WHAT'S ON AT ST JOHN'S		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon. 23 June	7.00 p.m	Monday Night House Group
Wed. 25 June	7.30 p.m	Sing for Joy Choir
Mon. 7 July	8.00 a.m	MONDAY MARKET 'OPEN CHURCH'

#### Almighty God,

by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born and sent to prepare the way of your Son: give us grace to follow his example in calling people to repentance and pointing to Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Our hearts are heavy with the cries of the suffering—
those in war-torn lands, those grieving sudden loss,
those facing tragedy beyond words.
We lift up every soul lost to violence,
every family torn by grief, every child who sleeps in fear.
Hold them in your eternal light.
Grant wisdom to leaders,
compassion to the powerful, and courage to the weary.
Let your peace move like a healing wind
through nations, homes, and hearts.
Soften what has been hardened by hatred.

Rebuild what has been broken by pride. Restore what has been lost to cruelty and pain.

May we, as one human family, become instruments of your love—planting kindness where there is despair, offering hope where there is darkness,

and choosing unity where there is division.

Wrap this wounded world in your boundless grace,

and guide us all toward a dawn of justice, healing, and lasting peace. Amen.

#### Contact details:-

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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 June 2025

## Greetings.

Welcome to our service as we gather to celebrate the patronal festival of St John the Baptist—prophet, forerunner, and faithful witness—giving thanks for his life and example.

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

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

# Music

Tell out, my soul

63 I

Let your living water

I will worship

**Offertory** When we walk with the Lord

741

**Communion** Living under the shadow of His wing

All who are thirsty

There is power in the Name of Jesus

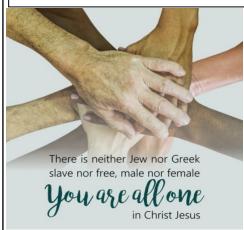


## The First Reading

#### Galatians 3: 23-end Children of God

<sup>23</sup> Before the coming of this faith, <sup>[]]</sup> we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

<sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.









## The Gospel Reading

## Luke 8:26-39 Jesus restores a demon-possessed man

<sup>26</sup> They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, [a] which is across the lake from Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, 'What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!' <sup>29</sup> For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?'

'Legion,' he replied, because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

<sup>32</sup> A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, <sup>35</sup> and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

<sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> 'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.' So the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

#### Please Support Our Local Food Bank

Many in our community are struggling to put food on the table. Let's come together to help.

We're collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations for our local food bank. Every donation makes a difference.

"Whatever you did for the least of these... you did for me." – Matthew 25:40

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ.