



St James' & St John's Monthly Herald

January 2023

Minister's Note

The world feels like a very dark place at the beginning of this new year. War continues in Ukraine (as well as in Yemen, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Mexico and Ethiopia, to name but a few); in our own nation, prices continue to rise, causing untold misery to so many people, strikes in the Health Service, on public transport, on our borders, and in the postal service each cause major disruption and have a knock-on effect on costs; and there is always the ongoing concern about global warming and the strange weather patterns we are experiencing across the world.

Into this darkness came Jesus. We have just celebrated his arrival: *the true light, which gives light to everyone was coming into the world* (John 1:9). No matter how dark the world seems, *the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome/understood it* (John 1:5). We never dwell in darkness, because Jesus is always with us. And as his followers, our job is to reflect his light into the world: *You are the light of the world*, Jesus said (Matthew 5:14). He didn't envisage us each shining our light into our 'dark corner'; no, Jesus envisaged us shining into the darkness together: *A city set on a hill cannot be hidden*, he continues in Matthew 5:14. So as we step into 2023, let's seek to pray and work together to reflect the light of Christ into this dark world.

Regular Services

St James' Church

Sunday at 11.00am

1st January	Sunday Worship	8th January	Holy Communion
15th January	Sunday Worship	22nd January	Holy Communion
29th January	Sunday Worship		

St John's Church

Sunday at 4.00pm

1st January	Sunday Worship	8th January	Café Church (Holy Communion)
15th January	Café Church	22nd January	Café Church (Holy Communion)
29th January	Café Church		

Every Wednesday at 10am

Midweek Communion (a said service, using the 1984 Church in Wales' *Book of Common Prayer*)

St James Church, Rhosddu Road, Rhosddu, Wrexham, LL11 2NW
St John's Church, Herbert Jennings Avenue, Rhosnesni, Wrexham, LL12 7YF

Dates for your Diary

St James' Church

Wednesday 18 January, **St James' Church Council Meeting**, 7.15 for 7.30 pm

St John's Church

Saturday 21 January, **St John's Meal Out**, 1.00 pm at the Cunliffe Arms

Monday 23 January, **St John's Church Council Meeting**, 7.15 pm

Elsewhere

Sunday 22 January, **Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, 6.00 pm at The Salvation Army Citadel

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 2 February, **Christians Together in Wrexham Open Meeting**, 7.30 pm at Wrexham Methodist Church

Wednesday 15 February, **St James' Church Council Meeting**, 7.15 for 7.30 pm

Monday 20 February, **St John's Church Council Meeting**, 7.15 pm

Wednesday 22 February, **Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday**, 10.00 am at St John's Church

For Prayer

Pray for the relaunch of Service Station (Café Church service) at St John's, that we may glorify God and build up his Church as we meet together each week.

Pray for our nation, that in the face of so many problems, many will turn to the Lord, come to salvation and look to him alone for all their needs.

A prayer for the New Year (from The Lion Prayer Collection):

Lord of the years, we ask your blessing on the year to come. Give us resilience to bear its disappointments, energy to seize its opportunities and openness to accept the more abundant life which you have promised to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Vicar: the Revd Sarah Errington
Telephone number: 01978 266018
Email: saraherrington@cinw.org.uk

Websites / Media:
www.wrexhamparish.org.uk
<http://stjohns.wrexhamparish.org.uk>
<http://stjames.wrexhamparish.org.uk>
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