

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

<b>Sun</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Parish Communion with Sunday Club, Crèche & Sunday Tots
	<i>Reading</i>	<i>'What do I do with unanswered prayer?'</i> <i>Romans 8: 18-27</i>
	6.30pm	No service
<b>Mon</b>	8.00pm	No Prayer Meeting in the Beacon Centre
<b>Tue</b>	10.30am	Alpha starts at home of Tony & Beryl Holloway
	12 noon	Funeral of Hilary Gray in church
	6.15pm	Cru 2 (Urban Saints) (7-11s) at the Assembly Rooms
	7.30pm	Club 2000 (11 – 13s) meet at Coney Hill Baptist Church
	8.00pm	PCC in the Beacon Centre
<b>Wed</b>	9.30am	Open Door for mothers & children at the Beacon Centre
<b>Thur</b>	2.00pm	Over 60s Club at the Beacon Centre
	7.30pm	14 Plus – Venue as advised
<b>Fri</b>	10.00am	Craft Club in the Beacon Centre
<b>NEXT SUNDAY – 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>		
	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Church Parade
	3.30pm	Friends & Heroes
	6.30pm	No service



### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Why did one of the High Priests servants get his right ear cut off in the Garden of Gethsemane?

Read Luke 22: 47 - 50

### PRAYER IN THE BEACON CENTRE

There are no more Monday evening prayer meetings in the Beacon Centre during February. In March the meetings will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. All welcome.



## Politics and Christianity

Last week the bishops published a paper on key issues for us to think about in the run up to the election. Criticism followed. “Left Wing C of E”... “Stick to Religion”... “Cameron angry with C of E”. Politicians felt that the church should keep out of politics.

We all know that Jesus upset the government of his day and was firmly on the side of the poor and marginalised and those suffering injustice but I felt miffed that the bishops seemed to have launched their paper so clumsily, so I prayed about it.

I was led to Isaiah ch1. Here God complains that his people have turned their back on him and should not expect favour until they “learn to do right, seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the fatherless and plead the cause of the widow.”

The issues the bishops address are enormous, and they have not made their case well, but the essential point is this. As long as politics includes responsibility for providing for the poor and marginalised, and for caring for the sick, the homeless and elderly people, then Christianity must make the voice of Jesus heard.

## WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S

If this is your first time here, we are delighted to see you. If you can, do stay for a drink after the service. If you would like to know more about our church life, complete one of our welcome cards.



### THE SEASON OF LENT

Once again, Lent is here.

As part of Southwark Diocese, we are annually invited to respond to Bishop Christopher's 'Lent Call'. Last year the diocese was able to provide grants totaling £92,000. This year the projects we are invited to support include PECAN, XLP in Southwark diocese and different projects in 2 dioceses in Zimbabwe.

More details of the projects can be found on the notice boards. As we have done in the past, we will take a collection on Palm Sunday for the call, but their publicity mentions other ways in which people can contribute.



### COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS WITH CHRISTIAN AID THIS LENT

Why not follow the Christian Aid leaflet of Lenten daily reflections, prayers and actions to help transform the lives of the most marginalised and poor of this world?

The giving amounts are suggestions only – please give what you can. Adult and children's versions are available from the back of the church or you can download the adult or collective (for 16-25 year olds) versions free from the Apple App store or Google Play.



### HILARY GRAY'S FUNERAL

Our thoughts and prayers are with Derek and the family, following Hilary's recent death. The funeral will take place in church on Tuesday, 24th February at 12 noon and everyone is welcome. No flowers please, but any donations instead to Alzheimer's Society or Alzheimer Research by cheque made payable to whichever charity you prefer with K.H.Gray written on the back and sent to: J. & R. Killick Ltd., Funeral Directors, 112 High Street, West Wickham, BR4 0ND.



### DAY-TIME ALPHA COURSE

The course will begin on this Tuesday 10.30am at 103 Hayes Wood Avenue, the home of Tony and Beryl Holloway. If you are interested please let Jon, or Tony & Beryl know.



### NEWS FOR ALL HEARING AID USERS!

**Good News.** The hearing loop is being checked and will hopefully soon be more effective. If you have been having difficulty using the loop it could well be the very patchy nature of the present system that is the problem.

**NB** The monthly hearing aid servicing clinic is still running at the Beacon Centre on the 3rd Friday of the month, 10.00am - 12.00 noon.



### PREMIER CHRISTIAN RADIO

Please sign the letter of support to help Premier Christian Radio retain its national digital coverage. Copies on-line or in church with Sybil Andrew.



### PRAYERS

- Please pray for:
- Pastor Emmanuel in India – our mission focus this month;
  - Our Youth Work – that we can bolster the existing groups and continue to see our work with young people grow;

- Preparations for the day-time Alpha course and those who are thinking about attending;
- The on-going wrangling about Ukraine;
- The PCC as they consider 2015 Budgets and prepare to meet with the people of St Francis and St Mary's;
- Our use of Lent as a church – that we will all draw ever closer to Christ.



### FRESH NEWS

Please forward news for the News Sheet, to **Margaret Kingman** by Wednesday morning.



### CONTACTS

**Rev Jon Ward**

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*Day off Wednesday*

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

**Margaret Kingman**

☎ 020 8462 6571

[parishadmin@stjohnsww.com](mailto:parishadmin@stjohnsww.com)

9.15am - 12.15 pm Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri.

### BEACON CENTRE

**56 Croydon Road, WW. BR4 9HU**

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Registered charity number 1134047