

## St John's and St Michael's Churches Notices for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July

### St Michael's

**9.30am MORNING WORSHIP:** A warm welcome to our service today led by Vikki. Today Jon begins our new sermon series about 'Conversions in the Bible' talking about 'Naaman' 2 Kings 5:1-19 and Romans 3:21-31.

Sidesperson: **Fran**

Reading: **Dave P**

Coffee: **Clive & Julie**

**6.30pm EVENING PRAYER (BCP):** Matthew leads our service this evening and Angie will be preaching.

Sidesperson: **Jean M**

### St John's

**11am ALL AGE HOLY COMMUNION:** Welcome to our all age service today led by Matthew. Jon begins our new sermon series about 'Conversions in the Bible' today talking about 'Naaman' 2 Kings 5:1-19 and Romans 3:21-31.

Sidesperson: **Simon & Julie** Reading: **Vicky** Communion: **Volunteer** Prayers: **Tagg family** Coffee: **Vicky & Di**

**Please note:** The 11am service at St John's is livestreamed so you may appear on YouTube if you pass in front of the camera (usually located by the emergency exit door at the far end).

Below are the links to our website and to our YouTube channel live streaming our services at St John's at 11am

<http://www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk/home> or <http://www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk/home/>

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB6N81vubkdzSYD7rCPFw5Q>

### **What's happening and news over the next few weeks**

**ACTIVITY DAYS** Please pray for us next week...pray that the children (and adults) will have a fabulous time and one step closer to knowing Jesus. *PB St John's is unavailable for most meetings during the week of Activity Days as all the rooms will be set up/full of equipment for the activities.*

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY WEEKEND AWAY 2023:** We had such a great weekend away in June we have booked the next one 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> June...To enable more people to participate we have for the first time been able to reserve the accommodation that is nearest the canteen so only a very short walk (and not uphill!!) for food and rooms..everywhere is accessible. To help with your budgeting, if you want, you can pay by instalments anytime from now. (Booking form available on the welcome desk).

**JOIN US 4 A CUPPA! - HELP NEEDED:** Can you help at Join us once a month on a Friday between 10am-1.30pm? (No lifting involved). If you would like to help or would like further details about what is involved please speak to Di, Jeanette or Lesley.

The next **Filling Station** takes place **tomorrow** (25<sup>th</sup>) evening at 7.15pm (for 7.30pm) at RODINGTON VILLAGE HALL, SHREWSBURY, SY4 4QS. Informal worship, teaching and an opportunity for ministry and prayer.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:** Harvest Supper Lilleshall Memorial Hall - **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October**. Tickled Pink Coffee morning @ Lilleshall Memorial Hall on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. Hear the Word of the Lord: Matthew's Gospel **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September** at Telford Minster 10.30am-4pm. Hosted by the Mission Team and Telford Minster. Hear the whole gospel read through from start to finish with people from across the diocese. Open to all. *Matthew will be reading a chapter.....!Tea and Coffee throughout the day. A Soup and bread lunch will be provided by Telford Minster. Book at <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/getting-ready-for-matthew.php>*

**1 Peter 3:15** *But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,*

<u>Services and Rotas for Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July</u>	
<b>SML - 9.30am Holy Communion and SJM 8.15am GMS &amp; 11am Holy Communion</b>	
<b>St Michael's</b>	<b>St John's</b>
Sidesperson: <b>Geoff</b>	Sidesperson: <b>Ann L</b>
Reading: <b>Katie</b>	Reading: <b>Di</b>
Coffee: <b>Dave &amp; Sue</b>	Communion (assisting if required): <b>Pam</b>
	Prayers: <b>Jan</b>
	Coffee: <b>Attrell family</b>

## REGULAR GROUPS/MEETINGS/RESOURCES/INFORMATION

**SPARK** for our young people aged 10 and above and **SAS** sessions for children aged 5-10 takes place **most Sundays** (Does not normally take place on the second Sunday).

**LIGHT - CRÈCHE FOR 0-5S:** The livestream of the St John's service is broadcast in the Acorn Room (down the corridor on the right as you enter the building) for parents of under 5's, with toys also available. We hope, in the future, to be able to offer some supervised sessions for 0-5s.

**ST JOHN'S TINY TOTS:** A Toddler group for parents/carers of under 5's taking place on Tuesday mornings from 10am during term time. Returns on (13<sup>th</sup> September)

**Calling all walkers!** We meet on a **Wednesday 10am** at St John's for a gentle, local walk of around an hour. All are welcome. Please contact Jo Lefroy for any further information on 01952 604281.

