ST JAMES' & ST JOHN'S MONTHLY HERALD

ISSUE NO.51 February 2019

Minister's Note

The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms (Deuteronomy 33:27). These words come towards the end of Moses' blessing of the people of Israel, before he died and they went on under Joshua's command, to invade the land of Canaan. They were to go through testing times, and needed the assurance of the Lord's love, care and protection of them.

As individual Christians, we all go through testing times. Bereavement in particular is something which impacts each and every one of us at some time or another. When we lose a loved one, it makes personal some of the questions which we all ask, about how our God, who is both all-loving and all-powerful, can allow us to be separated from our loved ones through death.

I have no answer to that question, but as my family and I experience a fresh bereavement, I can testify that *the eternal God is my dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms*. The Lord has upheld us and given us the strength and comfort we need. I'm also extremely thankful for everyone in the ministry team, and in our own two churches, who has enabled me to take time out of the parish to look after my Mum, and in January, to focus on her funeral; to everyone who has held us before the Lord in prayer, especially at times when we've found it very difficult to pray; to everyone who has expressed their love and sympathy through these past months. I know that, as a family, we are loved and cared for by our church family as well as by the Lord himself. I pray that each of you may have the same experience when you find yourself suffering in mind, body or spirit

Church Events

At St James':

Wednesday 13 February, St James' Church Council, 7.30 pm

At St John's:

Saturday 16 February, Prayer Breakfast, 9.00 – 10.30 am in Church Tuesday 19 February, St John's Church Council, 7.15 pm

<u>Elsewhere</u>: Tuesday 5 February, **Mission Area Conference**, 7.00 for 7.15 pm at St Peter's Hall, Smithfield Road, LL13 8ER (*Please note change of date*)





ST JAMES'

Every Sunday at 11am

3rd February – All Age Worship

10th February - Holy Communion

17th February – Morning Prayer

24th February – All Age Communion

ST JOHN'S

Every Sunday at 9.30am

3rd February - Holy Communion

10th February – Holy Communion

17th February - Matins

24th February - Holy Communion

In addition at St John's:

Each Sunday at 4pm - Service Station - Food for Body & Soul

Each Wednesday at 10am - Communion Service

CONTACT DETAILS

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Websites / Media:

www.wrexhamparish.org.uk http://stjohns.plwyfwrecsam.org.uk http://stjames.plwyfwrecsam.org.uk

www.facebook.com/StJohns Wrexham www.facebook.com/StJames Wrexham

Forthcoming Events



Saturday 16 March, **Prayer Breakfast**, 9.00 – 10.30 am in Church at St John's

Sunday 17 March, Annual Vestry meeting at St. John's

Sunday 24 March, Annual Vestry meeting at St. James'

In the weeks before these meetings, each church will be doing the annual revision of the Electoral Roll - please speak to Jackie Jones at St James', or Steve Barnett at St John's, if you would like to have your name added to the Roll, or you would like to know more about what it entails.

Have you ever considered being the church secretary, or reader, or welcoming people into our churches? We are looking for people to join the Church Councils, and the Sunday rotas to do the readings, lead the prayers, be Sidespersons, etc. PLEASE offer your services, even if it all sounds scary and you've never done it before - everyone who is already contributing to the life of our churches in this way can look back to feeling exactly the same!

For Prayer

- There's one Baptism this month, at St James' on Sunday 24 February. Please pray for the child, parents and godparents, that each will continue to grow in their relationship with the Lord
- Please make sure you have a copy of the 'Leading Your Church into Growth' prayer bookmark, and use the prayer for growth in your prayers as often as possible
- On 2 February we celebrate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (see Luke 2:22-40); this is adapted from the special prayer for that day, so that it is suitable for praying at any time of the year:

 Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

(Common Worship: Times and Seasons, p 196)

Church Activities

- SUNDAY CLUB: During term time, for children during the 11am service at St James' (Except on family service's)
- WHIST DRIVE: Every other Friday, 7 pm at St. James'. £2 entry including refreshments
- EVENING MOTHERS' UNION: Second Wednesday, 7.30–9.00 pm in St John's Hall

