

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun 8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship
Reading Pursuit of God 2 – Divided Desires – Psalm 63
11.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm No Service

Mon 9.30am – noon Coffee Morning at SJ's
9.30am Week of Prayer Prayer Meeting at SJ's
8pm Prayer meeting at SJ's

Tue 6.15pm Journey (CRU2) (Yrs 3-5) CH Baptist
7.30pm Explore (Club 2000) (Yrs 6-9) at CH Baptist
7.30pm Discover (14+) at CH Baptist

Wed 1pm – 4pm CareerCafé

Thur 7.30pm Parenting For Faith Course

Fri 10am Craft Club at SJ's

NEXT SUNDAY – 19th January

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Communion
6.30pm No service

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Moses and Aaron were trying to get Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery in Egypt without success. So the Lord told Aaron that if Pharaoh wanted a sign from the Israelites God (the Lord) then Aaron should confront Pharaoh and throw down his staff in front of him. What happened?

Read Exodus 5: 8 - 10

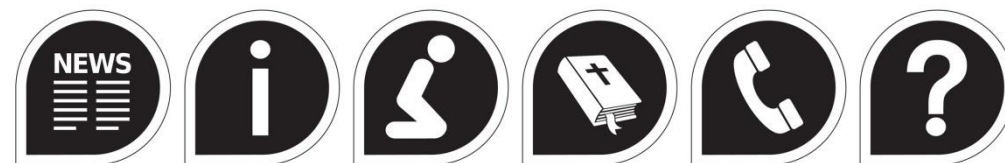


PRAYER MEETINGS @ SJ's at 8pm

In January the meetings will take place on 13th, 20th & 27th.
All welcome.



19th January 2020
2nd Sunday of
Epiphany



THE PURSUIT OF GOD

If you don't like being challenged then don't pick up Tozer's book, 'The Pursuit of God' – the title of our current teaching series. He wasn't one to mince his words, but written in the late 1940s, many parts have a surprisingly contemporary ring:

"We have been trying to apply machine-age methods to our relations with God. We read our chapter, have our short devotions and rush away, hoping to make up for our deep inward bankruptcy by attending another gospel meeting or listening to another thrilling story told by a religious adventurer lately returned from afar. The tragic results of this spirit are all about us. Shallow lives, hollow religious philosophies, the preponderance of the element of fun in gospel meetings, the glorification of men, trust in religious externalities, quasi-religious fellowships, salesmanship methods, the mistaking of dynamic personality for the power of the Spirit: these and such as these are the symptoms of an evil disease, a deep and serious malady of the soul."

Don't say I didn't warn you!

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WELCOME

If you are joining us for the first time today and wish to find out more about what goes on then introduce yourself to one of our leadership team or **fill in one of our Connect Cards**.



NEW YEAR, NEW TEAMS

At the back end of 2019, we reshaped the look of our Teams and refined their remit. Hopefully, that's not too hazy a memory. We asked everyone to hold off initially from indicating what Teams they might like to be involved with and said we would revisit the matter in earnest in the New Year. That time has come!

Over the next few weeks we would like you to get in touch with the Team Leaders to express (however tentatively) the possibility of getting stuck in with a Team. Here's the link for the Team profiles:

<http://www.stjohnsww.com/blog/2019/11/25/new-team-profiles>

or you can go to the website under the Blog section and look under 'New Team Profiles'.

Remember, we're encouraging people to limit their involvement to one Team at this stage.



FOODBANK

Needs for this week are Long life fruit juice, Washing detergent and washing up liquid,

Male and female deodorants, Toilet rolls, Shaving foam and male razors.

Please leave any contributions in the box in the church porch. Thank you.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

18th to 25th January

2020

The approach to this year's Week of Prayer is slightly different from previously. Rather than hold a meeting each night at different churches, we will hold one more significant service of worship and prayer on **Saturday 25 January, 10am** at Emmanuel Church.

For the remainder of the week, there will be an open invitation to each of the churches regular prayer meetings, as follows:

- **Mon 20th Jan at 9.30am** in SJ's, 56, Croydon Road
- **Tues 21st Jan at 8am** in St Mary's Church, The Avenue
- **Weds 22nd Jan at 9.30am** in St Francis' Church, Ravenswood Ave and at 2.15pm in Emmanuel Church, The Grove

- **Thurs 23rd Jan at 9am** in St Francis' Church, Ravenswood Ave and at 7.45pm in West Wickham & Shirley Baptist Church, Wickham Road
- **Friday 24th Jan at 9am** in St Mary's Church, The Avenue and at **9.30am** in Coney Hill Baptist Church, Coney Hill Road.

It would be good to build on the work we shared together in 2019, so do come to as many of these meetings as you can to strengthen our fellowship and consider what we might do together in 2020.



CHURCH KNEELERS

If you are finished using your kneeler as a prayer prompt (hopefully not finished with prayer!),

then please bring it back to church. If you found it a helpful nudge to pray, find something new that is equally incongruous to bring into your everyday space to continue growing the habit of regular prayer – we can share suggestions for things that have helped jog us towards prayer.



PARENTING FOR FAITH COURSE

We are running a course for all those who want to help the kids and young people they love to connect with God. For more information about

Parenting for Faith course look on our website or grab a flyer.

<http://www.stjohnsww.com/parenting-for-faith>



SAVE THE DATE - FUNDRAISER FOR LINK TO HOPE WORKING PARTY

A classic Afternoon Tea on 20 and 21 June 2020. More details to follow a little nearer the time (!), but you can get it in the diary nice and early.



CHURCH DIARIES

There is a box of free church diaries in the porch. Please take one.



PRAYERS

Please pray for:

- Steve Read and his work with Ambassadors Football, our mission focus this month;
- The Parenting for Faith Course and all those who will be attending;
- The development of our joint mission and fellowship as different churches in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;
- Our Teams, as people get involved and we look to mobilise them again.