

WHAT'S ON AT ST. JOHN'S		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon. 23 Feb.	19.00	Monday Night House Group
Wed. 25 Feb.	19.30	Sing for Joy Choir
Thurs. 26 Feb.	09.30	Holy Communion/prayers
Thurs. 26 Feb.	12.00	Lenten Soup Lunch
Thurs. 5 Mar.	19.00	PCC Meeting
Sun. 15 Mar.	10.00	Mothersing Sunday

For your prayers/praise

*Lord of mercy and light,
In this season of Lent, draw me closer to You.
When doubts whisper and fears rise,
Anchor my heart in the truth of Your promises.
Teach me to trust not in my own strength,
But in the power of Your grace.
Let my faith grow deeper than my questions,
And my hope shine brighter than my trials.
As I walk this path of repentance and renewal,
Help me see Your hand in every step,
And believe—fully and without hesitation—
That Your love never fails.
Amen.*

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WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SHIPHAY

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

Sunday 22 February 2026

Welcome - on this First Sunday of Lent.

As we begin this sacred season of reflection, repentance, and renewal, we gather in faith and humility, preparing our hearts for the journey toward Easter. Lent invites us to slow down, to listen more deeply to God's word, and to grow in love, prayer, and service.

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

May this service bring you peace, encouragement, and spiritual strength for the days ahead.

We really hope you will stay and join us for Fairtrade coffee and refreshments after the service this morning.

Music

Forty days and forty nights **190**

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice

You are beautiful beyond description **760**

We place You On the highest place

Offertory

How deep the Father's love for us

Communion

Here is bread, here is wine, **277**

All I once held dear **18**

O Lord, your tenderness **515**

There is a Redeemer **658**



The First Reading

Romans 5:12-19 Death through Adam, life through Christ

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned –

¹³ To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶ Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: the judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature^[a] God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^[b] of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:3-11



Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus is tested in the wilderness

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted^[a] by the devil. ² After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.'

⁴ Jesus answered, 'It is written: "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."^[b]

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down. For it is written:

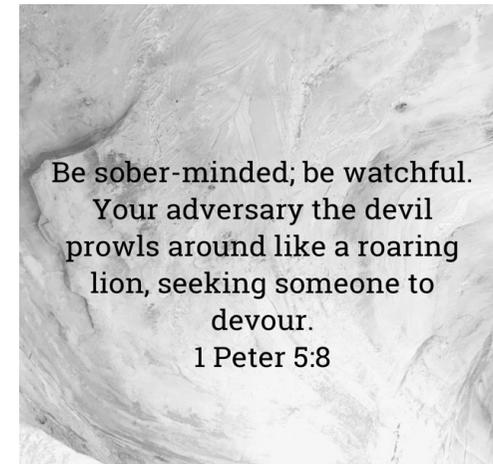
"He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."^[c]

⁷ Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."^[d]

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. ⁹ 'All this I will give you,' he said, 'if you will bow down and worship me.'

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."^[e]

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.



Be sober-minded; be watchful.
Your adversary the devil
prowls around like a roaring
lion, seeking someone to
devour.
1 Peter 5:8

Lenten Offerings

Please remember our local food bank, there is a collection box at the back of church. Thank you so much.