



St. John's Wednesday Weekly News

2nd December 2020

The Church is now open for Private Prayer Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 12 noon.

Christmas 2020

Although Christmas will be a little different this year, we hope you will still be able to come along to one of the events or services. Please be aware that things may change, subject to government and local guidance as well as the weather.

For the services in the church please book in advance via the office on admin@stjohnssouthbourne.com. The **Follow the Star** activity can be booked online on the Website. Please remember to follow social distancing and always wear a mask!

December 20th

10.00am Morning Service with Holy Communion
Virtual Service
Afternoon Family Service

St. John's Church
Website
St. John's Church

21st to 23rd December

Follow the Star

St. John's Grounds

24th December

Christmas Eve

Afternoon Service – Thorney Island
Virtual Carol Service
11.30pm Christmas Communion

Outside St. Nicholas
Website
St. John's Church

25th December

Christmas Day

9.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Carol Service

St. John's Church
St. John's outside

27th December

10.00 Holy Communion

St. John's Church

News from Richard and Kim

Great news for Alpha Youth:

The Alpha Youth team and I have managed to deliver three weeks of Alpha Youth on Zoom! Which has been fantastic! We've had a hat themed week and a chocolate themed week (which went down a storm with both young people and leaders alike!).

However, from this Sunday we can once again open the lounge doors and meet 'in-person', which is brilliant! I'm so proud of how the team and the young people have adapted to Zoom but there is no substitute for meeting together in person. This will mean that we'll meet in person on the 6th and 13th December before taking a short break for Christmas. Before resuming on Sunday 10th January 2021. We will be delivering the sessions from 10am – 11am.

Family Service is back in church from this Sunday and will also be zoomed! Contact Kim via Church Mums or families@stjohnssouthbourne.com for more info.



FOLLOW THE STAR NATIVITY TRAIL 21ST 22ND 23RD DEC

Dress up as your favourite Nativity Character and Follow the Star around Southbourne all the way to the Stable Photo Booth to receive a Christmas Gift for every child who takes part.

If you're happy to get involved with the wrapping of the free gift for the above event, scan this with your phone camera to join the Whatsapp group.



Street Prayers

Tuesday 8th December (9.30 to 10.15 am) By Zoom – contact Anne Marsden for full details.

We will be praying for the following streets and our local schools: - Manor Road, Manor Way, Manor Gardens, St.John's Road, & Flanders. If you are aware of any item for prayer in any of the roads or at one of the schools please us know – peter.p.b.pearson@btinternet.com or 371591

Quiz Results



**THE BIG
LOVE SOUTHBOURNE
QUIZ**
SERIES 2

FIRST PLACE (20 POINTS)
THE CASSFORDS
THE WRIGHTS
TEAM BURFORD

SECOND PLACE (19 POINTS)
THE LUFFS, TEAM EVANS,
LIDZEY, TEAM PEARCE



There is going to be a special Christmas Day Quiz for you to do:



**THE BIG
LOVE SOUTHBOURNE
QUIZ**
SERIES 2

**CHRISTMAS DAY
PRE-RECORDED SPECIAL**

PLAY ANYTIME FROM 3PM
VIA SJOHNSSOUTHBOURNE.COM
OR THE [WELOVESOUTHBOURNE](https://www.facebook.com/welovesouthbourne)
FACEBOOK PAGE



Books needed!

The little library outside the church Centre is being well used and is in need of some more paperback fiction for adults. If you have any you would like to donate, please put them in a bag under the table. Thank you.

Giving to St Johns this Christmas

2 Corinthians 9:11, NIV: "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

We have introduced several new ways to give to St Johns to make it easier for you to support us. Your regular, monthly support is vital to the church's mission to the local community.



NEW Parish Giving Scheme

The PCC is encouraging all our members to give to St Johns regularly every month using the Parish Giving Scheme. Please complete a

form available from your treasurer Alan, treasurer@stjohnssouthbourne or go to the parishgiving.org.uk to register on line. More information and a short video explaining PGS can also be found on the parishgiving.org.uk website.

