

WHAT'S ON AT ST JOHN'S

| DATE | TIME | EVENT |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Mon. 29 April | 7.00 p.m | Monday Night House Group |
| Wed. 1 May | 7.30 p.m | Sing for Joy Choir |
| Sat. 4 May | 9.00 a.m | Men's Breakfast Teaspoons Café |
| Sun. 5 May | 10.00 a.m | Morning Worship |
| Mon. 6 May | 8.00 a.m | MONDAY MARKET 'OPEN CHURCH' |

Earth Day celebrates the beauty of this fragile planet, our island home. We are also charged, with the ongoing care and advocacy of creation. The intersection of faith and Earth Day makes sense for many Christians.

Collect for the Stewardship of Creation

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

"Every Sunday in the creed, Christians confess their faith in God who created the world we inhabit. It's God's gift. As stewards of that gift, each of us has responsibility, both to God and to generations to come, to ensure that this remains a sustainable world. Placing environmental concerns at the heart of our Christian worship for this fixed time each year demonstrates our shared commitment to this end."

For your prayers/praise

Dearest Comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with Your gentle love. We place our worries in Your hands. Pray and give thanks for our Sunday School & team - uphold all who visit St. John's Church Hall & Church to worship, volunteer, groups and classes. Please pray for the group leaders and that these groups will flourish. Please pray that our buildings will always extend God's welcome to everyone. Pray for our APCM and all who will take up office including our new Warden/s. Lord, thank you for this beautiful day. Glorious God, the whole creation sings your marvellous work: may heaven's praise so echo in our hearts that we may be good stewards of the earth; and rejoice to be called your children. Amen.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SHIPHAY

'A caring fellowship seeking to share the life and love of God'
Sunday, 28 April 2024

Rev Paul Ireton (Rest day Friday) Tel: 01803 394808

Email: revpireton@blueyonder.co.uk

Facebook: St John the Baptist Church-Shiphay-Anglican

Church Office 9.00 a.m - 11.30 a.m daily **except** Wednesday

Tel: 01803 401316 www.stjohnshiphay.org.uk

Email—stjohnsofficeshiphay@gmail.com

We warmly welcome you to our Worship this morning.

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

I will sing the wondrous story

Sing to the Lord

You are the vine

I love you Lord

Offertory

How deep the Father's love for us

Communion

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice

All heav'n declares

Lord I lift Your name on high

**The earth is a gift from God.
 We must take care**



Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south^[a] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹ He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

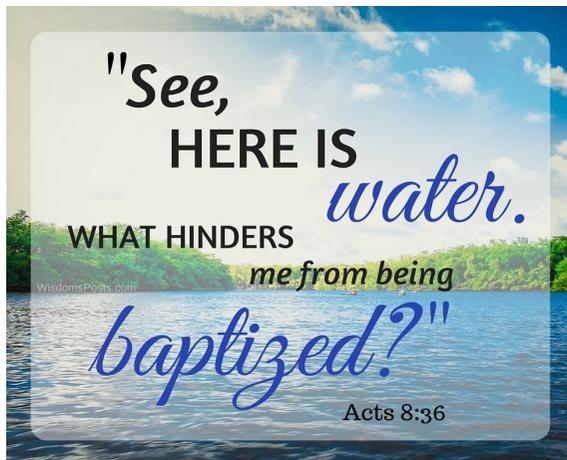
'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

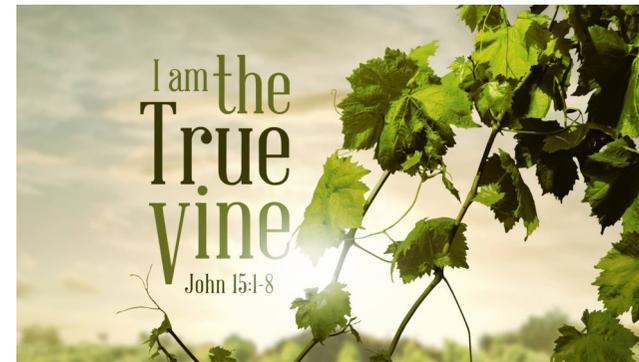
For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?'^[a] ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip^[a] baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.



John 15:1-8 Jesus the True Vine

15 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes^[a] to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed^[a] by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become^[a] my disciples.



*For update of the Vicarage garden please take a look at St John's website.
www.stjohnshiphay.org.uk*

APCM – Our AGM this year is on **Sunday 26th May** starting at approximately 11.15 a.m.

APCM REPORTS – Would Warden/s and people leading in all areas of church life such as House groups, Flower, Music teams, who usually give a report please let Sonia have a typed copy (if possible) by **Monday 20th May**.

Electoral Roll – If you have been worshipping with us regularly we hope you would like to join our Electoral Roll. Please take, complete and return a form (at the back of church) to the office. You must be over 16 years of age and **either**

a resident of the parish **or** have worshipped regularly with us for 6 months.

Thank you. Sonia.

If you wish to attend the APCM you must be on the Electoral Roll.