



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 19th March 2017

Easter Services 2017

Easter services are as follows:

Maundy Thursday, 13th April

7.00 pm Maundy Thursday service at St. Simon's
(booking is required for catering purposes)

Good Friday, 14th April

10.00 am Walk of Witness
11.30 am Good Friday service at St. Simon's

Easter Sunday, 16th April

10.30 am Easter Sunday Communion service

Invitation cards will be available nearer the time.

Window repairs

As announced recently, the necessary repairs to the south and west windows are anticipated to cost in excess of £90,000. We need to raise the funds for this urgently. If you feel that you would be able to contribute, please contact our Treasurer, Gail Chipperfield, or if preferred, Susi or Mick in the church office. We would appreciate donations, offers of pledges over time, loans or help with grant applications or writing to others who might help.

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

28 th March	Women of the Bible(1):Part 1 – In the Beginning
11 th April	Women of the Bible(1):Part 2 - A Nation is born
25 th April	Women of the Bible(1):Part 3 – Looking back

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

Indian Cookery Demonstration and Taster Evening

Come and join Ruth and Christine on **Friday 24th March** at 7.00 pm as they share simple dishes, wonderful aromas of herbs and spices and delicious tasting. Tickets £6, to include “tasters” and soft drinks, from Geraldine, Anthea or Julie.

Grub Club – a Chinese meal out

The next Grub Club outing will be to the Noble House Chinese Restaurant in Osborne Road, Southsea, on **Friday 31st March**. This is being organised by Michelle McGannan – further details in the next newsletter.

Housefires at King's Church

The Housefires worship team ('Good Good Father') are playing at King's Church on **Sunday 2nd April**. Doors 6.45 pm. Start 7.30 pm. Tickets are £12 and available from the big church live website:

<https://bigchurchlive.com/events/housefires/portsmouth-april-2-2017>

Annual Meetings, Sunday 2nd April

On **Sunday 2nd April** it will be our APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting). As we have tried many new things this year, this year's APCM will be part of our main service. It is going to be slightly different to our normal service with elections and reports along with prayers, worship and a short talk. It will be an opportunity to hear what God has been doing in different areas of Church life. Importantly, the service will finish with a bring and share lunch – please come prepared with a contribution.

We have two vacancies for lay members of the PCC. Please consider whether you might stand for election for these. The two churchwardens and the two deanery synod representatives will also be elected at these meetings. All nomination forms are available on the church website or from the church office.

Rowans Hospice Ceilidh

A Scottish Ceilidh to raise funds for the Rowans Hospice will be held 7.00-11.00 pm on **Saturday 8th April** at Admiral Lord Nelson School. Tickets are £8.00 to include a ploughman's supper from 023 9245 0265.

Rowans Hospice Tea Dance

A Tea Dance to raise funds for the Rowans Hospice will be held 2.00-5.00 pm on **Sunday 14th May** at the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea. DJ Steve Kingsley, tea/coffee, scones, jam and cream – tickets are £9.00 available from Christine Banerjee.

MS Therapy Centre guest speaker

We have a guest speaker, Mike Gumbrell, from the MS Therapy Centre (<http://www.smstherapycentre.org.uk/>) on **Sunday 14th May**.

The Alpha Course

Our next Alpha course starts on **Thursday 18th May 2017**. Please contact the church office to book your place. Watch [the Bear Grylls Alpha video](#).

Leading Your Church into Growth

A reminder of future LYCIG dates:

Wednesday 26th April 7.00 pm-9.00 pm (For everyone)

Wednesday 3rd May 7.00 pm-9.00 pm (For everyone)

Wednesday 10th May 7.00 pm-9.00 pm (For everyone)



Saturday 13th May 9.00 am-2.00 pm (an alternative to Wednesday evenings)

All church members are encouraged to attend the sessions from 26th April.

Church Weekend at Home 2017

For your diaries - **Friday evening 23rd June through Sunday 25th June 2017.**

Further details will follow.

