

This Week

Tue 12 April **CAP Prayer Meeting.** 7.45pm at Selly Oak Elim.

Sun 17 April **Church Family Meal.** 12noon in the Cranmer Room. Everyone is welcome!

Looking Ahead

Mon 18 Apr **Women's Book Group.** We will be discussing "The Cross Centered life" by CJ Mahaney. Speak to Chris Stonehouse or Elizabeth Barry with any questions.

Wed 27 April **Annual Meeting (APCM).** We will be electing three PCC members for the next three years. Please be thinking and praying about who (you?) should fill these important roles in our church's leadership. We would love to hear stories of what you have seen the Lord do this past year – please speak to Chris Hobbs if you have something to share.

Sat 30 April **The Addict in Us All:** how the Bible understands addiction and how the gospel helps. 10.30am-4.30pm, London. Flyers on the Information Table.

7-8 May **Glen and Emma Scrivener** are coming to Birmingham. They will share their story of how they found grace and healing for anorexia. See the Information Table.

Tues 10 May **MMTC Lite** starts, at St Stephen's. The same quality as the full-blown MMTC, just less quantity. Be sure to book early! Flyers on the Information Table.

Fri 13 May **The God Particle Play.** 8.00pm at St Stephen's. In Birmingham for one night only, don't miss out! See the flyer for more information.

Jul 2-3 **Church Family Weekend at Home.** Andy Upton will be speaking. Please put the date in your diary! More details to come.

News and Requests

The World We All Want. A chance to explore the unfolding story of the Bible – the story of the world we want but don't have, a world that God has promised and is making. Two options, one course is continuing on Tue 13 Apr 10.00-11.30am & the other begins on Thu 21 Apr 8.00-9.30pm. Flyers on the Information Table.

Invitation to join the Electoral Roll. This is the closest thing we have to church membership. If you would like to join the roll please fill in a purple form from the Information Table and send it in to the Parish Office today.

Sunday Club leaders please check your pigeonholes for the material for the summer term.

Please could you donate **tins of food** (in date and suitable for a food bank) to help Club 114 complete the Birmingham City Mission Tin Can Challenge. We need 100 cans in all. Thank you.

Vicar: Chris Hobbs **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

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ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK

taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously



Welcome

10 April 2016

If you are new, you are especially welcome. Please help yourself to a Welcome booklet and, if you have time, introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.

10.00am Morning Service with Baptism

'The rider on the white horse' (Revelation 19:11-20:15) – Chris Hobbs

Children and young people. 3-11's will have holiday cover in the Cranmer Room, please go to the front of church. There is no Club114 this week.

Crèche is in the Cranmer Room for 0-3's. To access crèche go to the back of church.

Coffee, tea and cakes are served after the service in the foyer.

6.00pm Evening Service

'Our God punishes sin' (Jeremiah 39) – Nick Devas

Coffee, tea and cakes are served after the service in the foyer.

Toilets are adjacent to the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilets.

"I saw heaven standing open..." (19:1). God shows us what will happen at the end:

1. Christ will be victorious – with those who belong to him (19:11-21)

2. Satan will be defeated – with those who belong to him (20:1-15)

OPENING PRAYER *led by Chris Porter*

SONG Praise my soul the King of heaven

BAPTISM of Maxime, Lily and Romain

SONG He's the King of kings

NEWS *after which children and young people go to their activities*

SONGS I once was lost in darkest night
Early morning break of dawn

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BIBLE READING

Revelation 19:11-20:15 (page 1248)

(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON The rider on the white horse

HYMN At the name of Jesus

Please collect your child from creche

CLOSING PRAYER

The story so far...

After David and Solomon come a succession of kings who led the people astray.

God gives numerous warnings of judgment through prophets like Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah.

The kingdom is divided, Israel taken into exile, Judah becomes a vassal state of Assyria.

626 BC: King Josiah finds the forgotten book of Law, makes reforms, purging idolatry.

627 BC: God's word first comes to Jeremiah (Jer.1), but despite Josiah's protection, there is still huge opposition to his message. By now,

Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar have overtaken the Assyrians as the dominant power.

609 Josiah succeeded by his sons who turn away from God: Jehoahaz (taken off to Egypt after 3 months), and Johoiakim, ruled for 11 years before being taken off to Babylon.

Johoiakim succeeded by his son Johoiachin, also taken off to Babylon after 3 months.

598: Zedekiah (Jehoiachin's uncle) installed by Babylonians as puppet king but he rebels, despite Jeremiah's warnings from God to surrender.

Jan 588: Jerusalem besieged by Babylonians and falls in July 587 (2 Kings 25, Jer.39).

The Message of Jeremiah 39 (and 31-38)

1. Jeremiah continues to speak God's message faithfully, however unpopular and whatever the cost (Jer.34-38)
2. God fulfils what he planned: punishment for disobedience and idolatry (Jer.39:1-10)
3. But God has not abandoned his promise to Abraham, Moses, David (Rom.11): this punishment is for their ultimate good – to bring them back to him. There is a promise of restoration, a new covenant and a new heart (Jer.31 and 33)
4. God provides rescue to those who trust in him (Jer.39:11-18).

Missed a sermon recently? Please visit www.sssw.org.uk to hear or download an audio version.

OPENING PRAYER *led by Chris Hobbs*

SONGS See what a morning
From the highest of heights
Who O Lord could save themselves

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way and broken your laws. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us forgive us, cleanse us, and change us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live for you and to please you more and more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN Fairest Lord Jesus
There is no other name

THE APOSTLES' CREED

NEWS

BIBLE READING Jeremiah 39:1-18 (802), Romans 11:25-36 (page 1138)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Our God punishes sin

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

HYMN Be thou my vision

CLOSING DOXOLOGY

**Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!
"Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has seen his counsellor?"
"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?"
For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.**