

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here with us today. We welcome those 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

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Today at St. John's

8.00am	Communion	Reading: Acts 4:32-5:11
10:00am	Morning Worship	Reading: Acts 4:32-5:11 <i>Preacher: Peter Chamberlin</i>
6:30pm	Evening Worship	Commandment 7: You shall not commit adultery <i>Preacher: Glyn Lucas</i>

Today at Emmanuel

9:30am	Morning Worship	Reading: Deuteronomy 8:1-9:3; Acts 2:42-3:10
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Next week at St. John's

8:00am	Communion	Reading: Genesis 6:5-13
10:00am	Morning Worship	Reading: Genesis 6:5-13
6:30pm	Evening Worship	Commandment 8: You shall not steal

Next week at Emmanuel

9:30am	Communion	Reading: Acts 4:32-5:11
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*Gluten free wafers and a non-alcoholic alternative are available for communicants:
please ask the administering clergy.*

Events This Week:

Mon 25 th	9:30am	Ladies' Bible group	Church lounge
Tues 26 th	6:00pm 7:15pm 8:00pm	Dangerous Kids Club (7-10s) Youth groups (11-18s) Music group rehearsal	Youth Centre Youth Centre Church
Wed 27 th	10.00am 2:00pm 7:45pm	Men's Bible study Light in the darkness for grieving hearts Homegroup in church	Church lounge Church lounge Church lounge
Thurs 28 th	9:30am	First-steps toddler group	Youth Centre
Fri 29 th	7:00pm	Advent Quiz Night	Narthex

Dates for the diary:

Thursday Fellowship Christmas Communion: Dec 5th at 2:30pm. (see below)
CAMEO: Dec 11th at 2pm

A special thank you all who helped with the working party last Saturday. Lots of jobs were completed in and around the church as well as the youth centre.

Christmas Choir is back! We are looking for people of all ages and abilities to join the Christmas Choir for the carol service on **22nd December at St John's** and **15th December at Emmanuel**. Everyone is welcome, no experience necessary! Rehearsals will be a mixture of Thursdays and Sundays as below. If you cannot make them all that is not a problem but ideally, we ask that you make at least 3.
Please e-mail Robin to let him know you are interested. - robin@stjohnswoking.uk
Sun 1st Dec - 3pm-4.30pm; Thurs 5th Dec - 8pm-9.30pm; Sun 8th Dec - 3pm-4.30pm; Thurs 12th Dec - 8pm-9.30pm; Thurs 19th Dec - 8pm-9.30pm.

Christingle Helpers Needed - 14th December 4pm-5pm: We need more people to help families with making their Christingles, setting up and tidying up. If you are available and can help then please contact Robin - robin@stjohnswoking.uk

SGP Prayers: Grace Church Wrecclesham: Pray as we make a decision about our next Pastor. Pray that the gospel work in the south of Farnham will be strengthened.

The December meeting of the Thursday Fellowship will take the form of a Communion service that will be open to the wider St John's & Emmanuel Church Fellowship. The service will take place at St John's, starting at 2:30pm. Mince pies, tea & coffee will be served afterwards. All are welcome.

EDGE (our small hall hirers) are helping their young people to learn about working in a catering environment by giving them an opportunity to practice their skills before venturing out for work experience. EDGE are inviting the church community, family and friends to visit them on **Tuesdays at 10am** in the small halls for coffee and biscuits.

Christmas flyers are ready to be distributed. Please collect them on your way out.

How do you find a new archbishop?

24th November

A really difficult theology test paper? An assault course? A reality-TV show based on “The Apprentice”? There are so many fun possibilities for approaching the appointment of a new Archbishop of Canterbury. Of course, none of them are going to become reality. Rather, through the more mundane processes of interviews and secret back-room discussions, Justin Welby’s successor will be chosen. It’s not an urgent priority yet as Justin will not leave post until he has fulfilled certain constitutional obligations – but he is a ‘lame duck’ archbishop, and the attention of many has already turned to the question of who will be the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury, in a line that extends back to Augustine of Canterbury in 597 AD.

Officially the Archbishop is appointed by HRH The King. He will take a recommendation from the Prime Minister, who is advised by the CNC (the ‘Crown Nominations Commission’). They provide two names – one preferred, and one back-up candidate – but since 2007 it has been agreed that the preferred candidate will never be rejected (the back-up is needed in case the preferred candidate declines!).

Most likely the next Archbishop is already a Bishop in the Church of England – probably a Diocesan Bishop with at least 5-10 years to go before retirement (Stephen Cottrell, the Archbishop of York, has counted himself out of the running on the basis that he is 66). But don’t write-off the possibility of a ‘surprise’ candidate from outside the CofE – Rowan Williams was Bishop of Monmouth in the Church in Wales before moving to Canterbury.

This is a moment of opportunity for the Church of England. The next Archbishop can choose to stick or twist – to continue with the trajectory set by Justin Welby (which has divided the Church of England and resulted in The Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA), which represents around 70% of Anglicans worldwide, rejecting the leadership of the Archbishop of Canterbury), or to lead us in repentance and renewal. We do not need another CEO Archbishop to manage decline and follow the world’s lead, but rather a humble, honest man of God, “devoted to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” – a pastor to restore the morale of disillusioned clergy and church members, and an evangelist to proclaim the word of life to our nation. Let’s pray that in God’s kindness it may be so.

Yours in Christ, Peter

(The CNC is comprised of 17 voting, and 3 non-voting members: The Chair (a layperson) appointed by the Prime Minister; a Bishop elected by the House of Bishops; The Archbishop of York or a further elected Bishop in his place; three representatives elected from the Diocese of Canterbury by their Vacancy in See Committee; the six representatives (three clergy and three lay) elected by General Synod to serve as members of the Commission for a five year period; Five representatives from other churches in the Anglican Communion - one each from Africa; the Americas; Middle East and Asia; Oceania and Europe. In addition, the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, the Prime Minister’s Appointments Secretary and the Archbishops’ Secretary for Appointments are non-voting members of the Commission.)

Sermon Notes

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.

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