



The St John's Journal

Friday 12th April 2024



MEET AND MAKE TODAY!!!! Friday 12th April 10am to 12 noon Church Hall



Today we have Meet and Make at the Church Hall Lounge from 10-12. If you would like to come and help us prepare our crafts and activities that will be in our Toddler Group, Kid's, Youth and Schools sessions this coming month. Also a great opportunity to catch up with one another! Come for part or all of the session!

Bring your own scissors! Drinks and biscuits provided.

KINGDOM QUEST (Key Stage 2 Kids) Friday 12th April 6:30-7:45pm Church Hall

Calling all KS2 children to join us for our latest Quest! Are you up for the challenge? Come along to play Quidditch and Dodgeball. Can you catch the super speedy golden snitch to win the prize? Come dressed for indoor sports.

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



KINGDOM KIDS PJ & MOVIE PARTY (Primary school Kids) Saturday 13th April 4pm to 6pm Church Hall



Bring a picnic tea, cuddly toy and any snuggly blankets you may like - come along to watch a movie. Wear your Pj's so you can get ready for Saturday Night Chillax once you get home. Each child can bring ONE friend - you must sign them up and tell them all the relevant info if you do. Sign up on [ChurchSuite or online](#).

FOREST CHURCH Sunday 14th April 11am Ainsdale Beach



Just a reminder that this Sunday we have no 11am service, but we have moved our monthly Forest Church to 11am this Sunday 14th April.

This Sunday we are journeying to Ainsdale Beach for an epic retelling of what happened after the Easter Story, followed by Forest Church activities. Everyone is invited and it would be lovely to see you (Forest Church is for all ages – not just for families or children!). If you want to know a bit more about what to expect at Forest Church then see our recent blog post on the [website](#).

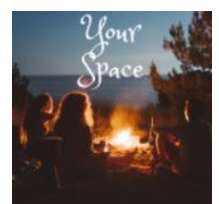
There will be someone at the Beach Car Park to direct you to our Base Camp, and we will be starting at 11am - so try to come early to leave time to find us. If you decide to park on the Beach, there is a charge for this. Bring your own drink and chair if you want one. Make sure you come dressed for the weather as we will be outdoors! If you would like to bring a picnic lunch, then we could stay and play games for a while afterwards.

You might want to bring some money for the ice cream man (if he braves the weather!)
Dogs must be kept on a lead. No need to sign up, just come along!

YOUR SPACE Wednesday 17th April 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 17th April Sign Up](#). 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.



BIBLECRAFT

Thursday 18th April

7.30pm

West end of Church

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 in the West End of Church (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.



THANK YOU FROM REV BRIAN ABRAHAM



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
I would like this opportunity to thank the many of you who have prayed for me, and supported me in so many ways, both spiritually and practically since my accident, my stay in hospital, and my ongoing health problems. I thank God for each one of you (Be Blessed).

As I have this enforced time of rest and restoration, I have had plenty of time to think and reflect. In one of my quiet times, God placed before me a line from the popular hymn, Great is thy Faithfulness. The line is this, **“Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow”**. I needed to hear that; it was just at the right time for me. My friends, some of you may be in a similar position to myself. May I offer you my love and prayers those of you who are sick, and those who are grieving and facing life without a loved one.

Life can be difficult, but **the reality is we have a God in Jesus who loves us and whatever we are facing, Jesus comes to us in whatever situation we find ourselves.** He offers us his strength now, and hope for the future.

Much love, Brian

We ask that you continue to pray for Brian and the many other members of our church family who are poorly or grieving at this time. If you would like to be added to the St John’s Prayer Chain to help pray for others, or if you have something you would like prayer for, please contact Dave Emmett, dave.emmett@sjb-burscough.church.



FAIRTRADE STALL

The Fairtrade stall will be in church on Sunday 28th April after the 9am and 11am service, and Tuesday 30th April. Please support this worthy cause. Speak to Liz Hawksby for more information.



‘TIME4US’ CARERS LUNCHES

Wednesday 24th April

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 Diane

Edwards if you would like to join Time4us Lunch.

For more information, please speak to Diane, or contact the Church Office.

MEMORY LANE CAFÉ

Friday 26th April

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](mailto:dave.emmett@sjb-burscough.church).





The 2024 Uganda Team will be feedbacking about their experience out in Uganda on Sunday 28th April starting at 6pm prompt. The team will be giving a run down of their visit, showing the latest progress on the classroom project and showing you photos and videos of their time out there. We would love to see you all there. Brews and cake will be available from 5.30pm onwards. (reminder: there is no 7pm service that evening).

HELP WANTED!

It has been great as a church to be able to continue to still provide so many services and ministries within St John's when we don't have any clergy in post. However, we are seeking more people to be involved with some of the more practical elements of our weekly services. We are looking for volunteers for refreshments, welcoming team, leading prayers or bible reading in the services, or helping with the AV/PA desk (with training provided). If you are interested in helping out then please contact the church office, or speak to one of the wardens.



Recent Deaths Please pray for the family and friends of those who have recently passed away.

Doreen Amelia Milner

Joan Bridge

David Rotheram

Brian Donnelly

John William Culshaw

Harriet Johnson



Brian Donnelly's funeral is on Monday 22nd April 1pm in Church, followed by burial in the graveyard. Please wear a bright colour in line with Brian's wishes. The family are not welcoming flowers, but if you would like to contribute to Brian's charities that would be most welcome: Age UK, Lancashire and International Needs. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with Brian's family: Kirstie and Natalie and the wider family.

Harriet Johnson's funeral is on Monday 29th April at 1pm at the West Lancashire Crematorium Chapel followed by a burial in the West Lancashire Cemetery. Please pray for Maresa and family as they mourn the loss of Harriet.

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, term time only

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.

As the clocks have changed, Crabtree will now meet at 5pm.

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL

9am Morning Prayer

11.00am Forest Church – Ainsdale Beach

5pm Holy Communion Service at Crabtree St Andrews

7pm Contemporary & Youth Worship

There is no 11am service in church – come along to Forest Church instead (see above for more details)

SUNDAY 21ST APRIL

9.00am Morning Prayer

11.00am Contemporary Worship (with Kids Groups)

7pm Contemporary & Youth Worship with Communion

There is no service at Crabtree this week.

Every week - Tuesday Shoppers Service at St John's: 10.30am Informal Worship Service

HOLY COMMUNIONS DURING THE INTERREGNUM



We had planned to offer one Holy Communion each Sunday, spread across all the different services, making it available to each congregation once a month. However, as Brian our 'resident Rev.' is now out of action for a while, this plan is less easy to fulfil. We have had kind offers from local clergy to cover some services, but there may now be a few Sundays with no Holy Communion. We thank you for your patience and understanding. Brian, we love you and pray for a speedy and smooth recovery!

ONLINE RESOURCES www.sjb-burscough.church

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



Contact the office if you would like to write a short blog post about a ministry you are involved in, or something happening in the life of St John's.

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 26th April 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
