

St. John the Evangelist,  
Walton



# Open Door

Bringing People to Jesus  
  
St. John's, Walton

October & November 2023



*Details of information in this magazine and more can be found at*  
[www.stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk](http://www.stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk) and [www.facebook.com/stjohnswalton/](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnswalton/)



## Sunday and Regular Services

### Sunday Morning Service 10.00 am

Morning Worship — 1st and 3rd Sundays

Holy Communion — 2nd and 4th Sundays

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### 5th Sunday Holy Communion Service 10.00am

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These services will be live streamed at

<https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnschurchwalton1705/streams>

and

<https://stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk/>

**Holy Communion  
Sunday Service 8.30 am**  
1st & 3rd Sundays only

**Wednesday Morning  
Service 10.00 am**

**All Together!**

**All Age Services on the  
First Sunday of the month.**

1st October @ 10.00 am  
5th November @ 10.00 am



### Contact Details

We are now in a Vacancy  
*For any church enquiries please make contact via*

Tel: 01925 262 939

or through our website at  
[www.stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk](http://www.stjohnschurchwalton.org.uk)

#### *Reader Emeritus*

Mr. I. Jerrard-Dinn — 01925 265 557

#### *Lay Reader*

Mr. K. Fletcher — 07377 408 910

*Pastoral Worker + Safeguarding Officer*  
Mrs. G. Povey-Robins — 07970 983 308

#### *Church Warden*

Mr. T. Robins — 01925 261 922

#### *Church Warden*

Mr. C. Lloyd — 01925 212 644

#### *Treasurer*

Mrs. M. Highmore — 01925 473 904

#### *P.C.C. Secretary*

Mrs. N. Chadwick — 01925 263 449

## ***A letter to the Parish***

I imagine that over the past few weeks many of us have continued to reflect on the ministry of Revd Anita and the wonderful legacy which she has left.

Now, however, the time has come to look forward. The Christian faith does just that. We look forward in hope to all that God promises, from His provision for our daily needs to life everlasting.

Our short term focus is to ensure that the life of St. John's continues to run smoothly and we are grateful to a small group who are making this happen, by planning our regular services. When necessary we have support from local ministers which is much appreciated.

No less important is being here for the needs of all of you who live in the parish, or who come from elsewhere. It is your church, whether you would like pastoral support or special services such as Baptisms, Weddings or a Funeral.

We have also begun the process to find a new vicar. We do so in conjunction with our Diocesan colleagues. Rightly this will take time. We are preparing a Parish Profile which will provide a picture of our parish, that will give interested applicants a realistic understanding of our needs and excite them about the opportunity to build on the legacy that all our previous vicars have left. I am sure that you realise this is important. If, therefore, you have a view that you wish to share, please get in touch with one of our Church Wardens or other church officers.

We are praying to, and trusting in, God who has a plan for St. John's.

Above all else we would value your prayers to make this process a success.

With best wishes,

Ian Jerrard-Dinn  
*Reader Emeritus*



## Special Services

### Sunday 1st October

Harvest Festival @ 10.00 am

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### Sunday 12th November

Act of Remembrance at Lower Walton War Memorial @ 9.30 am

Remembrance Sunday Service @ 10.00 am

Memorial Service @ 4.00 pm

***All are welcome***

#### Reminder

**5th Sunday Holy Communion Service**

29th October @ 10.00am



### *Looking forward... to Christmas*

Carol Service — Sunday 10th December

Christingle Service — Christmas Eve

More details in the next issue



To all who helped make St. John's inaugural Craft Fayre such a great success. Alongside stalls run by members of our own church and that of St. Thomas' were some with original and artisan items. Local produce stalls were also popular.

Well attended, it proved a wonderful social occasion as well as raising much needed funds of over £450 for St. John's. Thank you.

### *Keeping you informed ...*

Eagle-eyed readers will notice that Stephen Clague, our Pastoral Worker Emeritus and dear friend to many, is no longer a contact for lifts to Church or for prayer requests to St John's Prayer Chain.

Sadly this is because, after a long time of illness, Stephen has died. Our love and prayers are with his loved ones, especially his widow Joan and daughter Ruth, his grandchildren and son-in-law.



