If you have any copies at home, please return

them to church or pass them on to Fran or Viv for the new pages to be inserted. We will liaise with those leading services to ensure that you know the date of the changeover and have copies of the new pages well in advance.

Please ask Viv or Fran if you have any questions.

Scrabble

To be held in "At The Crossroads" on The 1st Tuesday of each month. The next session is on Tuesday the 3rd March between 2pm and 4pm.

We look forward to seeing you there. Enquiries to Jean or Tom Lodge 01728 604822.

World Day of Prayer

Women, men and children of all ages are called to '**Rise, take your mat and walk**' to join this day of prayer.

Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service, and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years.

World Day of Prayer is an international inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa, and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world.

The service in our locality this year is on **Friday 6th March at the URC in Chapel Road, Saxmundham, at 2pm**. Parking is available at the Masonic Hall opposite.

Locked out!

As many are now aware, the lock on the main door into the church hall failed and so we have had it replaced. Keyholders - Sorry if we didn't manage to get a new key to you before you found yourself locked out! Although we think we know who you all are, please can you email or otherwise tell us if you are in possession of ANY key related to church property. An audit from time to time is

a good thing, but we get embarrassed when we miss someone out. Thank you. (Adrian and Shirley)

.....And Open Up!



Do you know that bit in Psalm 84:10 that reads... "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God..." Well... as we open up the church daily for all those who wish to visit, it does mean we need willing souls who will tread the hill to unlock and lock each day. Without fuss, Tom & Jean and Jack & Sheila do this regularly (Thank you!) but we

have a period coming up when we will need some supplementary cover. Could you volunteer? Every little helps - as they used to say in the commercials. Please talk to Shirley or Adrian if you can offer, even limited, services as a doorkeeper.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS....

It may be a good time to remember all the activities engaged in by church members in the community, many unsung but known by a few. We could mention Open the Book, the Museum, 'At the Crossroads', the Community Fridge', Leiston Town Pastors, Parent & Toddler Groups and the Foodbank, to name a few. With planning for the Annual Meetings, change of incumbency and Holiday Club (see above), there is more to fuel our prayers.

