

Family Communion

Today's Harvest Festival is being led by members of St John & St Stephen's Eco-Congregation. If you would like to know more about this group, or to get involved, please speak to one of the people leading the service today.

Collect for Harvest Festival

Creator God, you make all things
And give us the earth and the seasons,
the rain, the sun and the wind;
Make us thankful people with generous hearts,
Ready to share your goodness and love
With all creation;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

Reading - Joel 2:21-27

(page 8855 of OT in bibles)

Read by Dino D'Sa

Gospel - Matthew 6:25-33

(page 10 of NT in bibles)

Eucharist presided by Revd Mark Laynesmith

Preaching by Revd Mark Laynesmith

Worship & Prayers led by the Eco Church

Hymns for Today

Great is thy Faithfulness
God said, God said world
Praise God for the harvest of orchard and field.
Creator God
The kingdom of God is justice and peace
You shall go out with joy

All are invited to come for communion and prayer.

If you do not wish to take communion, please come for prayer. If you have any particular need, problem or prayer request please speak to a member of the clergy after the service.

New Family List

Please remember to check your details on the printout of the family list or fill in a GCPR form to add your details before we go to print

Please note that unless we have a completed GDPR we cannot we cannot include your details in the Family List!

Hope into Action

Sara Harwood will be stepping down soon from her role as 'empowerment officer' for the residents of the house. She has truly done a great job! But now we need a successor – are you interested? Or know someone who might be? Must be female! (sorry, boys). The job is paid, 1 day/week. Speak to Sara or Richard C if you would like to explore this possibility.

Fix Universal Credit Petition

At Readifood, we are seeing unprecedented demand for food assistance and most requests are linked to issues related to the new Universal Credit system.. As a matter of urgency, End Hunger UK is calling on the Government to:

Take action to improve the flexibility and support for people on Universal Credit.

Make improvements to Universal Credit, to ensure it does not leave more people at risk of debt and destitution.

Make a long-term commitment to ensure Universal Credit provides people with enough income to afford good food on a regular basis.

I have this petition available to sign, in Church today, please take a look at the information on table at the back.

Alison Peyton. Readifood Manager.

Amnesty International

Even if We Lose Our Lives, Abbey Baptist Church, 8pm, Thursday 25th October. Amnesty International presents a powerful script that tells the stories of three Afghan women human rights defenders. Hear those who have been denied a voice, but given voice by local readers. Followed by a discussion on the current situation in Afghanistan.

Free Bibles!

We are giving away some of our more 'used' bibles— if you would like one for personal use, please help yourself to the selection at the back of Church.

28th October

40th Birthday
celebration

St John & St Stephen's Church is celebrating its 40th year in the Orts Road Parish Centre.

In preparation for our service of thanksgiving on 28th October Christine is gathering recollections of events 40 years ago in the life of our church. If you have memories to share please join her in a corner of the church after the service **Today**. Bring your coffee!

Can't manage that today? Speak to her at another time or phone 07939 662 980 email bainbridgerev@gmail.com



Birthdays

**Miriam Roser, Sue Bruce & Shaun Roche
(14th)**

Mia West (20th)

Prayers

- Prayers for baby Lathika
- Prayers for Euphrazia who is mourning following the loss of her Father
- Prayers for Jeremy Thake, currently experiencing chronic back pain (but showing signs of improvement!)
- Prayers for Jan Jackson as she continues with her treatment.
- Prayers for Leslie & June Russell.

Please give any items for prayer or notices to The Office *before* 9am on Wednesday by pigeon hole, e-mail or phone.



Called to be Christ-like
CONTEMPLATIVE • COMPASSIONATE • COURAGEOUS

Church Diary

Sun 14th	10.30am	Harvest Holy Communion (sung)
	2-5pm	Contact Centre
Mon 15th	9am	Morning Prayer
	10am	English Class
	1-3 pm	Monday Monsters
Tues 16th	9.45am	Fireside
	12-2pm	Jacket Potato Club
Weds 17th	1.30-3.30pm	Oasis
	6-9pm	Cubs & Scouts
Thurs 18th	10.45am	Holy Communion (Café)
	11.15am	Coffee morning
Fri 19th	9am	Morning Prayer
Sun 21st	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)

Small Groups

Oasis (Bridget Barwick)	966 9735	Wed 1.30pm
Richard & Rosemary Croft	926 0672	Thurs 8.00 pm
Jeremy & Rachel Thake	987 1288	Thurs 8.00 pm
Judith Lawrence	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

You are welcome to join - please speak to contact/leader

Vicar: **Rev'd Vincent Gardner**
On extended leave

Curate: **Rev'd Gary Collins**
07986 901879

Associate Priest: **Rev'd Christine Bainbridge**
07939 662980

Church Office: **Tanya Penn**
(0118) 926 3633

121-147 Orts Road Reading RG1 3JN. Tel. 0118 926 3633
e-mail: office@stjohnandststephen.org.uk
website: stjohnandststephen.org.uk



**St. John &
St. Stephen's**

Seventh Sunday of Creation Harvest Festival 14th October 2018



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH.

Don't rush away! Please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.

14th October—Thake Homegroup
21st October—Oasis Group

Welcome Team leader **Maureen Stevens**
On-duty Warden today is **Ian Maynard**

Don't rush away! Please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.