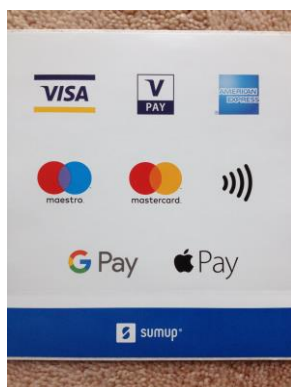
NEW Giving on our church website

If you look on the right side of the church website pages you will now see a link to our giving page. Click on the link [here](#) to give a single or regular donation to St Johns. Giving is quick and easy, all you need is your card handy.

Giving to St. John's

To make a donation or to find out more about giving, click [here](#).

NEW Giving by card at church services or events



When we can worship in church, you can now give by card. Giving is quick and easy. Just enter how much you want to give and touch or swipe or insert your card in the card machine. It is the same as the card reader you use when you pay for your purchases in shops. All major credit cards are accepted.

Thank you for supporting St Johns

Happy Christmas!

Alan

Treasurer

What does the Diocese do with the money we give them?

The major source of the Diocesan Board of Finance's income comes from the generosity of parishes through the Parish Share. Parish Share represents approximately 75% of the Diocese's total income. In addition, the Diocese generates investment income from historic endowments and from letting out vacant properties.

The majority of the Diocese's expenditure is spent on the clergy who serve our parishes. The cost of providing ministry across the diocese represents approximately 80% of total expenditure. This covers clergy stipends, NI, pension, housing, and the costs of training current and future clergy. It also includes money spent on supporting ministry through the work of the Archdeacons, Rural Deans, Continuing Ministerial Development and the payment of removal and resettlement grants.

The remaining expenditure is spent on parish support services such as the provision of buildings advice, supporting church schools and safeguarding services, as well as a contribution to the National Church. **

**from Chichester Diocese website. For more information please look at the Chichester Diocese Finance website

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/diocesan-finances/>

The amount the Diocese asks us to contribute as our Parish Share is usually around 50% of our total income.

Thank you for your continuing financial support for St John's Church. The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a better way for you to give to the work of St Johns and the Diocese and is supported by Chichester Diocese and agreed by the PCC. Your regular giving every month helps to keep St Johns running especially now while the church is in lockdown and we cannot worship as we usually do.

So far this year our income has reduced by £13,000 due to reduced giving in the offertory, not being able to hire the church center and loss of income from Coffee Connect. Upgrading the path from the car park and essential repairs to the church have cost us £22,000. The PCC would like everyone to join the Parish Giving Scheme. If you usually give cash or cheque into the offertory (the basket we pass around during the service or at the back of church) then please give by PGS.

If you are a tax payer then the HMRC gives us 25% more on your giving. Just sign the declaration on the PGS form.

If you are not a UK tax payer then the Parish Giving Scheme is the better way to give.

If you have any questions or would like a form or more information then please contact me, Alan McNeill on

treasurer@stjohnssouthbourne.com

Lonely this Christmas?

As you know St. Johns are distributing Christmas parcels and greetings to folk in the area. Included in this is an invitation for people expecting to be on their own over the Christmas weekend to request a friendly phone call from someone at St Johns. Christmas is often a very lonely time for many people and this year is likely to be more so – so this is a way that we can show them we care.

If you would like to phone some of these people please contact either Eileen Henrick on 01243 379722 or Rosemary Pearson on 01243 371591 or rosemary.pearson2@btinternet.com and nearer the time you will be given names and telephone numbers to contact.

Christmas Boxes

Over the last month the donations arrived in the church centre both goods and money, and on Friday evening and Saturday morning we wrapped, packed and delivered 65 Christmas hampers. UK Harvest kindly donated Turkey breasts, other food, books and bags. So the only thing missing from the box for Christmas day were the vegetables!!! For many families the timing was God given as they had yet to buy Advent Calendars for their children. A big thank you to all those that supported this outreach activity in our community in Southbourne, it has made a difference to families.



Help Needed

Help needed for a lady in Westbourne, who has had a knee replacement – cleaning, helping to make beds, ironing. Contact Hilary Temple on 01243 278394 if you are able to help.