**WORSHIP, LUNCH & MUSIC** takes place on the **first Thursday** of each month except January and August and weekly during Lent 12noon at St Michael's.

Local **dementia friendly strolls** every **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday** from May until October at 11.30am meeting at The Hub Community Café, 138 High Street in Newport. (See poster on notice board)

**FROGS:** We would like to invite our young people to attend FROGS. This is a youth group which is held weekly at St Swithun's church in Cheswardine. We have been working closely with FROGS for many years as we have attended Quinta together. Colin Barnett, a member of St Michael's, is currently a leader there. They meet **every Tuesday from 7.30-9pm**, for secondary school pupils and sixth formers. Please see Kathy or Matthew for information.

**A NOVEL IDEA** Join our reading club at St John's 7.30pm on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday** of each month. *We are now at capacity. Please contact the church office if you would like us to let you know when there is space.*

**POP IN FOR COFFEE** held at St Michael's on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of the month 10-12noon. (11<sup>th</sup> August)

**A MEN'S BREAKFAST** takes place on the **second Saturday** of each month 8.30am at The Whitehouse Hotel in Muxton. Either message Charlie or let Lesley know you are coming. All 'men' very welcome (13<sup>th</sup> August)

**FORGET ME NOT FILMS:** Takes place usually on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday** of the month at St John's. The film will start at 10 am - please arrive any time from 9.45 am. If you have any questions, or to let us know you are coming, please contact Jo Lefroy on 01952 604281 or via the church office. (No film in August)

**JOIN US 4 A CUPPA!** A monthly coffee morning held at St John's on a Friday between 11am - 1pm. Litter pickers are also invited to meet just before, litter pick the local area then return for a well earned cuppa! (No Join us in August)

CAP prayer time is held on the **3rd Thursday of each month from 9 - 9.30am** via zoom. Please contact [janepreston@capuk.org](mailto:janepreston@capuk.org) if you would like a link.

**EARLY MORNING PRAYERS:** Are you an early bird? A group of us pray for the work of the church at 7.30am every Thursday morning. Join us for half an hour or part of the time on Zoom. Contact Matthew for the link.

Please join us for **Bible Reading/Discussion/Prayer** via **Zoom**, weekdays at 9am. The best way to access these is through the "Daily Prayer" app. available from The Church of England but if you want to follow from your Bible this is ok. Please contact Matthew who will give you the details to login.

**PRAYER CHAINS:** If you have any prayer requests please either text (preferable) Lisa 07739 522280 or Email: [west.familywest@btinternet.com](mailto:west.familywest@btinternet.com) or St Michael's prayer chain coordinator Chris R 07834162343 or 01952 604330 or Email: [scip@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:scip@blueyonder.co.uk)

**FACEBOOK** [www.facebook.com/stjohnsmuxton](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmuxton) - please like our page and share our news stories with your friends.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday 9-3pm, Tuesday 9-12noon and Friday 9-3pm 01952 670033

Email: [admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk) or [admin@stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk)

Website: [www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk) or [www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk)

Matthew's Email: [matthew.lefroy@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:matthew.lefroy@tiscali.co.uk) (Usual day off Friday)

Vikki's Email: [revdayvik@gmail.com](mailto:revdayvik@gmail.com) (Normal day off Friday)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - 2 Kings 5:1-19

**5** Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

**2** Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. **3** She said to her mistress, 'If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.'

**4** Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. **5** 'By all means, go,' the king of Aram replied. 'I will send a letter to the king of Israel.' So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. **6** The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: 'With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.'

**7** As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, 'Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!'

**8** When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: 'Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel.' **9** So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. **10** Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.'

**11** But Naaman went away angry and said, 'I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. **12** Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?' So he turned and went off in a rage.

**13** Naaman's servants went to him and said, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, "Wash and be cleansed"!' **14** So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

**15** Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, 'Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant.'

**16** The prophet answered, 'As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing.' And even though Naaman urged him, he refused.

**17** 'If you will not,' said Naaman, 'please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. **18** But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: when my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I have to bow there also - when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this.'

**19** 'Go in peace,' Elisha said. After Naaman had travelled some distance,

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - Romans 3:21-31

**21** But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **22** This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. **25** God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood - to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished **26** - he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

**27** Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the 'law' that requires faith. **28** For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. **29** Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, **30** since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. **31** Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.