

St John's and St Michael's Churches Notices for Sunday 3rd September

St Michael's

9.30am HOLY COMMUNION: Welcome to our service today led by Matthew. Jon talks to us about 'The Sower' Matthew 13:1-23

Sidesperson: John & Diane

Reading: David Pi

Prayers: David Pi

St John's

11am ALL AGE MORNING WORSHIP: Welcome to our service today led by Vikki. Jon talks to us about 'The Sower' Matthew 13:1-23.

6.30pm 'REST - Be Still' Welcome to a half hour session for quiet reflection, an opportunity to take time out of the busyness of the week to 'rest' with God.

Sidesperson: Alasdair

Reading: Simon T

Prayers: Rawson

family Coffee: Jo & Sue F

Please note: The 11am service at St John's is livestreamed so you may appear on YouTube especially if passing camera. YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB6N81vubkdzSYD7rCPFw5Q>

A **BIG** well done to **St John's Lunchclub** for achieving a 5* rating for their hygiene on Friday after a thorough inspection. Thank you for your hard work.

THE COFFEE LOUNGE takes place at St Michael's **EVERY Wednesday** 9.30am-4.30pm.

A new course, **THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY** starting this September ...The Parish Bereavement team are piloting 'The Bereavement Journey' this Autumn for church members. The course is suitable for anyone 18 years+ for whom someone important has died at any time and who feel they may not have come to terms with their loss. More information can be found on the back of this notice sheet. Places are limited, so if you are interested in attending please contact the church office a.s.a.p. to express your interest. We will contact you nearer the time to confirm your booking. Phone 01952 670033 or Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk or admin@stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk

St John's Community Choir are singing '**RUMOURS OF ANGELS**' in the lead up to Christmas. If anyone in either St John's or St Michael's wants to join us, rehearsals start again on **Wednesday 6th September** at 5:15pm, St John's Muxton. This is a really lovely piece of music mostly sung in unison, so the more singers, the merrier! You can find the entire soundtrack on YouTube, if you are unfamiliar with it.

WORSHIP, LUNCH & MUSIC takes place on **Thursday 7th September** at St Michael's 12noon. A service of Holy Communion, lunch and a recital from Stuart & Vicky Howes.

sub:Zero(yrs7-9)/sub:Extra(yrs9-13) for our young people restarts after it's summer break on **Friday 8th September** from 4pm(6pm). Come and join us, back to weekly on a Friday during term time.

WATCH THE RUGBY WORLD CUP at ST JOHN'S: Come along to St John's and enjoy watching all of England's matches on the BIG SCREEN. First match takes place on **Saturday 9th September** at 8pm.....pick up a leaflet with further info including dates.

RIDE & STRIDE - SHROPSHIRE CHURCHES OPEN DAY this year takes place on **Saturday 9th September** when you have an opportunity to collect sponsorship and plan your route visiting churches around Shropshire. Half the money raised goes to our churches and the other to Shropshire Historic Churches Trust which gives grants for repairs and restoration. For further information see either Lesley, Ken or look on

<https://www.shropshirehct.org.uk/OtherActivities/RideStride.aspx>

ARE YOU INTERESTING IN PLAYING FOOTBALL?: Ricky plays for a Veterans team that meet at 6pm on a Wednesday at the bucks head. They play any team that turns up. He wonders whether anyone would be interested in making up a team, and joining them on a Wednesday? Please speak to Ricky or Matthew if this is of interest.

ST JOHN'S EVANGELISM TEAM meets next on **Monday 11th September** 7pm at the home of Jan & Terry.

ST JOHN'S BUILDING MANAGEMENT TEAM are due to meet on **Monday 11th September**.

The joint **WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE GROUP** are meeting on **Tuesday 12th September** at Geoff & Sue's.

POP-IN for COFFEE at St Michael's will be holding their last Coffee morning before a short break on **Thursday 14th September** between 10am-12noon.

JOIN US 4 A CUPPA? takes place on **Friday 15th September** between 11am-1pm at St John's. 'Back to School'.

The **GALLERY SINGERS** will be performing their next concert on **Friday 6 October** at St Peter & St Paul RC Church in Newport 7pm. An evening of gorgeous reflective autumnal music featuring works by Ola Gjeilo, Bob Chilcott, Palestrina and Will Todd. The evening also features the choir's resident flautist, Aimée Calderbank, and pianist Evy King. Tickets £12/Under 16s £6 from choir members, [facebook.com/thegalleriesingers](https://www.facebook.com/thegalleriesingers), or contacting 07968 906446. Alternatively, tickets should also be available on the evening. All are warmly invited to come and share the experience.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: A short course Spiritual Renewal in Smaller Churches - a day for those in little local and ordinary churches, **Wednesday 22nd November 2023** 10am-5pm, Telford Minster, Southwater Square, Telford. Tickets £15 including lunch. Followed by evening celebration 7:30-9:30pm, including the launch of our 2024 Lent Course, Alive in Christ. Free Admission.

<https://www.resource-arm.net/events/62/feeding-the-five-thousand>

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9-3pm, Tuesday 9-12noon and Friday 9-3pm
Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk or admin@stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk
Website: www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk or www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk

Church Office - 01952 670033

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

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

Services and Rotas for Sunday 10th September	
SML - 9.30am Morning Worship & 6.30pm Now Worship	
SJM - 11am Holy Communion	
St Michael's	St John's
Sidesperson: 9.30am Janet 6.30pm Geoff	Sidesperson: Stan & Susan
Reading: Jo	Reading: Julie H
Prayers: Service Leader	Communion: Pam & Geoff
Coffee: Dee & Philippa	Prayers: Jane E
	Coffee: John & Moira
	SAS/Spark

Matthew 13:1-23

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop - a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.'

¹⁰ The disciples came to him and asked, 'Why do you speak to the people in parables?'

¹¹ He replied, 'Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹² Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables:

'Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

¹⁴ In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

¹⁵ For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them."

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷ For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

¹⁸ Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on

rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.'