Over the years many of you will have known him personally, and will no doubt remember him as a friendly, helpful, kind and generous gentleman with a dry sense of humour. His great faith and devotion to God was threaded through everything he did and though he is now at home and at peace with Him Stephen will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

## Thoughts turning to... **Advent**

with a

### **4 session study**

under auspices of **Tuesday Group**

*Dates and times still to be confirmed but these will be available on the website from the beginning of November.*

### **Venue — St. John's Church Community Hall**

If you are interested and would like further details please speak to Noelle or contact her via [noelle\\_briggs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:noelle_briggs@hotmail.co.uk)

*Tuesday Group is a getting together of people who want to learn more about God and the Christian faith outside the formal setting of Church.*



#### **Wedding**

Philippa Jane Worthington  
and Matthew Bell Tweedale

#### **Funeral**

Linda Catherine Ashton

**DON'T FORGET!!!!**



Clocks move back on the  
**29th of October.**

**British summertime ends!**

#### **Falling Leaves**

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

*From a poem by Emily Bronte (1818-48)*



This day, Father,  
may my eyes be opened to see the  
beauty in all that is ordinary — yet  
special — around me.  
May the glory of all that you have  
made remind me of your presence  
and lead me close to you.

*Praying each day.org*

Lord, thank you for walking with  
us through the seasons of our  
lives. For the winter, when we are  
held safe in your arms through  
darkness.

For the hope of spring, as we are  
filled with new promise and life.  
For summertime, full of warmth  
and colour and for autumn days  
as leaves fall to seed new growth.  
You are always with us.

Amen.

[www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com)

### A Childrens Prayer for Harvest Time

For each new morning with its light,  
For rest and shelter of the night,  
For health and food,  
For love and friends,  
For everything thy goodness sends.



*Ralph Waldo Emerson 1803 - 1882*

### A prayer for St Johns

Lord, the days and weeks are moving steadily towards winter and the end of another year. We take comfort that You are always there to guide each and every one of us at St Johns in working together, as we share the responsibility in our mission to continue to grow together in faith. This will be a busy time and we give thanks to the clergy who will continue to help with leading our services in the months ahead. We pray that you will give strength and wisdom to the Vacancy Group in their discussions and for discernment by PCC in their deliberations of the proposed actions for approval in our search for a new vicar.

Help us all to be open-minded and to have faith in Your plan for this next phase in the life of St Johns.

Amen

## A prayer of commemoration for the fallen



Father of all, remember your holy promise,  
and look with love on all your people, living and departed.  
On this day we especially ask that you would hold forever  
all who have suffered during war, those who returned scarred by warfare,  
those who waited anxiously at home,  
and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned;  
those who mourned, and those communities that were diminished and suffered  
loss.

Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion,  
those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades,  
and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful  
world.

And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord;  
grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every  
language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom.  
This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*The Church of England*

### *Diocese and St. John's leadership and teaching*

Loving God,

Thank You for all who feel called to serve You in positions of leadership and  
teaching. We pray for all Clergy, Readers and Pastoral Workers within the Chester  
Diocese and we especially ask Your blessing on Ian, Gill, Keith and all visiting clergy  
during our Vacancy as they minister to us in the Parish of Walton.

Amen

### **St. John's Prayer Chain**

As part of our Pastoral Ministry at St. John's some church members make up our  
Prayer Chain. They pray daily for those in need, with requests normally being  
included for two weeks.

If you would like prayers to be offered on behalf of yourself or someone for whom  
you have a particular concern at this time, then we would be pleased to do so.

To make a request please contact any of the following:-

Ian Jerrard-Dinn (Lay Reader) on 01925 265 557

Gill Povey-Robins (Pastoral Worker) on 07970 983 308





## Dates for your diary



**3rd Friday of month**  
In  
**Church Community Hall**  
at  
**2.30 pm**

### October

Friday 20th

***The Help***

### November

Friday 17th

***A Man Called Otto***

Admission by donation to  
Church funds

Refreshments at interval

For details or to reserve your seat  
please contact Nina Chadwick on  
07840 119 659

