



AROUND THE SPIRE

THE PARISH
OF
SAINT JAMES
THE APOSTLE
QUEDGELEY
and
KINGSWAY

January 2019
Number 41

PARISH PROGRAMME for January 2019...

HERE ARE THE MAIN EVENTS IN THE PARISH THIS MONTH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6th –

Said Eucharist 09.30am

STJ Family SERVICE for old and young alike **10.30am**. COME ALONG and JOIN US – as well as our act of worship it is opportunity to meet and greet one another, and partake of refreshments afterwards.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13th

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20th

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27th

Parish Eucharist, 10.30am with activities for children and refreshments

Refreshments and social time after all Sunday morning services

Further details of weekday services and events are to be found in the WEEKLY NEWSLETTER published each Sunday. Copies are always available in the Church.

COPY FOR September MAGAZINE - to Father Hugh no later than Sunday 13th January.

Electronic or Back Copies can be made available if required. Please email the Editor, hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk, if required.

Editorial –

“Lord, teach us to pray!”... part three

Thank you again, to those who have responded to the first two articles on this important part of being a Christian!

One person has pointed out, quite rightly, that if we are not praying, then we clearly fall short of what it really means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. This person went on to say – **'But I do need help!'**

I get the feeling that there are many people who fall into this category, and just how to respond!

It is worth pointing out that there are of course many ways of approaching the whole subject of Praying, and it does vary from person to person to find the right way.

SOME SENSE OF ORDER IS NEEDED!

So as we think through this really important topic, may I remind the reader whoever you are of what I said in the first of this series -

PRAYER IS THE HEARTBEAT OF THE CHRISTIAN

But it will only be that if we do try to address the whole issue, the WAYS AND THE MEANS.

Last month I talked about the use of lighted candles in our prayers, and how this simple visible and flickering light can be such a help. Full marks to the person who told me that he had just tried that in St James Church for the first time, and that it really meant something!

To some extent this deals with the basic question – WHERE DO I PRAY?

Clearly to light a candle here in our parish church can be a help – I confess it means a great deal to me and it is something I do most days, each light having a special meaning or intention.

But of course this is not the only place where we can pray.

In our own homes, where we spend a great deal of our time, to pray is often a part of our prayer life. In the next of this series I will deal with – WHAT DO WE PRAY?

For others it can be right to pray in a special place – I know of one person who says he can only really pray when he gets away on a walk in the hills!

So, dear Reader – over to you! Please can you let me know of a place and indeed a time, when it really has meant something to you to pray! Because what really means something to you may well help someone else.

Next time I will share with you a time and a place which is very special to me.

SO – DO KEEP ON PRAYING!

FATHER HUGH, your Editor

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## *A Letter from Canon John*

*Dear Parishioners and Friends,*



As we move in to 2019, we here at Saint James' have several new challenges to face. We've been praying hard for the success of our new parish office in Kingsway. We open the doors this month (5th Jan). It's been clear for some time that we needed a base in Kingsway, especially with the increase of enquiries regarding baptisms and weddings from that area. We shall be resident in the Kingsway Community Centre every Saturday morning from 11.00-11.45am so do pop in and say 'Hello'.

Another venture we are about to embark on is a toddler church for pre-school children. We've decided to call it Jamie's Ark. This will open on Tuesday 12th February 1.30pm -2.30pm, my colleague Revd. Jenny d'Esterre will be running this. Initially, it will take place once a month in the church just after Chatterbox. However, we hope that this can be a 'moveable' church, so we may be alternating the venue between Quedgeley and Kingsway. The success of this is very much dependent on you, the community and whether you will support it. So look out for the notices.

Finally, please remember that Saint James church is your Church of England parish church covering the whole of Quedgeley and Kingsway. We are here to help if we can and our usual church service is every Sunday at 10.30am – but so much goes on here now, you may need to keep abreast of events that you and the children may like to engage in, for example STJ'S at 10.30am on the first Sunday of every month being just one of them.

Please visit our website, Facebook page or A Church near you for the latest information. Website: [www.quedgeleynews.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleynews.org.uk)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley/>  
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

With every blessing and prayers for the coming year,

Fr John

*Rector and Parish Priest of Quedgeley and Kingsway.  
Canon of Gloucester Cathedral*

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# ***BEING HOMELESS, by Milli Hartshorn,***

*...AGE 11                    ...tonight's homework*

As they walk past all happy and bright,  
We sit here wet and cold all night.

Never any food in your tummy  
Always feeling empty and hungry

Watching people chatting passing by  
I'm in my sleeping bag looking at the sky

All cold and lonely, no family or friends,  
Lots more homeless though, is this the new trend?

So much money in the world to share  
Just need more people that actually care.



