

**WHAT'S ON AT ST JOHN'S /DATES FOR DIARIES**

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed. 16 Oct.	7.30 p.m	Sing for Joy Choir
Thur. 17 Oct	9.00 a.m	Shiphay Learning Academy Harvest Service
Sun. 20 Oct.	10.00 a.m	Confirmation Service with Bishop James

**Christmas Tombola and Hamper Raffle for Mince Pie Monday**

Any donations of unwanted gifts or purchases of foodstuffs for the above will be gratefully received. Please pass to Jill Richardson or church office.



**Suggestions for your prayers/praise**

*This Harvest time we can continue to trust in his faithful provisions, sharing his goodness and mercy with all, being generous in everything we do and say, and looking to the Lord of the harvest to supply all our needs. Thanks be to God.*

*That we cherish our natural environment.*

*For the gathering in at Harvest Time. For our Harvest Celebrations today and for those who have come to receive a sense of the love of God.*

*We give thanks and praise for the Living Parable of the Talents gifts and the 'Charity Auction'.*

*Praise the Lord.....All good gifts around us*

*Are sent from heav'n above; Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord, For all His love.*

*We give thanks for all answered prayers.*

*For the rising up of peacemakers, peace in all war zones.*

*For all those to be confirmed here at St John's next weekend and for the Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt. Revd. James Grier.*

*Please pray for those who battle with mental health issues...when life seems too difficult for their strength and self worth.*

**SAFEGUARDING NOTICE**

Please remember it is the responsibility of accompanying adults for supervision of children, young people and vulnerable adults whilst arriving and departing from St John's Church Hall hired events and St John's Church. This helps maintain a safe and organized environment. It is important for **everyone** to be aware of this **safeguarding** process to ensure smooth and secure use of our premises.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Olivia Downes & Jon Harper (Churchwardens)**

**WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SHIPHAY**

*'A caring fellowship seeking to share the life and love of God'*

**Sunday 13 October 2024**

*The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.*

*We warmly welcome you to our Morning Worship as we give thanks for The Harvest and we pray that there will be a joyful harvest.*

*Please join us for our*

**Bring & Share Buffet**

*after the 10.00 a.m service.*

*We are glad you have chosen to come along to this service especially if this is your first visit to St. John's.*

*Every blessing to you all.*



**Music**

We plough the fields and scatter **719**

Faithful One, so unchanging

The Harvest Samba

**Offertory** Take my life, and let it be **625**

**Communion** Here I am wholly available

Jesus be the center

You shall go out with joy **766**



### **The First Reading**

Hebrews 4:12-16

<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

### **Jesus the great high priest**

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, <sup>[a]</sup> Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to feel sympathy for our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.



Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude,  
the spiritual blindness that prevents us  
from appreciating the wonder that is this world,  
the endless cycle of nature,  
of life and death and rebirth.  
Forgive us for taking without giving  
reaping without sowing.  
Open our eyes to see  
our lips to praise  
our hands to share  
May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread  
and our footsteps be worthy of following  
for they lead to you.

Amen.



### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 8:1-15 **The parable of the sower**

**8** After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, <sup>2</sup> and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; <sup>3</sup> Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

<sup>4</sup> While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: <sup>5</sup> 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. <sup>6</sup> Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.'

When he said this, he called out, 'Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.'

<sup>9</sup> His disciples asked him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup> He said, 'The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,

“though seeing, they may not see;

though hearing, they may not understand.”<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>11</sup> 'This is the meaning of the parable: the seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. <sup>14</sup> The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. <sup>15</sup> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Please note Gift Aid will be  
claimed on the  
Living Parable of the Talents  
*if applicable.*  
Thank you for everyone's  
efforts.

*We thank all members of our wonderful  
flower team for making our church look so  
beautiful to celebrate our Harvest together.  
This year we bless our local foodbank with  
dried gifts from the service. Thank you all so  
much for your support.*

