

A message from Si, our vicar:

Dear St John's Family,
Church life has been busy this week as things got going again. The children's groups were in action and the various Bible studies. I had assemblies in both of our primary schools and this involved beginning a Bible overview at Hensingham. I'm thrilled that this will show how all the different parts of the Bible point to Jesus. My Facebook livestream of Morning Prayer happened on Wednesday Morning, which we hope will help support a rhythm of prayer and Bible reading. And who knows, maybe it will reach some local people who are spiritually hungry, but not yet participating in church life?

It has also been a busy week for the Church of England, with candidates for the next term of General Synod being nominated, which includes our own Andy Walkingshaw. We need to pray that candidates who are faithful to God's Word are elected by those qualified to vote (Deanery Synod members.) It is going to be a crucial 5 years with respect to the doctrine of marriage, safeguarding policy, clergy numbers and mission. If you would like to know who you are praying for, then you will find the nominees from our Diocese here <https://www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/general-synod/>. Scroll down and you will see their names which when clicked on reveals their election address. Praise God that some of the candidates are prepared to defend Biblical truth with regard to marriage, within both the house of clergy and house of laity. We very much need to pray that the right people are elected to do this. We know that we can trust our sovereign Lord. We rejoice that 'The LORD has established his throne in heaven and his kingdom rules over all' (Psalm 103:19).

This Week's Bible Reading:

John 11:1-45 'I am going there to wake him up'

Psalms 68:29-35

Job 19:23-27

The Collect:

God,
who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
Grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel;
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What's On This Week:

Saturday 11am: Chinese Bible Study

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

Sunday 11.00am: Morning Service with Holy Communion (& refreshments in the hall afterwards) Children's groups for ages 3-11. Children are also welcome to stay in the service and there is a relay in the lounge for parents to take their child to if desired.

Sunday 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>

Monday 10am - Ladies Bible Study

Monday 6.30pm CYFA

Tuesday 6.15pm Explorers and 7.30pm Pathfinders

Midweek Home Bible Study Groups - See Karl Turner for details

Wednesday 10.30am: Mums bible study

Catch Up:

If you miss the Sunday sermon, you can watch a video of it on the St Johns YouTube Channel. It's usually uploaded on a Monday.

Dates for your Diary:

27th September Harvest Sunday

22nd & 29th September 10:00-12:30 CAP money course

29th September 14:30-16:30 or 18:30-20:30 Safeguarding Foundation training

3rd October 10:00-13:00 Women's Day

5th October 2pm and 7pm First sessions of Christianity Explored (Mondays 5/10 - 16/11)

25th October CAP Sunday with a Bring and Share lunch

28th November CAP table top fundraiser

5th December Christmas Unwrapped

News:

- Our youth groups began again this week. We will be commissioning and praying for our leaders during the 11am service on the 20th September.

- Isaac Walkingshaw is starting university this term. Thank you Isaac for all your contributions to church life - we will be praying for you regularly and look forward to seeing you again soon.

- Sue Lane is off on holiday from 12th September. Her first day back in the office will be 30th September. If you have any queries during that time, please see the Who's Who page on the website for an alternative contact.

- You can find current news about the food bank Harvest appeal, Bishops harvest, Women's Day, Christianity Explored, CAP and Christmas unwrapped on our website. Please do keep encouraging friends to join Christianity Explored and to come along to Women's Day.

- If you use a computer you can sign up for Womens Day and Christianity Explored online (see the links in the news above) but if you prefer not to go online, there are sign up sheets at the back of church. There is a poster for the food bank harvest appeal on the church noticeboard and you can make payments to the Bishops harvest either on the card machine at the back of church or putting an envelope in the church collection.

- Please pray regularly for Si as he leads the church and continues to serve the needs of our congregation and those of the parish and the wider mission community.

Please pray for:

Tristan Pereni, Tony Pang, Jenny Wong and Mei Lan Benn

The Leprosy Mission. You can find their most recent prayer requests at the back of church Si as he leads our church.

Spotlight on Serving - Refreshments

Each week, most of us enjoy having refreshments after the service. We thank God for all the people serving faithfully in this team, so that we can enjoy this time of fellowship together. Serving on the team involves setting up chairs and tables, laying out the refreshments, serving drinks and then washing up and ensuring everything is left clean and tidy afterwards. A member of the team recently said "I enjoy serving on the refreshments team because I'm quite an introvert and it's a way I can serve quietly in the background. I enjoy watching people fellowship without the pressure of making small talk". If you think this team might be a place that you can use your talents, please do get in touch with Sue Lane or Kelvin Cheung.

Pastoral Visits

Si and the pastoral visiting team are available to visit you at home, or elsewhere if you

prefer. Pastoral care is very important to us, so please don't be afraid to ask for a visit. To organise a visit, please get in touch with Sue on 07563473620 or office@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Useful contact details:

Sue Lane, Church Coordinator, office@stjohnshensingham.org.uk, 07563473620

Si Walker, Vicar, simon@stjohnshensingham.org.uk,

Heather Naylor, safeguarding officer, safeguarding@stjohnshensingham.org.uk, 07718961077

Tim Naylor, treasurer, treasurer@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Ann Christian, warden, ann@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Rich Davey, warden, rich@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Our Mission Community partner churches:

Church on the Moor (Cleator Moor): www.churchonthemoor.com

St Andrew's Church (Mirehouse): www.standrewsmirehouse.co.uk

St Bridget's Church (Moresby): www.stbridgetsmoresby.com

Mission Community Events website:

<https://www.churchonthemoor.com/mc-events>