

St Johns Church Newsletter



November 2023

Editorial

The close off date for the December Newsletter will be 24th November. Please may I have some Christmas/winter stories- email them to shirleybdraper@gmail.com or place in the box at the back of the church.

News of members

Rachel Bonser is getting married, and will have a wedding blessing at St Johns on Friday 29th December. Everyone is welcome.

We welcome Betty to our services, coffee mornings and craft afternoon. She has just moved to live in Tenby, but has had many holidays here.

Kate has now had her placement extended to include responsibilities at Milford Haven and Albany. Christ Church, Milford Haven, will be officially welcoming her during the service on Sunday 19th November at 10.30am. Sadly we will see less of her.

Perseverance

Monty on his Garden TV Show said "By perseverance the snail reached the Ark".

Christmas Fayre

St Johns Annual Fayre will be on Wednesday 6th December. Help needed with things to sell etc. and on the day. Please tell everybody to come!

Hymn 685 sung on Sunday 15th October

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing.
For everyone born, a star overhead

Chorus: And God will delight
When we are creators of justice and joy,
yes...(repeat)

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt a mind-set of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship
for everyone born, the right to be free.

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

Human Acts of Kindness

When you see something beautiful in some one, tell them.

It may take seconds to say but for them it could last a lifetime.

A guide to putting your clock forward

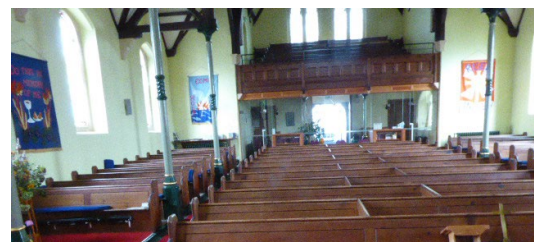
Smart phone: leave it alone, it does it with magic.

Cooker: You'll need a Masters in Electronic Engineering or a hammer!

Sun Dial: Move one house to the right.

Car Clock: Not worth it, wait six months.

Church and Hall Banners



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All the banners made by the late Rev David Fox are now on display again around the Church and in the Hall. It is so good to see all their Christian messages on show again, and the new lighting in the Church with ecofriendly bulbs lighting up the lovely ceiling.

Happenings within St Johns

Scaffolding has been up inside at the front of the church repairing the area around the rose window.

In early November, a Tree Surgeon will be pruning the Maple Trees.

On the 8th November at the coffee morning Eva Rich is having a stall selling her Christmas Cards for the Guide Dogs.

A coffee morning is being held for Inner Wheel on the 25th November.

Christmas Tree Festival

The trees will be set up on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th December, and the Festival opens on Wednesday 13th December. A rota will be out for us to list when we can steward. The Festival will be open daily 10.30pm to 4pm except Sundays.

Mincemeat

From Cassells Household Guide 1912

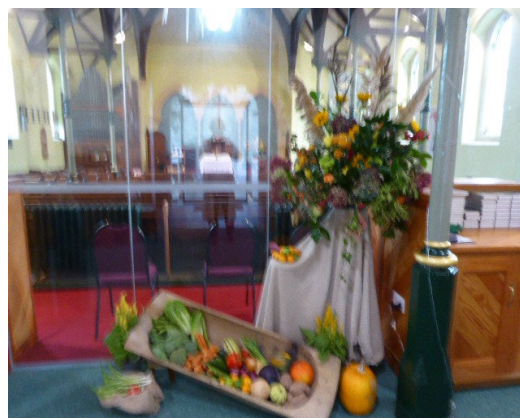
½ lb raisins, ½ lb currants, 1 lb beef suet, ½ lb russet apples, 1lb caster sugar, ¼ lb mixed peel, 1 tablespoonful orange marmalade, a pinch of powdered cloves, spice to taste, wineglassful of brandy.

Mix all ingredients together and add brandy. If the mincemeat is not be used at once place the mixture in an airtight jar.

Christmas Tea

An hour so of Christmas music, tea and mince pies, mulled wine and hot chocolate on Saturday 16th December at 3pm at St Johns. All welcome!

Harvest Festival



This was held on Sunday 1st October with beautiful flower arrangements by Sharman, Anne and Laura. The produce gifts were donated to Patch.

Shrewsbury via the Heart of Wales train line.

Shirley and her friend Jan joined Neil on 9th October for a short break in Shrewsbury. We caught the train to Llanelli. We didn't have a railcard for OAPs as we don't travel by train very often, but Neil did and only paid about £15 whereas we paid about £25. We bought our tickets from the conductor. On arrival in Llanelli we had an hour's wait, but had our own sandwiches and sat in the sun across the road from the station. The Heart of Wales train is FREE with a Welsh Bus Pass over the winter months and we were given train tickets by showing our pass at the Llanelli ticket office. With many stops and beautiful farmland, lots of cattle and sheep we enjoyed the 3 hours or so on this one-carriage train. The Sugar Loaf had the longest tunnel. On arrival at Shrewsbury, we found a free map dispenser and walked to the Premier Inn which we had booked in advance. After settling into our rooms, we met Neil again and walked to Wetherspoon Shrewsbury Hotel a block away for our dinner. After which Neil and Jan did a river walk around the town whilst I went direct back to hotel. On the Tuesday, Jan and I walked to Wetherspoons