### Prayer Group

2nd Wednesday of each month  
in Church vestry  
11.30am

### October

Wednesday 11th

### November

Wednesday 8th

*If you would like to join us please do come along*

### Knit and Natter

1.30pm—3.30pm

### October

Tuesday 3rd

Tuesday 17th

### November

Tuesday 7th

Tuesday 21st



### Harvest Supper and Quiz

Friday 13th October  
7pm

Church Community  
Hall

### St. John's Ensemble

Christmas Concert

Saturday 25th November

7.30pm

For more details please contact

Nina on 07840 119 659

### Tuesday Group

7.15-9.00pm

Church Community Hall

### October

3rd

10th

17th

24th

### November

7th

14th

22nd

28th



**Advance notice**





## Social goings on

### St. John's Ensemble

meets on

**Thursday from 7.30 pm**

Enjoy singing?

Why not come along and join us?

Ability to read music a help but not essential.



Enjoy knitting or another craft?

Fancy learning a new skill?

Got any mending to do?

Why not come along to **St. John's Knit and Natter**

**1st and 3rd Tuesday** of the month

**Church Community Hall**

1.30pm — 3.30pm

Guaranteed a warm and friendly welcome

For more details please contact  
Mrs. D. Armitage on 01925 268540

**OR**

Mrs. G. Hatch on 01925 262315



### Harvest Supper and Quiz



Friday 13th October

7pm

Church Community Hall

Adults £7.50

Family £20

*Ticket price includes light supper  
Bring your own drink*

Come and join us

Everyone welcome

Tickets available in church  
or contact Nina on 07840119659



### Tuesday Group

*Want to learn more about God and the Christian faith outside the formal setting of Church?*

*Friendly, ordinary folk getting to grips with what living in the 21st Century means for their personal faith.*



If you are interested, please speak to  
Noelle or make contact via  
[noelle\\_briggs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:noelle_briggs@hotmail.co.uk)



## SAD people need our help and understanding

The nights are getting darker, and many people are getting SAD, as the autumn closes in around us. SAD is properly called 'Seasonal Affective Disorder', and it is a kind of seasonal depression.



How can you tell if someone has SAD? The symptoms include: a persistent low mood, a loss of pleasure in everyday things, irritability, despair, guilt, lethargy, sleepiness, a craving for carbohydrates, difficulty in concentrating, and decreased sex drive.

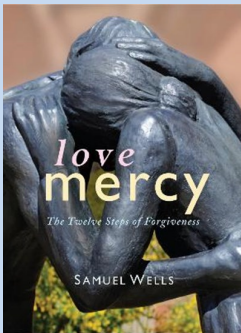
No one knows exactly the cause of SAD, but it is often linked to reduced exposure to sunlight during the short autumn and winter days. Lack of sunlight may affect the part of the brain called the hypothalamus, which then affects the production of melatonin, the production of serotonin, and the body's own internal clock.

If you suspect that you may be getting SAD, contact your doctor. Doctors can offer tips on lifestyle changes, light therapy from a light box, talking therapies, and antidepressant medicine.

## *Another in our occasional series of Book reviews*

**Love Mercy** – the twelve steps of forgiveness

By **Samuel Wells**, Canterbury Press, £6.00



This is a thoughtful exploration of forgiveness and making peace.

It is utterly realistic about the nature and effects of the hurt we inflict both as individuals and societies, and the conditions and work that is needed to bring healing.

Sam Wells sees forgiveness as a twelve-step process, beginning with resolve and culminating in the newness of resurrection.

With deep pastoral wisdom, he reflects on the issues and challenges that touch us all, and he offers a way of living to bring us into reconciliation with ourselves, with others, with creation and with God.

Love Mercy is the sequel to 'Walk Humbly' and the second of three volumes by Samuel Wells that offer a basic introduction to Christian faith and life.

*This review is, again, courtesy of Parish Pump.*

*If you would like to share a review of a particular book which you have found helpful and uplifting or even just enjoyable, then do please speak to Noelle or get in touch via [noelle\\_briggs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:noelle_briggs@hotmail.co.uk)*

*Raise a smile;  
feel better...*

### **Chicken and pig**



A chicken and a pig were walking by a church where a gala charity event was taking place. Getting caught up in the spirit of the fun, the chicken suggested to the pig that they each contribute to the meal. "Let's offer them ham and eggs!"

