

ST JAMES' & ST JOHN'S MONTHLY HERALD

ISSUE NO.37 December 2017

Minister's Note

At the Mission Area Conference in October, we were asked to be prepared to answer this question: What three priorities should the Mission Area focus on in the next five years? One member of my group answered, 'Growth, growth and growth'. That reflects the top priority for the Diocese, as decided by the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Conference: 'Growing our Church and new initiatives'.

A number of us were reminded at a recent Leading Your Church into Growth one day event, that growing the church is a priority, not so that the church survives, nor so that we feel good about ourselves; growing the church is a priority because there are too many people out there – people who are our own families, friends and neighbours – who've never heard the Good News of the Kingdom, who have no idea that they are loved unconditionally and individually by the Lord God Almighty himself.

Last month, I gave you two provisional dates for a local Leading Your Church into Growth course. On further reflection, those two dates have now been changed, so that we can complete this process and be well on the way to deciding how we can grow our own churches by Easter. So, please make a note that we need as many members as possible of both our churches to come together for these two days: **Saturday 3 February** and **Saturday 17 March**. I hope that the majority of our members will make these two days a priority, as we think about, discuss and pray through how we develop and move forward the mission of St James' and St John's, over the next five years or so.

In the meantime, please make the most of opportunities to invite your own families, friends and neighbours to join us for worship this Christmas. There are fliers available in both churches to use as invitations. If you can deliver some to people living near you, please do



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

ST JAMES'

11am unless otherwise stated

3rd December – All Age
Christingle

10th December – All Age
Communion (9 Lessons & Carols)

17th December – Morning Prayer

24th December – Crib Service
3.30pm and Communion at 5pm

31st December – Joint Holy
Communion with St. John's

ST JOHN'S

9.30am unless otherwise stated

3rd December – Holy
Communion plus Service Station
at 4pm

10th December – Holy
Communion plus Service Station
with Communion at 4pm

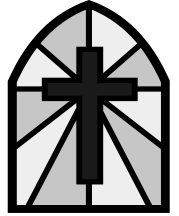
17th December – Morning Prayer
plus Christingle Service Station at
4pm

24th December – Joint Holy
Communion with St. James' at
10am plus Carol Service at
6.30pm and First Communion of
Christmas at 11.30pm

25th December – All Age
Communion at 10am

31st December – NO SERVICE
See St. James'

For Prayer



- For the opportunities provided over the period running up to and including Christmas, to share the good news of Jesus with our families, friends and neighbours – that we'll 'always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks [us] to give the reason for the hope that [we] have.' (1 Peter 3:15)
- For preparations for the LyCiG Local course in the New Year; pray that the Lord will use the time we all spend together to lead us forward in mission to our communities
- For Hallie Cunniffe-Beker, to be baptised at St John's on Sunday 10 December
- Please make sure you have a copy of the 'Leading Your Church into Growth' prayer bookmark, and use the prayer for growth in your prayers as often as possible

Church Events

At St James':

Tuesday 5 December, **Midweek Holy Communion**, 10.30 am in Church

Saturday 9 December, **Christmas Coffee Morning**, 10.00 am – 12 noon

At St John's:

Tuesday 12 December, **Carol Singalong**, 7.30 pm in the Hall

Saturday 16 December, **Prayer Breakfast**, 9.00 – 10.30 am, in Church

Elsewhere:

Wednesday evenings during term-time, **ConneXions**, Christian fellowship and study. 7.45 – 9.15 pm, 83 Jeffreys Road. Please contact Steve or Andrea, hottshotts83@gmail.com, for further details.

Wednesday 6 December, **TCC Strategy Meeting**, 7.30 pm at St. Francis of Assisi, Llay Chain, Llay, LL12 0NT

Thursday 21 December, **Carol Singing around Rhosddu**; meet at St James' at 6.30 pm; followed by fish and chip supper, to be ordered in advance – please see Jackie

Friday 22 December, **Rhosddu Park Christmas Service**, 4.00 pm – come along to enjoy refreshments, carols with the Salvation Army band, a live nativity, and a visit from Santa Claus!

Forthcoming Events:

- Wednesday 10 January, St James' Church Council, 7.30 pm
- Tuesday 16 January, St John's Church Council, 7.15 pm

Please see previous editions of the Herald for regular church activities and contact details

To make a contribution to the next issue, please contact Louise at loub.872@icloud.com / 01978 310865

