

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here with us today. We especially welcome the family and friends of Gracie, here for her baptism, and all others who are new to the Church. If you would like more information about us, please take and complete a slip in the Welcome Area and give it to a Steward or a Minister.

Collect for This Sunday

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Today at St. John's

8:00am	Communion	Reading: 1 Samuel 5:1-7:1
10:00am	Communion	Reading: 1 Samuel 5:1-7:1
	<i>CBBC between services</i>	<i>Preacher: Peter Chamberlin</i>
6.30pm	Evening Worship	World Mission Evening
		<i>Preacher: Matt Cherukara</i>

Today at Emmanuel Church, Mayford

9:30am	Morning Worship	Reading: 1 Samuel 4:1b-22
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Next Week at St John's

8:00am	Communion	Reading: 1 Samuel 7:2-17
10:00am	Morning Worship	Reading: 1 Samuel 7:2-17
6:30pm	Evening worship	Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)

Next Week at Emmanuel

9:30am	Morning Worship	Reading: 1 Samuel 5:1-7:1
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Office hours: 9am -1pm, Mon – Fri
office@stjohnswoking.uk



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Events This Week:

Mon 20 th	9:30am	Ladies' Bible Group	Church lounge
Tues 21 st	6:00pm 7:00pm 7:45pm 8:00pm	Dangerous Kids Club (Yrs. 3-6) 1Eighty (Yrs. 7-9) iNsight (Yrs. 10-13) Music group rehearsal	Youth Centre Youth Centre Youth Centre Church
Wed 22 nd	10.00am 7:45pm	Men's Bible Group Homegroup in Church	Church lounge Church
Thurs 23 rd	9:30am 10:30am	First-steps toddler group Grieving Hearts Group	Youth Centre Church lounge
Fri 24 th	9:30am	Ladies' Bible group socials	Narthex

Save the date:

CAMEO: June 13th at 2:30pm

Supper Club: June 28th at 7pm

Church family picnics: We'd love you to join us for an informal picnic on the Lye (and maybe a game of rounders!) from approx. 12pm on **9th June and 14th July**. Bring your own picnic/rugs.

SGP: Yateley Baptist: Give thanks that there have been visitors who have begun to worship with us for a little while. Pray that those who don't know the Lord, will be saved and that those who do, will commit themselves and join with us. Pray as we look at the book, "Growth and Change" that it would help as we seek to build our future. Pray that Lord would send more families to join and serve with us. Give thanks for partners in the SGP who have blessed us in various ways over the past months.

Defending faith, family and freedom: Grace Church, Thursday 6th June at 7:45pm: A public meeting to consider how we can protect the most vulnerable in society, our schools and churches from harmful ideologies that lead us away from Biblical teaching.

Associate Minister's House: The newssheet letter of 21st April (still available in the Welcome Area, as with all the back-copies for the past month) sets out the need to carry out some desperately-needed building work on the house. The potential cost is still being finalised but meanwhile we encourage you to prayerfully consider how you may be able to respond, so that we can press on with the project as soon as we are able.

The village fete is on **Saturday 22nd June** this year and as usual we have a stall. This is a great opportunity to be involved with the village, meet and chat to lots of families and give out flyers for various church activities. We need people to help man the stall on the day. This involves either talking to parents, helping with a simple activity (last year it was masks) or blowing up/handing out balloons. We will also need help setting up and setting down. The fete is from **12:30 to around 5pm on the Lye**. Please can you let me know if you are able to help with some or all of the day. Even if it is just for an hour or so that is still really useful.

robin@stjohnswoking.uk

Financial Update

19th May

I still meet people in the church who are surprised we do not get any funding from the government. So, just to make it clear – we don't get any money from the government, the County, or Borough Councils, or even the Church of England! Everything we do, all the different services and groups, the outreach, the maintenance of the buildings, the salaries of the staff – it's all funded by us, the members of the church.

We actually pay the Guildford Diocese about £116,000 a year (admittedly, they then pay for central administrative services and Glyn's salary, his pension, maintain the vicarage, which probably costs them about £50,000. I know it is never a good time to talk about finances; everyone always feels under pressure, but we need to remind ourselves that everything we have has come from our generous God, and we should be generous in funding His work if we can. It's a good idea to regularly review our giving to the church, say annually or when our situation changes.

So, what have the first 4 months of 2024 been like?

All figures in £000

Income

Inward giving from members	107
Lettings and other income	<u>19</u>
	126

Costs

Parish share (our contribution to the Diocese)	40
Outward giving (to missionaries – 12.5% of our income)	16
Clergy (our Associate Minister and Ministry trainee)	20
Youth and children's work, including salaries	9
Buildings and services	14
Administration, including salaries	<u>13</u>
	112

Surplus

14

We thank God that the congregation has given enough to cover our running costs! But we also should bear in mind the following:

- £2000 of the inward giving income above is designated for the new Youth Minister.
- Our reserves are relatively low as we dipped into them to refurbish the Small Halls; £3000 of the above letting income is meant to be going back into reserves.
- Electricity costs jumped up last year when we had to renegotiate our contract, and from July, we will be on a new gas contract for the church and youth centre, which will double the cost (roughly another £400 per month).

If you would like more details about anything, please ask me!

More importantly, if you would like to know about how to give – or to change what you give – there are forms in the Welcome Area and you can speak to me or the church office. Only the Parish Manager knows who gives what, so your giving is completely confidential and secure.

And, if you are rewriting your Will, don't forget the possibility of a legacy! A small percentage of your estate could make a huge and long-lasting impact on the church (and there are tax benefits which can mean for every £1 bequeathed, your estate only decreases by 60p – or in some cases by only 24p!

Tony Graham – Treasurer.

Gluten free wafers are available for communicants. Non-alcoholic alternative is available during communion.

*Someone from our Prayer Ministry Team (with **blue lanyards**) will be available after the 10am service to pray with those who would like prayer.*

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Mary Kirkman, is available for advice or to talk through concerns relating to safeguarding.

Tel 07763 456015 or email: **safeguarding@stjohnswoking.uk**

Recordings of our livestreamed services are available on our website.