## **QUEDGELEY CHURCH EXPANDS**

Residents in the Kingsway area will be able to arrange baptisms, marriages or have a general chat with their Vicar without having to leave the area.

Saint James' Church in Quedgeley covers both Kingsway and Quedgeley. It is seeking to broaden its base by opening a parish office in the Kingsway Community Centre.

The new parish office will open its doors on Saturday 5th January 2019 for a couple of hours. Residents are invited to go along between the hours of 9.30am -11.30am for cake and a cuppa and meet the St. James' team.

To begin with the office will be open on a Saturday of each week from 11.00-11.45am for anyone wishing to plan a wedding, baptism or just interested in finding out more about Saint James'.

Canon John Ward Rector & Parish Priest said:- 'The numbers of baptisms and general enquiries from Kingsway have been growing and I am keen that we have a presence in the area.

The office will be open for an hour each week. It is a start and something for us to build on. In the longer term I would like to see services and events being held in the area as we extend our mission into Kingsway'.

# Saint James CHATTERBOX

*... time for fun!*



[www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)

**Parent, Baby and Toddler 'Drop -in' St. James Church Quedgeley**  
**Every Tuesday 9.30am - 11.00am**

## ***Happy New Year!***

We are back after a well-deserved break! Last month we were busy in the build up to Christmas making Christmas decorations and cards. The children loved the craft decoration made by Lin of the snowman, using a LED T-light his nose lit up!

Father Christmas joined us for our Christmas Party and handed out lots of presents.

We joined in the raffle, the proceeds to 'sponsor a bed' led by Gloucester City Mission. We were pleased to hear that the church raised (with donations) £219.00.

We've a busy year ahead so do come and join us on a Tuesday morning from 9.30am -11.00am.

Keep up with our events and activities by visiting our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/StJamesChatterbox/>



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# SAINT JAMES' CHURCH AT WORK AND PLAY...





# SAINT JAMES CHIT-CHAT

*Relax and meet new friends!*



**EVERY THURSDAY AT SAINT JAMES CHURCH  
QUEDGELEY 10.00AM - 12NOON FOR THE NOT  
SO YOUNG BUT YOUNG AT HEART!**

## *Happy New Year!*

We had a busy end to 2018. We ran several stalls at Saint James' Christmas Fayre that helped to raise well over £2,800 towards church funds. We'd been selling raffle tickets since September, so most of our regulars had bought dozens of raffle tickets as well as helping to contribute to the prizes.

Youngsters from Field Court Infant Choir delighted everyone with some Christmas songs at the fayre and Santa paid a visit.

We are always pleased to see new faces at Chit Chat. So if you have a spare hour or two and are looking for good company and light refreshments pop along. You'll be sure of a very warm and friendly welcome.

If you would like more information on Chit Chat then please visit our website [www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk) We are also on Twitter – so join us there @StChatter1

Give us a ring on 01452 721062 if you'd like more information.

Jackie

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Saint James' Church

Quedgeley & Kingsway

are hosting a

Wedding Fayre

Sunday 24th March 2019

Quedgeley Community Centre

School Lane Quedgeley GL2 4PN

11.00am -4pm

Refreshments available



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## **FROM THE REGISTERS IN NOVEMBER**

### **HOLY BAPTISM:**

November 10<sup>th</sup> - DAISY OLIVIA HATTON

November 11<sup>th</sup> ALEXIS EMILY NADIA COPPIN

SKYE CLIST

A-TAI CLIST

ESME THOMAS

November 18<sup>th</sup> GRAEME HOLMES (Adult)

JACOB OLIVER PETER HOLMES

*"Welcome to the Lord's Family"*

### **FUNERAL:**

November 15<sup>th</sup> VIVIAN COOK (85), Crematorium

*"Rest Eternal grant to her O Lord*

# **HELP IF WE CAN**

As we approach the turn of the year I write to keep you in touch with what we have been up to and what we have planned for 2019.

As well as a Quiz Night in February, and maybe a Burns Night Supper at the end of January, we have already committed to our Annual Show in Severn Vale School on 22nd June and our BIG BIG Show on Fishers Meadow on 30th June (put the dates in your diaries please).

We are so grateful for the support and good wishes from all of our Sponsors and we wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas and a great New Year.

*Steve Smith - Chairman - 2018-20*

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Bell ringing for fitness...

You've heard of workouts with dumbbells, now try church bells!

Bells are the largest and loudest instrument in the world. But they are also the perfect way to get gentle physical exercise and increase active living for people who are looking for alternatives to conventional sport.

What's even better is that bell ringing is open to everyone - young and old - and with any level of existing fitness. Whilst bells can weigh up to 4,500kg most are much lighter and are rung using mainly technique rather than strength. The movement of bell ringing often helps many people to stay active longer and increase agility.

Professional trainers and health experts now recommend bell ringing to...