"Not so fast," said the pig.  
"For you, that's a contribution.  
For me, it's a total  
commitment."



### **Prove it**

The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.

### **Heredity**

Everyone believes in it, until their child does something really stupid.



## **Did you know the St John's Church Community Hall is available for Hire?**

Our Grade 2 listed Church Community Hall is situated in the heart of Walton village and is suitable for parties, societies and clubs, fitness classes, rehearsal rooms and local community meetings. We have two rooms available for occasional event hire: The Walton Room (capacity 49) and the Daresbury Room (capacity 27) as well as a kitchen, disabled toilet and baby change facilities.

Bookings are now available for local groups or private hire. Please contact Nina Chadwick on 07840119659 or Christine Hughes on 01925 210 792.

## **Remembering your loved ones at St John's**

Have you thought about celebrating or remembering a special event or person by sponsoring the flowers at St. John's?

We would love to hear from you.

Sign your name on the calendar at the back of Church or please contact Christine Hughes on 01925 210 792 to discuss a donation.



## Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons

Can you think of a politician who deserves to be called a saint? If no one currently living politician comes to mind, never mind – there is always King Alfred of Wessex (871-99).

This remarkable and best known of all the Anglo-Saxon rulers may have dozed off and let some cakes burn while a peasant woman was hiding him from the Vikings, but he did so much else which was of lasting good for the Anglo-Saxon people.

It was a desperate time for the Anglo-Saxons – the kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and Mercia had fallen to the Vikings. Only Alfred's province remained free. Through some inspired military manoeuvring, Alfred managed to keep them at bay. As a Christian, he became the defender of all Christian Anglo-Saxons against the pagan Vikings. (His son and grandsons went on to conquer the Vikings, and thus ensured the future unity of England.)

Alfred was also a scholar, and was admired certain writings which had laid down models of ideal Christian kingship. He tried to put these principles into practice, such as producing a law-code. Alfred believed strongly that anyone in authority should have to study in order to learn how to govern. Not such a bad idea for leaders today!

Alfred was never canonised by the Church, but his translation of *Consolation of Philosophy* by Boethius is often thought to be a fitting epitaph: I desired to live worthily as long as I lived, and to leave after my life, to the men who should come after me, the memory of me in good works.

### To ponder...

a few quotes on daily life

~ "In giving until it hurts,  
some people are extremely  
sensitive to pain." Anon

~ "Don't let the littleness in  
others bring out the  
littleness in you." Anon

~ "One thing all nations  
have in common is the  
ability to see each other's  
faults." Anon

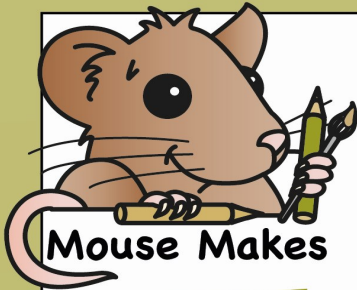
### Two anniversaries from **October** you may find interesting

**80 years ago**, on 17th Oct 1943 the Burma Railway was completed. The Japanese built it using Asian labourers and Allied prisoners-of-war, thousands of whom died. One of the railway bridges is that of the famous film *Bridge over the River Kwai*.

**30 years ago**, on 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 1993 that South African leaders Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk, won the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to end apartheid.

# For the children

(and young at heart!)



## Mouse Makes



### CONNECT THE BIBLE FOOD PAIRS

MANNA	HONEY
OIL	WINE
WATER	FISH
LOCUSTS	QUAIL
LOAVES	FLOUR



What drink ran out at the wedding?

and what did Jesus use to make more?



John 2:3 and 7

What food did God supply for his people in the wilderness?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers 11:7-9 and 31

After Elijah came to visit, what never ran out?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_



1 Kings 17:14



What food did the ravens feed Elijah?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 17:6



What food did John the Baptist eat in the wilderness?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 3:4

What did the boy give Jesus to feed 5,000 people?

Five \_\_\_\_\_

and two \_\_\_\_\_

John 6:9



### FIND THE BIBLE VERSE

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter **before** it in the alphabet.

NBO TIBMM OPU  
MJWF PO CSFBE  
BMPOF, CVU PO  
FWFSZ XPSE UIBU  
DPNFT GSPN UIF  
NPVUI PG HPE.

