

**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, or scan the QR code (right), and also in the Welcome Area.



**Collect**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

***Parish Services Today***

8am	St John's	Communion (BCP)	Matthew 22:1-14 <i>Preacher: Peter Chamberlin</i>
10am	St John's	Communion	
4:00pm	Emmanuel	Afternoon Worship	
6.30pm	St John's	Evening Worship	<i>Preacher: Glyn Lucas</i>

***Parish Services Next Week (Jan 25<sup>th</sup>)***

8am	St John's	Communion (BCP)	Luke 5:27-32 <i>Preacher: Lee Gatiss (read letter below)</i>
10am	St John's	Morning Worship	
4pm	Emmanuel	Afternoon Worship	
6.30pm	St John's	Evening Worship	

*Recordings of our livestreamed services are available on our website*  
[www.stjohnswoking.uk](http://www.stjohnswoking.uk)

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](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnswoking.uk)

### ***Events This Week:***

Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Ladies' Bible group	Church lounge
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm 7:15pm 8:00pm	Dangerous Kids Club (7-10s) Youth groups (11-18s) Music Rehearsals	Youth Centre Youth Centre Church
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am 2:00pm 7:45pm	Men's Bible group Knit&Natter Homegroup in church	Church lounge Emmanuel Church lounge
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30am	First-steps toddler group	Youth Centre
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3.00pm 8.00pm	Funeral for Moyra Kirkman Men's Games Evening – See below	Church Youth Centre

**Men's Games Evening: Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8pm at the Youth Centre:** Would you like an opportunity to get to know other men at church? Would you like an easy invitation for a friend or neighbour to meet a few other Christian man? The men's games evening is a free, 'youth group' style drop-in for men. Who knows how the Lord may use the friendships that develop? Contact Peter with any questions. Arrive 15 mins early to help us set-up.

**Christianity Explored:** Jesus. Who? Why? So what? Come and meet the man who changed history. Thursdays 8pm. Email: [peter@stjohnswoking.uk](mailto:peter@stjohnswoking.uk)

**Save the date!** – Men's Curry Night on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – details to follow

**Quiz and Fizz:** St John's church quiz night on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30-10pm. £5 per head which includes drinks, nibbles, table favours and of course a fabulous quiz!

Max 8 per team but don't be put off from coming alone or in smaller groups as we will team you up. A fun night out for friends and family, including a short engaging gospel talk during the interview. Tickets can be bought via the link



<https://buytickets.at/stjohnschurchwoking/1999701> or use the QR code on the flyers.

**Emmanuel services at 4pm:** Are you available to lead music/play the piano once every 2 months? Please speak to Chris J to go on the rota.

**SGP Event:** God The Bible And Everything (in 60 Minutes) with James Cary – a one-man comedy show! (see poster on the welcome board for more info).



**Hope Chapel Haslemere:** Praise the Lord for a growing appetite for His Word and a deepening seriousness and reverence toward Christ among our members. Praise God also for a steady stream of visitors to our services in recent weeks, including a few believers, several who do not yet know Christ, and a husband who had been absent for a few months but is now showing signs of a renewed desire to be under God's Word and among God's people. Pray that the signs of God's grace among us would continue and abound, that our hearts would be established and encouraged in every good work and word, and that God would grant to those now being exposed to the gospel the faith and repentance that lead to eternal life.

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## Next week – a visit from Lee Gatiss of “Church Society” (what’s that??)

Next week we’re in for a treat. Lee Gatiss, director of Church Society, will be joining us at St John’s, preaching at our 10 o’clock service, and staying afterwards to take questions over lunch.

If you read as far as this, you’re probably thinking “well *lunch* sounds like a treat” (in which case, please sign up today so we know the numbers for catering purposes!) - “but who’s Lee, and what’s ‘Church Society’ – it sounds like the kind of thing that boring people get involved with (and I’m not boring). And in any case, it’s probably something to do with replacing leaky roofs or spires.’

In the nicest possible way – you’re wrong!

In its own words, Church Society is “*a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith*”. Remember that the church is God’s chosen instrument for proclaiming the life-giving gospel message to a lost world – which means that establishing and maintaining a clear witness is absolutely vital, and the health of the church could not be more important! Church Society works towards that goal in four ways.

First, there’s Partnership – Church Society connect many like-minded evangelicals to work together more effectively to reform and renew the Church of England. Both Glyn and Peter are members, and St John’s is a Church Society ‘partner church’. There’s also Publishing: Church Society have a regular podcast which any of you may be interested to listen to; a blog; a magazine (available for free in the Welcome Area!); a journal, and some brilliant books (available on their website).

Then there’s Politics. Church Society are well represented on General Synod (10% of Synod are Church Society members!), and engage with decision-making in the Church of England at the highest level.

And finally, Patronage, which means that Church Society have a role in the appointment of vicars in 130 parishes across the Church of England – including this one (when it next becomes vacant).



Lee, the director of Church Society, is an energetic guy, involved in all these areas. The Lord has given him a first-class mind. He’s a prolific author (our men’s book group read one of his books, ‘Living to Please God’, last summer, and I have no less than 16 books that he has written or edited on my shelf!) and an eminent historian and theologian. Far from being stuck in the past, Lee is a great communicator and speaks with real wisdom to the contemporary church.

Next week when he visits, you’re all invited to stay after the service. We’ll have a light lunch, interview him about his work, and we’ve asked him to take questions from you about ... well, whatever you want to ask him about! Don’t miss the opportunity!

Yours in Christ, Peter

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**Office hours:** 9am-1pm, Mon-Fri

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