



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 13th March 2016

Easter Services and other events 2016

Maundy Thursday 24th March

6.30 pm Passover Meal with Communion at St. Luke's – booking is required

Good Friday 25th March

10.00-11.00 am Walk of Witness, from South Parade Pier to Palmerston Road

10.30 am Morning service at St. Simon's

2.00 pm An Hour at the Cross meditative service at St. Simon's

4.00 pm Messy Church at St. Jude's

Easter Day 27th March

6.00 am Sunrise service by Southsea Beach Cafe

6.30 am "Sonrise" service on Portsdown Hill (by Mick's Burger Van)

10.30 am Holy Communion service at St. Simon's

Second Sunday Stroll

Our strolls continue each month. Meet at 2.30 pm at South Parade Pier for a casual social stroll along the seafront. The next one is on **Sunday 13th March**. Everybody is welcome.

Joint Prayer Meeting with St. Jude's

On **Monday 14th March**, there will be a combined prayer meeting with St. Jude's church at St Jude's in the Garden Room, from 8.30 pm until 9.30 pm. This will have been preceded by a meeting for the pastoral and prayer ministry teams. Do feel you can come to the prayer time at 08.30 pm. Sue Piper

Revision of the Electoral Roll

The revised roll is available on the Welcome Table and will be displayed until **15th March**; any errors should be reported to the church office please.

Prayer Group for St. Jude's School

Would you like to pray for St Jude's School together with others? Then please join us on **Tuesday 15th March 8.15-9.15 pm** at St Jude's Church (tea/coffee from 8 pm). Parents, staff, governors, and anyone else interested in praying for the school are all welcome - please spread the word! For any more information please contact Kathy Bacon – contact details are available from either church office.

Halabja Memorial Ceremony

The Kurdish community in Portsmouth remembers the tragedies of the Iraqi regime's programme of genocide and in particular when they dropped chemical bombs on the Kurdish town of Halabja in 1988. It will be at the Garden of Hope (behind the D-Day Museum, Southsea) on **Wednesday 16th March** at 12.00 noon where the Kurdish community will be joined by local dignitaries and representatives from city-wide organisations. Canon Andrew White will be attending. The ceremony is open to all.

Visionworks auditions

Visionworks, a local Christian theatre company, is holding an audition event for anyone interested in joining their next productions on **Tuesday 22nd March**. Please see <http://visionworksproductions.co.uk/auditions-for-our-autumn-shows/> for further details.

Annual Meetings 2016

The two annual meetings (the meeting to elect the churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held on **Wednesday 16th March** this year. This date is different from the provisional date agreed at the November PCC meeting. The formal notices of these meetings are now in the notice case outside the north door.

Nomination forms for churchwardens and lay members of the PCC are now available on the Welcome Tables or on request from the Church Office.

Nominations for churchwardens must be received by midnight on the preceding Sunday, 13th March. Nominations for lay members of the PCC may be made in advance or at the meeting.

The [Annual Report and Accounts](#) are now available. A very limited number of printed copies are available on request from the church office.

Deanery Synod Report

At the last Deanery synod meeting, we were updated about various events: Various cluster initiatives, include appointing an older person's advocate, Jill Phipps, who is in post for a year, which ends in May 2016. She holds various activities and plans to have a tea dance in April at All Saints church.

St Mary's church held an Easter egg appeal last year, in which people donated Easter eggs to give to the Roberts Centre. This year, they would like to broaden it to include the women's refuge. More details to follow.

Rachel Duff will be taking a group of young people to our link Ho Diocese in Ghana in July this year. They will be experiencing a different culture, offering a

holiday club to primary school children and discovering more about Jesus with their new friends. David Power would like to replace the Bishop's old car with a Land Rover, and is asking for gifts for this.

Our youth Chaplaincy workers, Sue Whitelock and Sharon Court are going into schools to help with a breakfast club and also are available for pupils to share their problems with them. There is always a need for volunteers to help too.

Holy Trinity Church Brompton, have planted a church in Brighton, and this church are investigating planting a church in Portsmouth, particularly aimed at young professionals. Their aim is to be up and running by the end of September 2016. Negotiations are taking place with the Bishop.

Sue Piper

Good Friday Services

For those not taking part in the Walk of Witness on Good Friday morning we have our own Service at St Simon's at 10.30am. This will be a simple retelling of Christ's Passion with Bob Mason, using the various objects in the story such as the moneybag of Judas, the purple robe, Pilate's washbowl, the soldiers' dice and so on. With well-known hymns and songs the Service will last about 50 minutes.

Hugh will lead us in a more meditative Service, An Hour at the Cross, at 2.00pm with music and reflections.

British Summer time

A reminder that BST starts on Easter Day, Sunday 27th March. Please remember to put your clocks forward one hour.

Away Day

We will be having an Away Day for the whole church on **Saturday 9th April** at St. John's church, Shedfield. Details to follow.

Risen! The Musical

“Risen! The Musical” will be showing at the New Theatre Royal on **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April**. Please note dates and aim to attend to promote this amazing venture. Go to <http://www.newtheatreroyal.com/event/risen-the-musical/> for further information and to book online now. Tickets are £5 and £10 with concessions available.

Samaritan's Purse event

You're Invited to a special event for Operation Christmas Child on **Tuesday 19th April** 7pm - 9pm at St. Andrew's Church, Beaulieu Rd, Dibden Purlieu, Hampshire, SO45 4PT. Come and join us to learn more about this amazing ministry. How it is reaching out around the world and growing the Kingdom whilst UK church leaders are also using it to reach their own communities. RSVP - Sara Artingstall - Regional Manager 07900 270 159. Ruth Taylor hopes to attend this event. Please contact Ruth for further details.

