



The St John's Journal

Friday 9th February 2024



UGANDA 2024 TRIP



We just want to say an absolutely HUGE thank you to each and every one of you who has supported us in prayer, donations of money, clothes, words of encouragement, buying cakes, employing our young people.

The support from this church has been amazing and I know that each member of the team has been blown away by your generosity. We left at on Thursday 8th Feb at 4:45 and will return at approx 8am on Wednesday 21 Feb.

Please continue to pray for the team, for safety, and for each of the activities they will be doing in Uganda. Prayer leaflets are available by the Uganda pin board in church if you wish to pray for us throughout the duration of our visit. Or maybe take a photo of the one pinned up.



WORSHIP AT ST JOHN'S AND CRABTREE

During the interregnum service times vary. Here are the service times for the next two weeks.

See the [website calendar page](#) for details of other weeks.

SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

9.00am Traditional Morning Prayer Service
11.00am Forest Church on the Church Field
3pm Service of Communion at Crabtree St Andrews
7pm Contemporary & Youth Worship

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

9am Traditional Morning Prayer Service
11.00am Contemporary Worship (with Kids Groups)
7pm Contemporary & Youth Worship with Communion

Every week - Tuesday Shoppers Service at St John's

10.30am Informal Worship Service (with Communion on 1st Tuesday of the month)

RECORDING SERVICES Please note that we record and livestream some of our services for our [YouTube channel](#). For more information, contact the church office.

KINGDOM QUEST CRAFT ATTACK **TONIGHT – Friday 9th February** **6.30pm** **Church Hall**



Calling all KS2 children to join us for our latest Quest! Are you up for the challenge? It could get messy! Dress for mess! This Quest is all about getting creative with our CRAFT ATTACK!

Sign up on ChurchSuite - [Kingdom Quest - Craft Attack! ChurchSuite](#). £2 per child. For more information speak to Tracey Fitzsimmons (tracey.fitzsimmons@sjb-burscough.church)

FOREST CHURCH **Sunday 11th February** **11am** **The Church Field**



Join us for this month's Forest Church at St John's Field (next to the Church Hall) where we will be exploring the theme of Lent. It would be a great time to come along and consider how Lent and the build up to Easter will look for you.

Forest Church is for all ages and we will be outside for the whole time. **We will be meeting at 11am on the Church Field next to the Church Hall (there is no 11am service in church that day so this is the perfect opportunity to try Forest Church if you have never been before).**

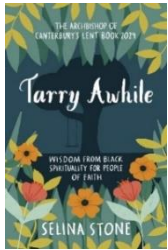
Please dress for the weather as it will be cold (and probably wet) – so wear appropriate footwear as we are outside whatever the weather. If you would like to bring your own drinks/snacks and outside chairs/blankets, please do. (although they are not essential). It would be great to see you!



Join us for a service of Holy Communion with the opportunity to come forward to be marked with ash as a symbol of repentance, led by Rev Eileen Heaney.

LENT RESOURCES

This year Lent starts on VaLENTines Day (Ash Wednesday). We will have some ideas of ways we can explore Lent at home, and together. Hardcopies are available in church, or can be accessed online at www.sjb-burscough.church/lent-2024-watch-pray/



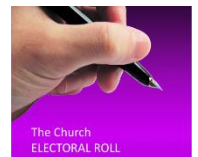
It would be lovely to be able to journey through Lent together by doing the same Lent reflections every day. All the details of our Lent and Easter Services are included too, as well as on Church Suite and in our next Journal.

The Church of England is recommending a book for Lent 2024 called Tarry Awhile – so if you enjoy a book to read over Lent, this may be one you would like to order from Eden books, Amazon or other book sellers (such as the Christian Bookshop in Chorley).

Weekly Online Compline Services: In addition, there is a weekly evening Compline Service organised by the Ormskirk Deanery Partnership. For more information see MyChurchSuite, or see the [Lent Blog](#) on the website which includes details of how to sign up, dates of the sessions, and the order of service to follow.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL Open from Sunday 4th February to Sunday 18th February

If you are a regular attendee of St John's and want to join our electoral roll, forms will be available in the West End, from Sunday 4th February. If you are unsure whether you are already registered, a list of current names will be pinned up on the notice board. You must be on the electoral roll if you wish to stand for any positions at the APCM!



ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING Sunday 24th March 12.30pm – 2.00pm (approx.) In Church



Our APCM will take place on Sunday 24th March at 12.30pm, straight after the 11.00am service. Papers will be available in church and online prior to the service.

Like last year, we are encouraging people to bring a picnic lunch to eat together following the 11.00am service and we aim to begin the meeting promptly at 12.30pm. To enable parents with children to attend the meeting, there will also be a supervised 'Kid Zone' in the West End, where there will be activities available.



BIBLECRAFT

Thursday 15th February

7.30pm

Church Hall



If you like to doodle, sketch, colour, paint, or craft in other ways to explore faith in a creative way, then this Biblecraft group is just for you! **We meet on the 3rd Thursday each month at the Church Hall (note the change of venue!),** with brews and cake from 7.15pm and the session starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome – no experience necessary at all, we are just a group that aims to have a relaxing and fun time with Scripture. This is not a Bible *study* but more an exploration and experimentation with some Bible Craft techniques and perhaps a chance to let God speak to you through His Word.

WINTER HOLIDAY AT HOME Friday 16th February

10am onwards

Church Hall



Beat the winter blues and enjoy a day of warmth and connection at our Church Hall on Friday, 16th February, starting at 10-10:30 am with steaming cups of coffee and tea. Plenty of fellowship and enjoyment, where laughter, delicious food, and engaging activities await. Worried about parking? Don't be! We've secured ample space in the school playground for your convenience.

To ensure a seamless experience and enough lunch for everyone, please sign up on ChurchSuite or by using this link: [Winter Holiday at Home \(16-Feb-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#). While we appreciate a £5 contribution per person, it's not mandatory, especially for those who might find it challenging. Let's celebrate the joy of togetherness – see you there for a day of laughter, creativity, and community!

FAIRTRADE STALL

Sunday 18th February

9am & 11am service

Church



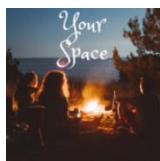
The Fairtrade stall will be in church on Sunday 18th February after the 9am and 11am service. Please support this worthy cause. Speak to Liz Hawksby for more information.

YOUR SPACE

Wednesday 21st February

8pm to 9pm

West End of Church



Why not come along to 'Your Space': ('Support your body, mind and soul in a busy world') held in Church. We will be exploring guided imagery, relaxation, breathing exercises, meditation, mindfulness and creative activity in a supportive environment. This will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Invite family & friends to sign-up for the session by using this link: [Your Space - Meditation & Relaxation Group ChurchSuite](#). The sessions are designed to be accessible to people of all faiths and none whilst keeping the Christian faith at their heart. For more information contact the church office, or speak to Vicki Downey.

PRAYER FOR THE KING & THOSE WHO ARE SICK

At this time we pray for our King, the head of the Church of England.

Father of Mercies, grant to Charles our King comfort and sure confidence in you, and keep him in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ our Lord.



We also pray for those we know who are sick at the moment:

Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

NIGEL'S SWIM FOR KIYINDI SCHOOL, UGANDA



Nigel Greenhalgh is challenged himself on Saturday 27th Jan at Bannatyne's Health Club, to complete a long swim to raise funds for the new school building in Kiyindi, Uganda. He did an amazing job swimming 100 lengths with just one arm! He has raised over £1450! Well done Nigel! What a swimming superstar!

Prayer Connect+

The purpose of the prayer connect group is to seek the Lord and draw near to Him, in prayer, in praise, in song (Psalm 100). We also spend time listening and in His goodness the Lord has drawn near to us.

There are some slight changes to the timing and location of the Prayer Connect meetings. Monday evening sessions are at 7.30pm at Chris & Wendy Whiteheads, and the Thursday morning meetings now start at 10am and will be held in the Church Prayer Room. Everyone is welcome to come as they are to either or both of the sessions. See Church Suite for more information or contact the Church Office.

