

Love your church Sunday



Sunday, February 17, 2019



www.badshotleaandhale.org

Loving our church

Today is 'Love your church Sunday' and it is a joyful celebration of our life together as church. We are being careful to try to contact everyone who is part of the church in this place – including you!

Church is so important to us:

- it provides us with a place of spiritual connection, prayer, worship and learning.
- it provides us with a place of community, a spiritual family.
- together we are the body of Christ, serving the world.

We are together a church, and each one of us makes such a difference. In this pack are ideas as to how we can love our church.

Here are some ideas:

- Make the most of the things that are happening to get to know people and create community
- Use your passions and skills to add to the life of the church
- Become a member by being on the electoral roll
- Take discipleship seriously – keep learning and growing in faith
- Give financially to the life and work of the church

Things that happen at St Mark's

Services:

Sunday Service at 11am (very informal)

Friday Service at noon

Other events throughout the week:

Toddlers on Tuesday mornings 9:30-11am

Adventurers (activities for 7-11s) on Tuesday evenings 5:30-7pm

Foodbank on Wednesday mornings 11am-1pm

Kids with... (support group for the families of children with additional needs) on the second Wednesday of the month 9:30-11:30am

Bible Study on Thursday mornings 9:15-10am

Coffee Drop-In on Thursday mornings 10:30am-noon – homemade cakes and coffee

Flower Arranging on Thursday mornings from 10:30am

Art on the first Thursday of the month 10:30am-noon – all the materials are provided

Sing and Socialise (informal singing group) on the last Thursday of the month 6-7:15pm

Breathing Space (to meet and pray with others) on the 2nd Friday of the month 9:15-10:30am

ADHD Parenting Course – Meets for three courses per year on Friday mornings

Table Tennis (and other games and jigsaws) for all ages and abilities, usually on the first and third Fridays of the month 7-9pm

Good Friday Craft Morning 9:30-11am each year

Art Exhibitions and arty events occasionally through the year

Things that happen at St George's

Services:

Sunday Communion Service at 10am

Informal Sunday Service at 11:30am

Said Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) – last Sunday of the month at 5pm

Other events throughout the week:

Little Bees (Toddler Group) on Mondays at 10am-noon

Open the Book Practice (to do assemblies in schools on Tuesdays and Wednesdays) on Mondays 11:30am-12:30pm every other week

Bible Study on Tuesdays 7:30pm

Connections (a group for ages 50+) on Tuesdays 10-11:30am every other week

St George's Choir Practice on Wednesdays 6pm every other week

Occasional events such as the Barn Dance, Beetle Drive, Fête, Quiz Night, Christmas Fayre, and Harvest Supper

Gardening Parties to keep our church garden beautiful



Things that happen at St John's

Services:

Sunday Communion Service at 9:30am

Informal Sunday Service at 11:30am on the first Sundays of the month

Taizé Service on the first Sunday of the month 6pm

Other events throughout the week:

Choir Practice on Mondays 7:30-9pm - in a member's house

Mindfulness on the first Monday of the month 9:30-10:30am – completely free

Morning Prayer on Tuesdays 9:15-10:15am

Corner Chat – drop in for a cuppa and a chat anytime between 10-11:30am every other Tuesday

Cleaning team - meets the first Friday of the month

There is a team of people to look after the churchyard

This year there will be lots of events to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the church! Keep a look out for news.



Things that happen elsewhere

Lent Groups – sign up now. Contact Hannah for details:
revd.hannah@badshotleaandhale.org

Beyond Belief – a book group where we choose a spiritual book to read and discuss. Normally a Monday evening

START and Moving On! Courses – find out more about faith and ask any question you like. Normally a Thursday evening

Bible Study – once a month on a Friday at 3pm

Confirmation Classes – for adults and children

Baptism Preparation and people who act as Baptism Links for each church

Wedding Preparation and Wedding Links

Bereavement Visiting

Pastoral Visiting



Giving to the life of the church

We really need your help.

