



## CHILDREN AT ST JOHN'S

All children are very welcome at St John's, and this might help:

- Please don't be afraid to sit at the front if your children would like a better view of what is going on.
- There are books, toys and colouring at the back of church.
- Please make use of the church in whatever way you need and please feel free to go outside if you need to.
- Join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.

If you would like to help out with either Junior Church or Mini Church please get in touch – [junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk).

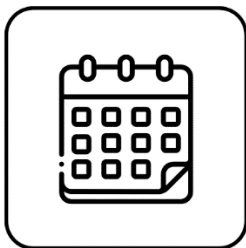
## GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

St John's is entirely self-supporting, and we rely on the generosity of our congregation and visitors to resource the life and work of this Church.

Please give generously to keep us going, and to keep us growing!

### Four easy ways to support St John's:

#### Regular Gift



set up a regular gift through the Parish Giving Scheme

#### Contactless



tap your card on the reader at the back of the church

#### Online



Scan here with your phone camera to give

#### Cash



in the collection plate during the offertory hymn

Please *giftaid it* if you are eligible

[alison.bygrave@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:alison.bygrave@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

## TODAY

**Happy Easter!!** Wishing everyone a very Happy Easter. From Revd Tim and the Ministry Team.

Thank you to everyone who has made put in the extra work so we can journey through Holy Week with such variety and prayerful dignity. A special thank you for all who have made St John's look and sound so wonderful today as we celebrate Easter.

## PARISH NEWS

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Please be aware there will only be one morning service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am. This will be followed by our last Bible Study on the Fruit of the Spirit, looking at Joy, in the Committee room after the service

**Vicar's day off is changing:** I'd like to give notice that from today I am changing my rest day to Monday. Revd Tim.

**St John's Monthly Prayer Diary:** Please pick up your copy of the NEW monthly prayer diary for April at the back of the Church.

**Lent Challenge 2026:** Throughout Lent we were raising money for the much-needed repair and redecoration of our church porch. A huge thank you to those of you who have so generously pledged gifts. So far we have had 67 pledges and we can now let you know that we have reached our target of raising £15,000 from the congregation. We are now in a good position to apply for grants and external funding so that we can be sure of covering the costs of the works.

To pay the pledges that you have made, or to give to this Lent Challenge, please do so by using the bank details below, including the reference "LENT26" or by using the QR code here. Thank you!



Sort Code: 20-74-09

Account Number: 90791938

Account name: St John's Parochial Church Council

**Parish Magazine summer issue:** Contributor deadline **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April**. Please send any images as separate attachments. Suggestions or questions should be sent to editor Susan [magazine@stjohnsharpenend.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohnsharpenend.org.uk).

**Flower Guild.** Our ladies are generous in their time and talents, providing fresh flowers to aid our worship throughout the year. If you would like to show your appreciation, or if you would like to remember someone especially, you can do this by making a donation in the box at the back of the Church, or in the one in the Lady Chapel. Thank you, Mary Hoare.

**Plant Sale at St John's, 19<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am:** We are having a plant sale to raise money for the provision of music at St John's. We will be selling indoor and outdoor plants and would be very grateful for donations of plants. Are you dividing herbaceous plants and could spare some for our sale or have you grown too many seedlings and could donate some? If you could help by offering plants, please contact one of us and we do hope you will support the sale on the day. Di Borthwick (07866 767305), Claire Robinson (07968 203477), Mary Hoare (maryhoare57@gmail.com) and Neil Bygrave (07712672709).

**Moria Carrington Memorial Service.** We will be holding a memorial service for Moira at 11.30am on May 10th, after which her ashes will be interred in the Garden of Rest. Do save the date as we give thanks for the life and witness of an important member of our community.

**Marathon Sponsorship!** A member of our congregation, Frankie, is running this year's London Marathon. She is raising money for Children with Cancer UK, a charity whose vision is a world where every child and



young person survives cancer. If you would like to help Frankie reach her target, you can do so online <https://2026tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/francesca-gambrell> or use the QR code.

**Do you want to be on our Electoral Roll?** Our annual exercise to update our roll commences next week. But you can apply now – read about why you should join and get the link to apply at <https://www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/electoralroll/>. Do speak to Tim or any member of the Ministry Team if you to discuss why you should join.

**APCM.** Save the Date! This year it will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> May after the Parish Eucharist. Please do put this date in the diary. We need to find two new churchwardens this year, so do prayerfully consider if you might support the ministry of the Church in this role.

**The Licensing of Revd Ritah:** Please be advised the time of Revd Ritah's licensing has changed to **7pm** on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Revd Ritah has been appointed as the next Vicar of St Oswald's Croxley Green. All are welcome.