Licensing of Rev. Susi James

The licensing of Susi as priest-in-charge of St. Simon's is due to take place at a service at 3.00 pm on **Sunday 1st May** when his formal appointment will begin. Tea, coffee and cake will follow the service.

Men's Day Out

How often do we men of St Simons do something together? No matter what age you are we've all got something to offer, so what a great way to get to know each other, learning more about our heritage and history. On **Saturday 7th May** we've arranged a day trip to Brooklands Museum and Mercedes World leaving the church car park at 08:30 am. There will be a cost towards the mini-bus of £4.00 and entry into Brooklands of £11.00 (Under 16's entry £6.00 and mini-bus free). Please note that there's extra cost for the 4D experience rides yet entry into Mercedes World is free. There's a cafe at Brooklands for those wishing to purchase lunch alternatively bring a packed lunch. If you're interested in coming please speak to Cliff Gollodge to secure your seat.

Social events

The initial list of social events for January – June 2016 is available on the [website](#) and the Welcome Table.

Real Easter Eggs

Real Easter Eggs, “the egg that shares the Easter story”, will again be available this year. You can order online at <http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk/> and some other independent retailers. They will also be available in larger branches of Tesco, Morrisons and Waitrose from mid-February.

Bishop’s Lent Appeal 2016

The appeal this year will support learning, both locally and abroad. One beneficiary will be St. Nicholas’ Seminary in Ghana. The other will be a local group or charity which supports people who have difficulty in learning due to dyslexia, language barriers, etc.. Leaflets giving further information and donation forms are available on the Welcome Table.

Chris and Nadege Cowley

Chris and Nadege with Timothy and Nicholas will be visiting Southsea for a week at the end of June or early July. If anyone is able to loan or rent suitable accommodation for the four of them, please contact Mick in the church office, thank you.

Chris Tutte

Chris, a local teacher and member of Cosham Baptist Church, has been helping regularly at Sunday Suppers and Breakthru since the Autumn. We are pleased to report that Chris has been accepted for full-time ministry in the Baptist Church. He continues his studies with Regents College, Oxford and now awaits details of a suitable ‘placement’ church where he will serve from September. We assure Chris of our prayers as he follows God’s calling.

News from Babette

Hello! Firstly, I'd like to once again thank everyone that's helped with the youth room so far – Julie did a sterling job cleaning, Rob Borley, Kevin Smith, Mark Crawley, Neil Stevenson & Ross Jamieson all very generously paid for the carpet, and Gorik and John who painted it beautifully! It's so encouraging to see the church body practically supporting and loving our young people. The plan is to have the youth room kitted out by Easter – so pictures will be going on walls, TVs will be plugged in etc. After this we'll start running monthly socials, such as movie nights, in the new youth room – but more details on that closer to the time!

Speaking of Easter, we've got a drama club on the second week of the Easter holidays (6th, 7th and 8th April) from 10am – 2pm! If you know anyone from the age of 6 – 16 who loves drama then contact me for more details.

The Ghana trip fundraising is going well, if you were at the Love Southsea market on the 5th & 6th March, you would have seen the tent where we were selling home-made mother's day gifts, as well as a tombola with lots of great prizes. This raised over £500 on the Saturday alone!

For any more information on any of the activities for the youth, or if you'd like to help out at the youth drama, or have ideas for fundraising for Ghana, I'd love to hear from you!

All the best, Babette Shaw.

Housebound church members - Angel Radio

If you are not yet familiar with Angel Radio it worth tuning in - [101.1MHz FM \(next to Classic FM\)](#) - particularly at 9.0 am on a Sunday morning. After a disasterous fire recently it is back in business and the Sunday service is especially worth listening to. It is usually led by Bob Mason who has just the right touch for those who are the regular listeners, and would be particularly appreciated by any who cannot manage to get to church

Every week

Little Shipmates (Mondays 9.30 – 11 am, Church Centre, term time only)

Youth Cell (Monday evenings. Contact Babette – see below)

Tuesday Time Together (Praise and Prayer, 10 am in the South Room)

Tuesday Bible Alive (Alternate Tuesdays, 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge)

City Churches Prayer Meeting (Wednesdays 6.30am, at Oasis, Arundel Street)

Breakthru Self-Help Community (Fridays 10.30 am to 2.30 pm)

Sunday Morning Worship with Children's Groups (see back page)

Sunday Suppers + Sunday Extra (Sunday nights 6 to 7.15 pm)

Rhythm of Prayer (Wednesdays at 6.00 pm and Fridays at 09.30 am)

There is also a variety of **Small Groups** for adults for discipleship, prayer and support. Phone the Church Office on 9282 9440 or you can find a list of our current groups on our website.

Notes

These Newsletters are published fortnightly. The deadline for contributions is midnight of the Tuesday before publication. Please send your news, notices of events, etc. to the Church Office.

Would you like to read this Newsletter in large print? Please let the office know.

This newsletter is available on the church website.

If you would like to receive notification via e-mail when future Newsletters are available, please request this from the Church Office.

Services at St. Simon's

Sunday 13th March

10.30 am Morning Praise

6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 20th March

09.30 am Shipmates

10.30 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Sunday Supper

**Easter Services are listed earlier in
this Newsletter**

Sunday 3rd April

09.30 am Shipmates

11.15 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Sunday Supper

If you would like more details of any of the events listed here, please contact the Church Office, or visit the Calendar on our website:

www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk



Useful Contacts:

Amy Allen (Children and Families' Pastor)

c/o 023 9282 9440

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