for a breakfast, and then explored the shopping area, including a huge upstairs market, with plenty of cafes etc. Ended up back at the River Severn just by Wetherspoons and had ¾ hour trip on the river boat for about £10. The crewman delivered hot drinks and snacks, and the Captain gave a wonderful commentary about all the places on the sides of the river, including the Welsh and English Bridges, the Abbey, the Catholic Cathedral, Percy Thrower's garden, and where the flower show is held. Shrewsbury having the first ever flower show many, many years ago. I rested back at the Premier Inn, and Jan went over one walking bridge along the river path and back over the other one. When she came back, we went "next door" to the Bus station and caught a bus at the "D" entry, (cost £1.50 each way - you are in England!) getting off at Shrewsbury Abbey. Spent just over an hour following a guidebook. There is a stained-glass memorial window to Ellis Peters who wrote the Cadfael medieval detective stories based on the Abbey. There was a café in the street outside, but we crossed the road and caught the bus back, which followed a different route past the Butter Market to the bus station. Again, we had dinner at the Shrewsbury Hotel Wetherspoons. On the Wednesday after breakfast at the Premier Inn we caught the Heart of Wales train home but were held up at Llandrindod Wells for about an hour, as this was where the driver and conductor changed trains and we had to await the train coming towards us which was running late. Changed at Llanelli and Carmarthen and home to Tenby.

Advent

There will be an Advent course run by Kate at Tabernacle in Pembroke. The course is five Fridays: Nov 24th to Dec 22nd. It is based on the film "Elf" and this will be shown at the

first meeting. All welcome. It is being held on behalf of the whole pastorate. Other courses have used well known films to inspire thoughts and have worked extremely well. The meetings are on Friday mornings 10.30am to 12 and bring lunch and share together. Please ask Carol, Kate or Stella about their experiences with the previous courses or any folk from Pembroke. The meetings are very informal and you don't have to say anything if you don't want to. If anyone without transport would like to go to all, or some of the meetings, please see Carol or Stella for a lift.

Mimesis

My daughter wouldn't hurt a spider that had rested between her bicycle handles for two weeks. She waited until it left on its own accord. "If you tear down the web," I said, "it will simply know this isn't a place to go biking." She said "That's how others become refugees isn't it." *Faly Joudah.*

Craft Afternoon



On Monday 16th October 23 people came! We had a visiting family of 4, off the street. One of the 2 daughters saw the notice about us, and on the cold, windy day they spent their afternoon with us colouring in and knitting and other crafts.

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The Whole People of God – looking to the future

This is the theme for the informal meetings on alternate Mondays 11am till 12 in the small school room starting on 23rd October to the 4th December. We will explore through scripture and prayers what the church is today, tomorrow, and in the future. Please come along and spend an hour with each other sharing our hopes and dreams.

Arts and Crafts Exhibition and sale of work

At Tabernacle United Reformed Church in Pembroke on Wednesday 22nd November from 10am to 4pm. Free entry, refreshments available (soup and roll at lunchtime!).

Congratulations to David Salisbury



David Salisbury is the new incoming Moderator of the United Reformed Church's National Synod of Wales. He is expected to take up this ministry in the New Year. Please pray for him as he prepares for this ministry.

Dates for your diaries

Sunday services held at 11am unless indicated otherwise.

Oct 29th Anne Worker

Nov 5th Rev Stella Hayton and Communion

Nov 12th **9:30am** Rev Nanette Lewis-Head

Nov 19th Rev Stella Hayton

Nov 26th Rev Adrian Davies

Dec 3rd Rev Stella Hayton HHI service

Dec 10th Rev Norman Gilbert

Dec 17th Rev Stella Hayton

Dec 24th Worship group

Dec 24th Kate Wolsey

4pm Candy Cane Service

Dec 25th **10am** Rev Stella Hayton Communion

Dec 31st John Birch

Craft Club every Monday afternoon 2-4

Coffee mornings every Wednesday 10-12

November

3rd Quinquennial Survey 10am

6th The whole people of God musings 10-11

8th Christmas Card Sale (Eva Rich) 10-12

20th The whole people of God musings 10-11

22nd Art and Craft Exhibition and Sales,

Pembroke, 10-4

24th Advent Elf course at Pembroke 10.30-12

25th Inner Wheel Coffee Morning

December

1st Advent Elf course at Pembroke 10.30-12

4th The whole people of God musings 10-11

6th Christmas Fayre 10-12

8th Advent Elf course at Pembroke 10.30-12

11th and 12th Christmas tree set-up

13th Christmas Tree Festival Opens daily 10.30 to 4pm except Sundays

15th Advent Elf course at Pembroke 10.30-12

16th Christmas Tea Celebration 3pm to 5pm

22nd Advent Elf course at Pembroke 10.30-12