

A message from Si, our vicar:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ever wonder if God can work in the midst of utter brokenness? This Sunday we are beginning a series in the book of Ruth that I pray will convince us he can!

Ruth begins in the dust and ashes of famine, questionable decisions and loss. But it doesn't leave us there.

Over the weeks we will see God working in the life of a family in dire need. The writer helps us see that when we are a child of God we are subject to his beautiful providence, also known as 'God's goodness at work.' I hope it will convince us that God works all things for the good of those who love him.

Accompanying the sermon series, we have a summer book to read called 'Guidance and the voice of God.' It is not too late to download an ebook version if you haven't managed to buy a physical copy. The reading plan is below for your convenience.

Reading Plan for 'Guidance and the voice of God'- SUMMER BOOK

It will be great if we can read the book together to spur each other on.

Week starting 21st July read: The Preface and 'O Thou Great Jehovah' pg 1-24

Week starting 28th July read: 'Where to Moses?' pg 25-34

Week starting 4th August read: 'Right Responses' pg 35-40

Week starting 18th August read: 'Misunderstandings' pg 41 -48

Week starting 25th August read: 'Wrong responses' pg 49-60

Week starting 1st September read: 'How does God guide?' pg 63-81

Week starting 8th September read: 'God's word and our decisions' pg 83-98

Complete the case studies at leisure!

This Week's Bible Reading:

Ruth 1:1-5 Introductions: Naomi's family dies.

Psalms 102:1-7 from daily Psalms

The Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:

Hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

What's On This Week:

Sunday 20th 9.00am: Holy Communion Service (& refreshments in the lounge afterwards)

Sunday 20th 11.00am: Morning Service (& refreshments in the hall afterwards) Children are welcome to stay in the service and there is also a relay in the lounge for parents to take their child to if desired.

Sunday 20th 8.30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting for half an hour. Everyone is welcome to join us for this; there is no pressure to pray out loud. The zoom meeting link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85963653180>

Catch Up:

If you miss the Sunday sermon, you can watch a video of it on the St Johns YouTube Channel.

Dates for your Diary:

5th October - Confirmation Service

News:

- Midweek children's groups have now all broken up for the summer. Please do keep praying for the children during the break - we value your prayers and for some they are especially needed during the holiday period.
- Many bible study groups are taking a break. Please contact your individual bible study leader to confirm arrangements for the summer holidays - and please keep supporting and praying for one another during the break.
- Gift Day - you may have noticed in the church calendar that Gift Day was scheduled for the 6th July. Due to Si being on leave, we didn't advertise it, but some of you have very kindly made donations - Thank you so much! More information around gift day funds will follow on Si's return. It's likely that the funds will be used to improve the church hall - possibly on new chairs, possibly on the expansion of toilets - but details will follow as soon as I have them. If you would like to make a donation in the interim, you can do so using bank transfer with the reference 'gift day' or via the card machine at the back of church.
- The funeral for Joe Moore will be held at St Bridget's (Joe's childhood church) on the 23rd July at 12:15pm and afterwards at the Crematorium at 1:15pm. A funeral tea will follow at St John's (Joe's home church).
- You can still make a donation for the Walkers in Argentina by making a bank transfer and using the reference 'Argentina'. Jema and Donny will take this gift with them when they go out to visit the Walker family later this year.

Please pray for:

- Leaders or helpers for Pathfinders. This is an urgent and essential need to accommodate the additional number of children that we expect to join the group in September. Whether you can offer to help 3 times a year, once a month or every week, we'd love to hear from you. We thank God for the thriving group and pray that He will lift up leaders/helpers to keep it running. Contact Sue Lane, Rob Mayhew, Jonathan Blythe or Si Walker to discuss how you can help.
- Dot O'Donnell, Sam Ford-Powell, Sophie Murfitt, Vera Cartmell, Phil Holland, Mary Shaw and Emily Lane.
- Audrey Moore and her family, as they mourn the loss of Joe.
- The family and friends of Mr Kwok Keung Lee, whose funeral will be held at St John's on the 22nd July.
- The family and friends of James Palmer, whose funeral will be held at St John's on the 18th July.
- The Keswick Convention, which continues until the 2nd August.
- Khalid and all the work being done by Mountain Spring Ministries.

Praise God for:

- Improvement in the health of Mike Greenwood and Lily Mullen.
- A successful and very well attended first week of Keswick Convention.

Rev'd Simon Walker
Vicar, St John's Church, Hensingham
01946-63797
simon@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

www.stjohnshensingham.org.uk