NBUUIFX 4:4

### DID YOU KNOW?

As Lot escaped Sodom with his family an angel told him not to stop or look back, but Lot's wife did look back and became a pillar of salt.

READ Genesis 19 v15-26

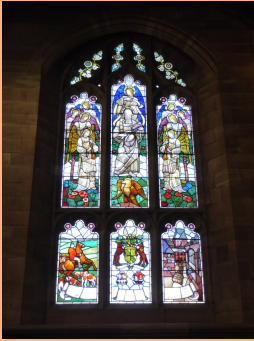


E B R E A D H O N E Y Q J S F  
L O A V E S G Q W A T E R C I  
M Q I W M F R U I T F I S H G  
E U S H A L A A N O L I V E S  
A I I E N O I I E G R A P E S  
T L N A N U N L O C U S T S Y  
M U S T A R D E I H D A T E S  
E V E G E T A B L E S A L T H

Find the words below and the answers to the questions all in the word search

OLIVES • CHEESE  
FIGS • DATES  
MUSTARD  
RAISINS • WHEAT  
SALT • GRAIN  
FRUIT • GRAPES  
VEGETABLES





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## Two anniversaries from November you may find interesting

**60 years ago**, on 23rd Nov 1963 The BBC broadcasts the first ever episode of Doctor Who (starring William Hartnell) which is the world's longest running science fiction drama.

**10 years ago**, on 20th Nov 2013 the General Synod of the Church of England votes in favour of legislation to allow the ordination of women as bishops by 2014.



**Alpha**  
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### Magazine issues

December/January

February/March

April/May

June/July

August/September

October/November

*Open Door Editorial Team*

### Note from the editor

*Every effort is made to produce a magazine which looks inviting and contains correct information, spelling, and grammar. However, no-one and nothing is perfect (especially myself), hence errors can get missed, both in production and proof-reading (done by someone else). As you peruse 'Open Door' award yourself 5 points when you find any mistakes which have escaped correction. Have fun! Hopefully you won't find too many! No need to report back.*



### Acknowledgements

[www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk) — for some of the articles and graphics included



## Loyalty

In Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland, stands Greyfriars Graveyard. In 1858 a faithful dog called Bobby followed the remains of his beloved master to this cemetery. Here the dog stayed on or near the graveside until his death, 14 years later.

This is a story about loyalty. More poignantly, many people have devoted themselves to others through all kinds of circumstances. It's amazing what some people have gone through in giving their lives to someone to ensure their comfort, safety, and well-being.

There are numerous examples of loyalty in the Bible. The widow Ruth refused to return home to Moab to be with her people. Instead, she committed herself to staying with her mother-in-law, Naomi, whatever happened.

The young David, many years before he became king, and Jonathan the son of King Saul promised to look out for each other no matter what ill befell them.

Moses was faithfully loyal to God. They spoke with each other as if they were friends! He served God endlessly despite the frustrations of leading a vast crowd of people through the desert for 40 years.

What about us? How loyal are we to God? A difficult question, when so much can sway our eyes, our minds, emotions and behaviour in a world that thinks it doesn't need a faithful and loving God to care for them! It's easy to be loyal when times are good, but a different thing when hardships surround us.

Do we ever feel uncomfortable singing hymns about courage, obedience and service? Some provoke a challenge. Do we really mean all the words we sing? Consider the popular hymn Jesus I have promised to serve Thee to the end. It is a stirring declaration of faith, with prayer requests that we be steadfast in all circumstances. While it is good to sing hymns about loyalty, we should also endeavour to work out what our commitment to God really entails.

Jesus made some testing statements about loyalty, and warned His hearers about weighing up the pros and cons before following Him. Jesus said 'Take up your cross'. This challenging phrase is the ultimate test of our devotion and dedication to Him.

Loyalty in all relationships is a joy to behold, but no loyalty is greater than our loyalty to the Lord. Fortunately, God knows our weaknesses and will always pick us up when we stumble and will forgive us when we fail. After all, Jesus is 100% loyal to us and promised "I will never leave you and never forsake you." Amen to that!

*By Lester Amann*

### **Words spoken by Jesus:**

"....in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, ..."

*Matthew 7: verse 12*