

Sunday 3rd March



Welcome to our 10.00am Service

We will be staying together as a Church Family to think about:
'God saves a jailer' – Acts 16:23-40

You are very welcome – whether you are looking into Christianity for the first time, have been a Christian for years or are looking for a church in Birmingham. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet, and if you would like us to contact you about our activities then complete a Welcome Card – both are available in the foyer.

There is a **Crèche** for under 3's in the Cranmer Room.



Refreshments are served in the Foyer after the service, please stay and join us.



Toilets are in the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities in the disabled toilet.

OPENING PRAYER *Chris Hobbs*

HYMN O Lord my God

CONFESSION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

BIBLE READING *Margaret Twiss*
Acts 16:11-24 (page 1111)

IMPOSSIBLE GAME

SONG It's a light and a hammer

BIBLE READING *Margaret Twiss*
Acts 16:25-40 (page 1112)

TALK *Tom Bryant*

God saves a jailer

SONG *You're the Word of God the Father*

PRAYERS *David Stokes*
ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

NEWS

SONG In Christ alone

Please collect your child from crèche

CLOSING PRAYER

Sunday 3rd March



Welcome to our 4.00pm Service

We will be staying together as a Church Family to think about:
'God saves a jailer' – Acts 16:23-40

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There is a **Crèche** for under 3's in the Cranmer Room.

Cross Section (Y10-12) meet after the service in the Tyndale Room.



Refreshments are served in the Foyer after the service, please stay and join us.



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OPENING PRAYER *Chris Hobbs*

HYMN O Lord my God

CONFESSION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

BIBLE READING *Andy Walker*
Acts 16:11-24 (page 1111)

IMPOSSIBLE GAME

SONG It's a light and a hammer

BIBLE READING *Andy Walker*
Acts 16:25-40 (page 1112)

TALK *Tom Bryant*

God saves a jailer

SONG *You're the Word of God the Father*

PRAYERS *Anna Luckwell*
ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

NEWS

SONG In Christ alone

Please collect your child from crèche

CLOSING PRAYER

Sunday 3rd March



Welcome to our **Big Questions** evening; where we will consider the question: **What's the point of church?**

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WELCOME *Chris Hobbs*

DISCUSSION QUESTION

TALK *Andy Martin*

INTERVAL

**DISCUSSION/
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(to text a question: 07988 612525)

CLOSE

Notes from discussion:

All Age

Acts 16:23-40

God saves a jailer

For Paul and Silas:

The place was... Macedonia.

The message was... "Believe in Jesus and you will be saved!"

The problem was... it seemed impossible, because...

But in the end... God saved the people he wanted to, like...

For me:

The place is... _____

The message is... "Believe in Jesus and you will be saved!"

The problem is... it can seem impossible, because...

But in the end... I can trust that God will save the people

Missed a sermon recently? Visit www.sssw.org.uk (under Resources)

What I have learned

- to praise God for

- to confess to God

- to ask God for

Big Question: What's the point of church?

Missed a sermon recently? Visit www.sssw.org.uk (under Resources)

What I have learned

- to praise God for

- to confess to God

- to ask God for

A man ablaze

Dear Friends,

You may have heard the news that Michael Green died peacefully on Wednesday 6th February following a brief illness. Many of us will remember Michael with great fondness and enormous gratitude as a persuasive evangelist, distinguished theologian and engaging author. Even at St Stephen's we have reason to thank God for him: he spoke at a church weekend away in 2001, led a mission with other local churches in 2003 and preached several times. We enjoyed a particular connection with him while his daughter Jenny (Maclennan) and her family were with us.

What was it about Michael that made him so special? (Here I am indebted to a tribute by Simon Ponsonby on the website of St Aldate's Church, Oxford where Michael was Rector 1975-1987, which seems to capture him perfectly). He says that Michael was "a man ablaze with the love of God and the Spirit of God, and people came to watch him burn – with a heart, mind and mouth set on fire." Just like John Wesley, who was once asked the basis for his success and replied: "First I set myself on fire, then people came to see me burn."

In this, Michael was the embodiment of Romans 12:11: "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour". His love for Jesus was enthusiastic and infectious to the end. He wanted nothing more than to know Jesus better himself and to make him known to others. Even last year, at the age of 87, he was leading a university mission at Warwick! He was "a true legend in his own lifetime – famous for making Jesus famous."

Yours warmly, in Christ,
Chris Hobbs (Senior Minister/Vicar)



**Next Big Question:
Apr 7 at 6.30pm**

One God... Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Make your mind up.

Senior Minister (Vicar) Chris Hobbs
Assistant Minister Andy Martin
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www.sssw.org.uk



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Sundays at St Stephens

10am service, family friendly with activities for children (crèche – Y6)

4pm service, family friendly with activities for children and young people (crèche – Y9)

Cross Section (Y10-13)

5.30-7.00pm, toasties included

6.30pm service, relaxed and informal

This Week

Sun
3

Cross Section (Y10-13) 5.30-7.00pm, toasties included.

Wed
6

Day Centre (for older people). 10am-2.30pm or join us for our monthly service at 11.15 for 11.30am and stay for lunch. Cost £3. Flyers in the foyer.

Ash Wednesday Communion. 7.30-8.15pm, Maurice Sinclair speaking.

Prayer Gathering. 8.30-9.30pm praying for Lyn McNeill and our youth ministry.

Coffee, tea and cakes 8.15-8.30pm.

Thu
7

Cross-Section Bible Study (Y10-13)

4.30-5.30pm

Explorers (Y2-6) 6.00 – 7.00pm

Club114 (Y7-9) 6.30 – 8.00pm

Fri
8

Stay and Play baby and toddler group. 10.00-11.30am

Mar
9

Men's Breakfast. 8.00-9.30am. "Go and make disciples." Yes, but how?

Join us for a time of teaching, discussion and prayer. Cost £4. Please

sign up by **Wed 6th March** using Church Suite, or contact the Parish Office.

Dad's Stay n Play. 10-11.30am. £1.50 per family, bacon butties included.

Sun
10

Suffering Church Prayer Breakfast.

please join us to pray for our brothers & sisters, and the work of Open

Doors: 8.30-9.30am in the Cranmer Room.

Looking Ahead

Apr
4

Afternoon Tea at the Vicarage 3-5pm, for those who are retired. Please ask Chris or Helen Hobbs for an invitation.

Apr
9

Parenting Evening. 'Raising Kids: when life is crazy-busy.' 7.45pm for refreshments, 8.00pm start. Pick up a flyer from the Foyer.

Jun
28-30

Church Family Weekend Away 2019.

'Running the Race', with Wallace and Lindsay Benn. Please aim to join us.

Book quickly for an 'early-bird' rate! Please book using Church Suite or contact the Parish Office for a booking form.

News and Requests

Church Manager. We are seeking to appoint a full-time Church Manager. Full details can be found at www.sssw.org.uk/church-manager.

Feel free to contact Chris Hobbs informally.

Application deadline **Mon 4th March 2019.**

Electoral Roll. The roll has to be renewed from scratch this year, so this is for everyone! Please fill in a form **by Sunday 10th March**, and place it in the red box in the foyer. Forms cannot be accepted after this date.

Wanted: Chocolatey cereal. Could you donate a box for Cross Section Bible study? The more chocolatey, the better! Speak to Tom Bryant.