- improve agility, co-ordination, and reaction times
- tone core abdominal muscles and glutes
- work biceps, quads and calves with minimal force
- develop muscle endurance

There are over 4,000 sets of bells in England alone and lots bell ringers nationwide. Come up the tower one Thursday evening or Sunday morning and have a go!

The QSJ Ringers!

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# **OPERATION SHOEBOX - OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL!**

We collected 55 boxes for St James' church... thank you, Di



PS I understand that this is a record number of boxes from our church!  
Di Allen – organiser.

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“Times and Seasons” : Saints in January

2nd: Basil the Great & Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops - Two friends bound together by their desire to proclaim and defend the divinity of Christ as proclaimed in the Nicene Creed, against great pressure from both state and Church, where many attempted to deny it, and thus the whole doctrine of the Trinity. Basil's forceful personality and Gregory's skilled oratory drew them into debate and controversy. They were able to convince the council of Constantinople that their teaching was truly orthodox and the council ratified the text of the Creed as it is used today. Basil died in 379 and Gregory ten years later.

2nd: Vendanayagam Samuel Azariah, Bishop in South India - Samuel was born in South India in 1874, the son of Christian parents – his father was a priest. Samuel became a YMCA evangelist, working throughout South India. He saw that for the Church in India to grow and attract fellow-Indians to the faith, there was a need for indigenous clergy and leadership, and a reduction in the western influences and leadership which prevailed at the time. He was ordained priest at the age of 35, and bishop just three years later. His great desire was the raising of educational standards and also the promoting of unity within the Church. He died in January 1945, just two years before the creation of a united Church of South India.

10th William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury - William was appointed Archbishop in 1633 by his friend and ecclesiastical ally, King Charles I – they shared the aim of countering the reforming Puritan movement, which emphasised personal and ecclesial austerity as a means of sustaining conversion. Laud was a High Churchman who felt that the majesty of God should be reflected in the liturgy of the Church, and set about ensuring that its ministers should practise what he preached. However the Puritans had the upper hand in Parliament and William was impeached in 1640 and imprisoned. The king was unable to come to his aid and he was executed in 1643.

12th: Aelred of Hexham, Abbot - Aelred was born in Hexham in 1109 into a Christian family, and after spending time in the court of King David of Scotland, he entered the Cistercian monastery at Rievaulx in 1133. He was made Abbot of Rievesby, returning to Rievaulx four years later where he spent the rest of his life. He wrote extensively on the spiritual life – writings which had a strong influence on the religious houses in the north of England. He died on this day at Rievaulx in 1167.

21st: Agnes, Child-Martyr at Rome - Agnes is one of the most well-known and widely-venerated of the early Roman martyrs because of her expression of resilience and sheer bravery in a thirteen-year-old girl. She refused an arranged marriage because of her total dedication to Christ, stating that she preferred the death of the body to that of her consecrated virginity. At that time, the growing veneration for the state of consecrated virginity, combined with the last major Roman persecution of the Church under the emperor Diocletian, climaxing in the shedding of the innocent girl's blood willingly for Christ, placed her at the forefront of veneration when the persecution ended. She died on this day in 304.

25th: The Conversion of Paul - Saul of Tarsus was fiercely opposed to the “New Way” and was determined that all who followed it should be brought to justice. His dramatic change of heart is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, and his letter to the Galatian Christians later revealed that it took some time for both he himself, and those to whom he spoke, to understand that he had indeed been called to do the work of an apostle. His companion Luke recorded the journeys that he made for the sake of Christ, and all the tribulations he underwent. His letters reveal his care and concern for the congregations he established. This feast has been celebrated in the Church since the 6th century.

26th: Timothy and Titus, companions of Paul - “Partners and fellow-workers in God's service” is how Paul himself described these two. Timothy had a Jewish mother and a Greek father; Titus was wholly Greek. They are honoured for their faithfulness and devotion to the gospel. While Paul endured his final imprisonment, he sent his companions out among the new congregations they had helped to form.

28th Thomas Aquinas, Friar & Scholar - Thomas has been described as the greatest thinker of the medieval Church. He was born near Aquino in Italy and educated by Benedictines at Monte Casino and Naples. He joined the mendicant order of the Dominican Order of Preachers and his profound wisdom and teaching ability earned him the title of the “angelic doctor”. He died in March 1274, and is remembered for his description of God the Creator as the “Unmoved Mover – the One who set the whole created order in motion.”

To be continued... Fr. Ian

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## **EXTENDED CHURCH OFFICE, in the vestry**

...for the Calling of Banns of Marriage; Holy Baptisms; Marriages etc.

WEDNESDAY: 5.30 – 6.30pm

SATURDAY: 9.00 – 10.00am

[www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk](http://www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley](https://www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley)

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