**Project Phoenix:** The PCC is pleased to tell you that work is progressing on the new Parish Hall, aka Project Phoenix. A small working group is meeting

regularly, funds are still being raised, and a local property consultant has been appointed to draw up initial plans and an estimate of costs. To all who are still pledging and offering financial support, THANK YOU! Your gifts have made it possible to move forward this year.

**People Needed to Deliver the Parish Magazine:** A huge thank you to everyone that has stepped up already to deliver the Church Magazine. We still have a few roads that need to be covered: Grove Road Flats 12 (Cross Farm roundabout), Mons Close 15, Sandhurst Court 10, Camberley Place 12, Coleswood Road 86, Dark Lane 12 (suit families with children at Grove School). I will put a sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Or you can email me [deliveries@stjohnschurch.org.uk](mailto:deliveries@stjohnschurch.org.uk). Thank you. Sarah McKie

**Candle Recycling:** Unfortunately, we are no longer able to accept candles for recycling. If you wish to send candles for recycling please contact the following company to make arrangements: Balfern Grove & Recycled Wax, 55 Princess Street, Leyland, PR25 3HN.

## ECO CHURCH

**ECO Tip:** Consider having one or more days a week meat-free, or only eating meat once a day, to reduce your carbon footprint.

## COMING UP

**Meaning of Life Discussion Group:** We are starting a new discussion group! Monthly after church on Sunday's. Meetings to start in the committee room at 11am after the Sunday morning service and to last 45-60 minutes. Everyone welcome!

3rd May: Are we here by accident or intention?

7th June What makes a human life meaningful?

5th July. Is love the meaning of life?

**Date for your diary!** We will be holding our patronal festival on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June. The service will start at 11am followed by a BBQ in the Vicarage garden.

## SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

### THE COLLECT

Lord of all life and power, who through the resurrection overcame the old order of sin and death, to make all things new in him; grant that we, being

dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING:** Acts 10.34-43

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 28.1-10

28 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and

said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

God of Life,  
who for our redemption gave your only begotten Son  
to the death of the Cross, and by his glorious Resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of the enemy;  
grant us to die daily to sin,  
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of the risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### **IMPORTANT PARISH CONTACTS**

Revd Tim Vickers, Vicar of St John's (usual day off Monday)  
[vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 469343

Churchwarden: Iain Pritchard  
[wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

Parish Office: Amanda Knights  
[parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 712776

Director of Music: Matt Harrison  
[music@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:music@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

Safeguarding: Liz MacDonald  
[safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

**In our Parish for the sick:** Poppy Grey, Phoebe Ainsworth, Jonathan Ainsworth, Helen Davies, Giovanna Mills and those who are prayed for by our St Luke's Prayer Cell.

**On the anniversary of their death:** Ian McMillin, Dennis Russell, Maureen Lacey, Doris Porteous (5<sup>th</sup>), Gladys Jubb (6<sup>th</sup>), Jim Warren, David Fenton (7<sup>th</sup>), Annie Glyn-Davies (8<sup>th</sup>), Beryl Hutchings, Beryl Bird (10<sup>th</sup>), Joyce East, William Hewetson (11<sup>th</sup>).

**For the homes and families in:**

Sunday	Magna Close, Manor Close, Maple Cottages
Monday	Meadow Walk, Meadway
Tuesday	Mons Close, Nairn Close
Wednesday	Netherfield Road, Newton Close
Thursday	Oak Way, Oakfield Road
Friday	Oakhurst Avenue, Oakley Road
Saturday	Paddock Wood, Parva Close

**If you know anyone who might like a visit from the Church please speak with a member of the Pastoral Visiting Team, which includes Anne Edwards, Bryan Coventry, David Nye and the Vicar. Or contact via the Parish Office.**

*\* deadline for news items midday on Wednesday via [newsletter@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)*

**PARISH DIARY**

Monday		No morning prayer
Wednesday		No Holy Communion
	2.30pm	St Luke's Prayer Cell
Friday	10am	Timothy Ellis Horn Practice

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**No 8am Service.** 9.30am Parish Eucharist: First Reading: Acts 2.14a, 22-32, Gospel: John 20.19-end  
5pm BCP Evensong: Psalm 30.1-5, Daniel 6.1-23, Mark 15.46-16.8

**Weekday Worship**

Morning Prayer: 9.30 am Tuesday to Friday.

Wednesday 10.30am: Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel.

**Parish Office Hours:** 10am to 2pm Tuesday to Thursday.



St John's Church, 5 St John's Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1DJ