



Bulletin



The Parishes of Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger and Farnham
Sunday 25th February 2018 - Second Sunday of Lent

THE HARMONAIRES CHOIR CONCERT

'WIDE OPEN SPACES'

Saturday 3rd March at 7pm at St John's Church.

A fundraising concert for St John's Church Hall, please support it.

There will be a bar and raffle.

Tickets at £10 (£6 students) are available from the Church Office (815243), on the door or from

Liz Jennings.

REQUEST FOR RAFFLE PRIZES

Ann Conroy and June Winter have kindly agreed to run the raffle at the Harmonaires fundraising concert. If you have any suitable prizes (unwanted Christmas presents?) could you please let Ann or June have them or bring to church. Thank you. *Liz Jennings*

TRAIDCRAFT EASTER EGGS

Fair Trade Easter eggs are available to buy on the Traidcraft stall, and any ordered eggs ready for collection. Please support Traidcraft by purchasing these eggs as it will help the small-scale farmers and producers to trade their way out of poverty. *Jean Newson*

CTS LENT COURSE – FEAST OR FAMINE

The first session (Spending or Saving?) of our 5-week Lent Course took place on Tuesday. This was led by the Quakers and the presentation and discussion gave us plenty to think about. Next week's session on 27th February (Hunger or Satisfaction?) will be led by Howard and Ros Page from the Family Church and will, as usual, take place at St Therese's Church Centre at 7.30 pm (come a bit earlier if you would like a cup of tea/coffee). The following three sessions will be led by the Free Church (6th March), the Catholic Church (13th March) and last, but by no means least, our Rector Paul will take the final session on 20th March. Please feel free to come to any of the sessions – each one stands alone, so don't worry if you are only able to make one or two of them. *Kathy West*

ST JOHN'S MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

These meetings will take place in the church at 8pm on Monday, 12th March.

Church wardens and PCC members will be elected.

This is also your chance to have your say about matters relating to our church, so please do come.

Everyone is welcome, although only electoral roll members may vote.

Kathy West, PCC Secretary, St John's Church

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Keep the day free!

On Friday 2nd March the WWDP

service will take place at St Theresa's Church, Stansted at 1.30pm (note change of time).

Everyone welcome to join us.

Refreshments afterwards.

Do come along.

'SIX FOR DINNER' FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

This Fundraising initiative seems to be moving forward. Just to remind you, I suggested forming a Dining Group called 'SIX FOR DINNER' (for want of a better title). One person buys ingredients, then cooks and presents a meal to five guests. Each guest pays £25. I reckon that with a bit of careful shopping, a very acceptable three course meal with wine can be provided for £10 a head, with the balance going to church funds. Of course, I realise that not everyone has a talent for cooking, but most of us enjoy eating. So I have left a list at the back of church for you to sign up to say if you would like to be a host (and cook) or a guest (and eat) – or both of course! As soon as we get enough people we can start grouping people together for the first round of meals. And it doesn't have to be in the evening – maybe some people might prefer a lunchtime event. *Ray Smith*

MUSIC@STANSTED

7.30pm Saturday 10th March

St John's Church

Chenyin Li (piano)

Rachmaninov * Beethoven * Stravinsky

Tickets: adults £15, over 60's & students £12 - available on the door or from *Sonia Levy (815282)*

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

25th FEBRUARY - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Hymns: 706, 72, 689, 303, 337

Anthem: 'Come my way' Archer

Bible Readings:

Reading: Romans 4.13-25

Reader: John Jaques

Gospel: Mark 8.31-38

Interceder: Elizabeth Jennings

Traditional Collect

Almighty God, who showest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

4TH MARCH - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Bible Readings:

Reading: Exodus 20.1-17

Reader: Anthony Minshull

Gospel: John 2.13-22

Interceder: Peter Jones

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*Those who are sick, especially **Eddie Laird, Lily Suckling and Tricia Walters from Stansted, Alfie Jones, Baby Tilly from Birchanger and Crystal Cock from Farnham**, that they will have God's healing and peace as they need it and that their families and friends will know God's strength as they support them.*

*Those who have recently died, especially **Norman Charles Proctor, Ivan Charles Mascall and Tony Butcher**, for their friends and families, and for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, especially **Peter Chastney, Gladys Farmer, Olive Jane Lee, Joan West**.*

Fairtrade Fortnight starts tomorrow. Pray for fairness and justice in our trading system globally, for fair prices for producers, and a wide perspective for consumers in the impact of their choices. Give thanks for the Fairtrade Movement, and local initiatives in our diocese which highlight fairtrade products and raise debate about economic justice for all.

Please send any material to be shared in the next bulletin or requests for the prayer list to the Parish Administrator by **9am on Friday 2nd March**. Anything coming after this time will be forwarded to the next week. Thank you.

Bible Readings for the Week Ahead

Mon 26 th Feb	Psalms 32 Genesis 43.16-end
Tue 27 th Feb	Psalms 50 Genesis 44.1-17
Wed 28 th Feb	Psalms 35 Genesis 44.18-end
Thu 1 st March	Psalms 34 Genesis 45.1-15
Fri 2 nd March	Psalms 41 Genesis 45.16-end
Sat 3 rd March	Psalms 25 Genesis 46.1-7, 28-end

Thoughts to accompany these readings are published as "Reflections for Daily Prayer" available as a book or smartphone app. If you have problems obtaining a copy the Rector would be glad to help.

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

St John's Stansted

Mon to Thurs & Sat 5pm - Evening Prayers

Tuesday 9.15am - St John's Tots

Wednesday 9am - Morning Prayers

10am - Holy Communion

Thursday 10.30am - Coffee Pot

2pm - Thanks Giving Service for the life of Tony Butcher

Saturday 10am - 'Meet the Bible'

Sunday 8am - Holy Communion

9.30am - Family Communion

St Mary's Birchanger

Sunday 11.15am - Matins

St Mary's Farnham

Sunday 11am - Holy Communion

Rector: Revd Paul Wilkin

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Director of Music: Anne Brooks

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Parish Administrator - Church Office:

Barbora Dragoskova

st.johns.church@btinternet.com / 01279 815243

(Office Hours: Mon, Weds, Fri 9am-12noon)

Church Hall (Bookings and Administration):

stjohns.hallbookings@gmail.com / 07582 856689