Social Dates for 2017

A [list of social events for 2017](#) is now available on the website. Printed copies are also available on the Welcome Table.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

A reminder of the key dates for 2017:

Revision of the electoral roll – Now completed.

Revised roll will be displayed – Tuesday 14th March to Sunday 2nd April

Annual meetings – Sunday 2nd April

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2017 – From Slavery to Freedom

This year's Lent Appeal is called From Slavery to Freedom. It supports two causes. The main one is Stop the Traffik, working to prevent human trafficking. The other is domestic abuse, particularly among women. This was featured in the February [Pompey Chimes](#). You can donate by putting donations, clearly marked, in the offering boxes.

LYCiG

If you were unable to make any of the LYCiG sessions the course materials for all the sessions to date are now available online [here](#). Each folder contains the handout, DVD clips and the presentation. Please respect the copyright of these materials and do not distribute them outside of St. Simon's. The next LYCiG session for everyone is at 7.15 for a 7.30 start on **Wednesday 26th April**.

Fabric Committee – New member required

The Fabric Committee needs new blood! Are you interested in improving and maintaining our church building? You don't need to be any sort of professional or even a DIY person; you just need to be willing to attend meetings (approximately 4-5 times per year) and to use your "common sense". If you feel that you might be interested or would like more details, please talk to Louise Roulston-Thomas or Mick Walters.

'Orrible 'istories

Many thanks to all that supported the recent event. A total of £340 was raised towards general church funds.

Job Vacancy – Pure Ground Coffee Shop

Langstone Church runs a coffee shop called Pure Ground on the edge of Milton Park. They are looking for a part-time (10-20 hours per week) barista to join their team. Further details are available from St. Simon's church office and responses are required as soon as possible.

Minibus driver wanted – August 19th and 24th

Bryn is taking a group to Soul Survivor in August. Is anybody available to drive the minibus for them on **Saturday 19th and/or Thursday 24th August** please? Please contact Bryn or Mick in the office if you may be able to help.

LYCiG Follow-up Events

Please note the following events:

Creating a Culture of Welcome

Venerable Bob Jackson, who is a national church expert on church growth, will speak about ways to make our churches more welcoming on Friday 19th May 2017 7pm-9.30pm OR Saturday 20th May 2017 9.30am-2pm.

Discipleship in the Workplace

Charles Hipsley, who is currently working on a project called “Worker Friendly Churches”, will be speaking about discipleship in the workplace on Friday 6th October 2017 7pm-9:30pm OR Saturday 7th October 2017 9:30am-2pm.

Refreshing Worship

John Bell, who has written many collections of original hymns and songs, will speak about refreshing worship with the aim of improving music offering in Church on Friday 2nd March 2018 7pm-9:30pm OR Saturday 3rd March 2018 9:30am-3:30pm.

7 Sacred Spaces

George Lings, who believes his vocation is to study fresh expressions of Church, will be speaking about the Seven Sacred Spaces and what they are for on Friday 18th May 2018 7pm-9:30pm OR Saturday 19th May 2018 9:30am-2pm.

Booking forms will be available nearer the time.

Maundy Thursday Service

This is a special service on **Thursday 13th April** which will bring St. Luke's, St. Jude's and St. Simon's together where children are welcome as there will be a special seating arrangement for them to sit and eat too. The service itself will start at 6.30 for 7.00pm. The evening will consist of a Meal/Fellowship, Worship and Communion. We need volunteers for three teams please – cook, prepare/serve, clear up; sign-up sheets are at the back of church.

Regular Events

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

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

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

Temples for 11-18 year-olds (Tuesdays 7.00-8.30 pm)

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 nights 6 to 7.15 pm)

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

Prayer for Israel (fourth Fridays 3.00–4.00 pm Lounge. Contact Ruth Warner)

There is also a variety of **Small Groups** for adults for discipleship, prayer and support. Phone the Church Office on 023 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 19th March

10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 26th March

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 2nd April

9.30 am Shipmates
10.30 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:

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