

## This Week

- Today** **Book of the Term** *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*, by Timothy Keller. Only £9 hardback. Available after both services.
- Mon 16 Mar** **Butcher and Beer** 7.15pm. Enjoy a tasty burger, sample world beers, watch a local butcher in action and take home a bag of fresh beef!
- Wed 18 Mar** **Poems that Appeal** share coffee and cake and take a trip down memory lane with poems to tug your heartstrings, 10.30am.
- Thur 19 Mar** **Have I got Quiz for you?** A chance for 11-18s to pit their wits against each other with questions galore! 7.30pm.
- Fri 20 Mar** **Spring Craft** *Last chance to book!* Spring is here, invite it into your own home with a fresh flower creation to take home, with tasty nibbles too! 7.45pm.
- Sun 22 Mar** **Come and See Service** 10am How can I know God?  
**Sunday Unplugged at 6pm** an informal café-style service.

## Looking Ahead

- Thur 2 Apr** **Church Family Meal** 6.45 for 7pm. Please sign up on the sheet on the Info Table at the back.

## News, Notices and Requests

**Building for the Future** The pews at St Stephen's have gone and the organ console is in storage. Phase 2, here we go!

**Prayer Meetings for Sarah Underwood** 8-9pm on Tues 17th March and from 1.30-2.30 on Tues 24th March.

**To fill the church with daffodils for Easter** we need lots of glass jars, jam, coffee, cooking sauce, in fact, jars of any description. Please give them to Lynn Trueman or Margaret Twiss.

**Note from the Office** please do check your pigeon holes regularly to avoid mail building up.

**CAP Debt Centre Volunteers meeting**, Christ Church Selly Park, Tues 14<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm. To find out how the new Debt Centre is going or if you'd like to volunteer. There are many jobs to be done (praying, visiting clients, delivering emergency food, befriending, organising a social event, etc.) and everyone is needed. There is no need to know about money or debt.

**MMTC Lite Training Course** starts again Tues 28<sup>th</sup> April at St Wulstan's. Details on the flyer on the Information Table.

**Frances Taylor's Wedding** David and Helen invite you to Frances' wedding to Matthew Gregory at St Francis Church Bournville on Saturday 25th April at 2pm. Tea and cakes will be served after the service.

**Veteran's Coffee Morning** SSAFA Norton House, Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Mar 11am  
Do you fancy a cuppa and a chat? A warm welcome awaits you at our second coffee morning.

**Senior Minister (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

15<sup>th</sup> March 2015

*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 Mothering Sunday All-Age Service

'How to suffer well' (1 Peter 4:12-19) – Helen Buckley

**Children and young people** will stay in the service today.

**0-3s** are welcome to stay in the service, but should you require it there is a crèche in the back room that is available throughout the service.

**Toilets** are in the foyer, baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilet.

**Coffee, tea and biscuits** are served after the service.

## 6.00pm Evening Service

'God is true to His Word' (Genesis 20-21) – Chris Hobbs

**Coffee, tea and cakes** are served after the service.

## Daily bread

"Give us today our daily bread." We say those words every Sunday, some of us twice. Some of us may even use them in our own prayers during the week. They are magnificent words, and we sense the rightness of praying them, expressing as they do our dependence – every day – on our loving Father just to get us through that day. And since it is God's own Son who has taught us to pray those words to his Father, we are on solid ground when we utter them. But what are we asking for when we say those words?

There is one great moment in the story of the Bible when God literally did give his people their daily bread. It was enough for that day, and no more, and he did the same day after day after day (except for the Sabbath when he provided enough for two days). That was when the people of Israel were in the wilderness, on their way to the land God had promised. There, every morning, lying on the ground for them to pick up, was manna. It was enough to get them through that day, and then they had to trust him for tomorrow.

God gives us grace to face what we need to face, one day at a time. Yet we worry and fret, wondering, "But what if such-and-such...?" And he replies, "If and when I call you to face such-and-such, I'll give you grace for that too. In the meantime, here's the grace you need for now." This way we learn to trust God to provide what we need, one day at a time. That's what we're asking for – and God gives us – when we ask for daily bread.

*Chris Hobbs, Senior Minister (Vicar)*

OPENING PRAYER *led by Andy Martin*

SONG Come people of the risen King

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just; he will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.**

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins. For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives; **Father forgive us, save us and help us.** For behaving just as we want to without thinking of you; **Father forgive us, save us and help us.** For failing you by what we do and think and say; **Father forgive us, save us and help us.** For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son; **Father forgive us, save us and help us.** In your great love for us, and because Jesus died for our sins; **Father forgive us, save us and help us.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you forgive all who truly turn to you. May your Holy Spirit give us strength to love and serve you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG Lord I lift your name on high

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

BIBLE READINGS Proverbs 11:17-31 (page 645), 1 Peter 4:12-19 (page 1220)  
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON How to suffer well

SONGS Trust in the Lord

You know everything about me

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.**

NOTICES

HYMN When peace like a river

*Please collect your child from crèche during the final song*

CLOSING PRAYER

**Be with us, Lord, as we go out into the world: may the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth; may the ears which have heard your word listen only to what is good; and may our lives in every part be always pleasing in your sight, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*COLLECTION Gifts may be placed in the Gifts box at the back*

OPENING PRAYER *led by Andy Martin*

SONGS Oh for a thousand tongues to sing  
Bless the Lord, Oh my soul

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.**

SONGS There is no other name  
You died in my place

BIBLE READINGS Genesis 20:1-21:34 (page 20)  
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON God is true to His Word

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

SONG The Lord's my shepherd

THE APOSTLES' CREED

OPEN PRAYER

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.**

NOTICES

HYMN Yes, finished, the Messiah dies

CLOSING PRAYER

**To him who is able to keep us from falling and to present us before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and for evermore. Amen.**

*COLLECTION Gifts may be placed in the Gifts box on the Information Table*