MEMORY LANE CAFÉ

Friday 23rd February

11.00am to 12.00pm

Church Hall



Memory Lane Café is a place where stories matter. Church members and their friends are all invited. It's a wonderful way to say no to isolation and yes to showing God's enduring love to the local community, and especially to those who can forget how much he loves them. For more information, please speak to [Dave Emmett](#).

'TIME4US' CARERS LUNCHES

Wednesday 28th February

12.30pm

Hesketh Arms, Rufford



Do you currently, or have previously cared for a loved one? If so and you would like a bit of 'Time4us', this lovely group usually meet on the last Wednesday each month, to eat lunch together. (Choose whatever you want from the menu and pay for it afterwards). You will be sure of a warm welcome! All carers (or previous carers) are welcome to join us and your

loved one is welcome too. Please speak to Susan Murphy if you would like to join Time4us Lunch. For more information, please speak to Diane, or contact the Church Office.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1st March

2pm

Church



This will be hosted by our church this year so it would be lovely if as many people as possible could support this very interesting and important service. If you would like to know more about World Day of Prayer then please see our blog post on the [website](#). **Please note that we are moving the service to 2pm in the afternoon.** As the service lasts just an hour, parents and grandparents collecting children from school will be able to do this.



The service this year has been prepared by the women of Palestine. The service will be followed by a short presentation on the situation on Palestine. In addition, two of the PrayerConnect sessions will have a focus on praying for the situation in Palestine. These will be held on:

- Thursday 22nd Feb, 10am in the Church Prayer Room
- Monday 26th Feb, 7.30pm in the Church Prayer Room

For more information contact Diane Edwards (details on MyChurchSuite) or contact the Church Office.

Reminder: There is a rehearsal for those involved in the service on Sunday 25th Feb at 1pm.

GROUPS AND EVENTS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

More information on all the groups and events can be found on the [website](#) or on MyChurchsuite.

- **WOOL 'N' CHAT** – Mondays 1pm to 3pm in the Church Hall. Bring along your craft, have a brew and chat!
 - **PRAYER CONNECT** – Monday evenings at 7.30pm at the Chris & Wendy W's house, or Thursday mornings at 10am in the Church Prayer Room.
 - **LITTLE LAMBS BABY & TODDLER GROUP** – Wednesdays at 9.15am to 11am in the Church Hall
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GROWTH GROUPS

We will have some new study material prepared by Revd David Banbury. This is based on 1 Peter with a focus on “ Hope in the Trials of Life”. This can be found on the [church website](#), on MyChurchsuite and hard copies are available in Church or from the Church Office. Contact Lesley Millie, Lesley.millie@sjb-burscough.church if you think you would like to join a Growth Group, or just go along to try one out and we can try and find a suitable group for you.

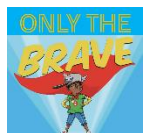


ONLY THE BRAVE DAY

Friday 9th March

10am to 4pm

Church Hall



We are inviting children from Reception - Year 6 to have courage and come along to our Only the Brave Day 2024. Being brave can look different for each one of us, so join us at the Church Hall for a fun packed day of activities, crafts, challenges, games (including real life Quidditch!) and fun exploring what it means to be brave, including how we can be brave in following Jesus. £8 per child. For more details and to sign up see MyChurchSuite or click here: [Only the Brave ChurchSuite](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES www.sjb-burscough.church

Take a look at our [BLOGS & NEWS](#) page (**we have some new entries**). Click for up-to-date information and interesting articles about events happening at St John's and in the local community.



Like, Follow and Subscribe

Click the icons to go to our social media channels.



CONTACT US You can call the church office on 01704 897852, or by emailing office@sjb-burscough.church. If you have something that you would like to be included in the St John's Journal, please email the information to communications@sjb-burscough.church.

The next St John's Journal will come out on Friday 23rd February 2024.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
BURSCOUGH

Our verse for 2024

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10