Below are the finances.

Our Expenditure:	
Parish Share (pays for clergy stipend, housing, training and diocesan staff)	£71,000
Building repairs and improvements	£8,000
Running the church	£45,000
Total Expenditure	£124,000
Our Income:	
Giving	£60,000
Other Income	£39,000
Total Income	£99,000

In broad terms, it costs £15,000 a year to run each church; this includes utilities, insurance, minor repairs, cleaning, organists, office costs, clergy expenses etc.

The general fund deficit is currently running at £25,000. Following the stewardship campaign at the end of 2018 we saw an increase in giving, which we hope will close this gap in 2019.

The church needs long-term support. Please sign up and help. If you can, please give through the Parish Giving Scheme (not through cash in the plate or Standing Order) – it makes such a difference to us in terms of administration.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) provides a simple and effective way to donate to the parish of your choice. Even though the donations are made to the PGS, *donations are restricted to the parish chosen by the donor (eg Badshot Lea and Hale) and cannot be used anywhere else.*

Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Unlike other direct-debit schemes, *the PGS will not change the amount debited without the express instructions of the donor.* Also, church treasurers and stewardship officers do not have the authority to decrease or increase the amount donated.

To change the amount donated, or update personal details, the donor must contact the PGS at:

PGS Office, Church House, College Green, GLOUCESTER, GL1 2LY.

Tel: 01452 835595; email: info@parishgivingscheme.org.uk

PGS forms can be found at the back of the church. Completion of the form is straightforward, but in the event of any queries (or if we should run out), please contact the Stewardship Officer Jacquie Munroe.



Sustainability of the parish

There are two issues that threaten the sustainability of the parish. One is the finances; we cannot run a deficit budget forever. The other is the number of stipendiary (paid) clergy that we have. At the moment, Alan and Lesley both work full time for one stipend. After they move (which won't be for a number of years!) they will be replaced by one clergyperson; this threatens the pattern of services and ministry that we currently have.

The ideal would be to find a way of improving our finances so that we can pay our bills and have an additional stipendiary clergyperson; they could be housed in the vicarage adjacent to St George's Church. It would cost an additional £55,000 in Parish Share to fund this.

If we add the £55k to the £25k deficit, we need an additional £80k per year. This can come partly from giving, but a larger project is also required. The PCC is looking at ways that we can use St John's (our least-used building) to serve the community thereby resolving some of our financial issues. It is a big project, thus we need it to be genuinely a parish endeavour, not one that only the St John's members work on.

To kick-start this project, we want to find out the needs of the community from as many people as possible. Please fill in the survey either online at <https://badshotleaandhale.org/2019/01/11/have-your-say-on-the-future-of-st-johns/> or in the February magazine, or included here with this leaflet.

Please do think whether you have any contacts with charities, organisations, businesses or people we could link with.

We are also going to link with as many people and organisations as we can in the community through the 175th Anniversary celebrations, again to find out what the community needs are. These are the events that are planned at St John's so far:

St John's 175th Anniversary

May 18th and 19th	Flower Festival during the day
June 5th at 7:30pm	Talk from Christopher Herbert on 'Art, Architecture and Christianity in Victorian England'
June 22nd and 23rd	Art and Craft Exhibition during the day
July 20th 12-2pm	BIG Party entitled 'Music in the Churchyard'
Aug 3rd	Afternoon Tea 'Singing and Reminiscing'
TBA	History Pageant
TBA	Event on modern slavery
Nov 24th at 9:30am	Celebration service with the Bishop of Guildford

If you know anyone who might to take part in these, please let Lesley Crawley know.

Do you want to talk to someone?

You may be struggling or have a great passion or want to explore your vocation...

Please always feel free to contact a member of the clergy:

Rectory phone number 01252 820537

Email addresses:

revd.alan@badshotleaandhale.org

revd.lesley@badshotleaandhale.org

revd.hannah@badshotleaandhale.org

