



Useful Contact Details

People at St Joe's

Minister	Tim Eady	01902 569625	tim@pennfieldsparish.co.uk
Children's Worker	Farrah Hunter-Coley	07702 837952	farrah@pennfieldsparish.co.uk
Associate Minister	Graham Hartnell	01902 593086	
Wardens	Chris Strange	Treasurer	Hilary Bannister
	Steve Perry	Hall Bookings	Andy Wynter
	Brenda Swatman		
	Jenny Green		

And in the wider parish

Vicar	Peter Smith	01902 332749.	peter@pennfieldsparish.co.uk
Curate	Treena Larkin	07368423748	treena@pennfieldsparish.co.uk
Parish Office		01902 341943	office@pennfieldsparish.co.uk

Regular at St Joe's: *You are warmly invited to all of our activities (when they start up again).*

Adventurers: for Primary School age. Every Wednesday, 4pm - 5.30pm. Come and have fun, be creative, find out more about following Jesus.

Joe's Cafe: every Saturday morning, 10am - 1pm. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast - a range of options - and meet friends.

Place of Welcome: every Tuesday afternoon. Drop in for a cup of tea and a chance to chat with friends. 2pm - 4pm.

Stay and Play: every Wednesday morning during term time, from 9.30am-11am, for parents and 'tinies'. Just turn up.

St Joseph's Playgroup: Tuesday and Thursday mornings during term time for children 2 - 4 years. Contact Caroline or Jayne for more details.

Wednesday Circle: twice a month at 2.00pm on Wednesday afternoons.

Five Ways Lunch: Monthly Lunch Club, Wednesday 8th January 12.30pm. Please tell Rose Brettell if you wish to come.

Time Out: Tea and Coffee Afternoon, Mondays 1pm-2.30pm for parents, grandparents, carers. Informal chat with tea/coffee and cake.

Carpet bowls: Friday afternoons at 12.45pm.

www.saintjosephs.co.uk for more details.



Joe's Prose

May 2020

News from St Joseph's Church

'Who are we?'

We are living through unusual times. How can we continue to be the church when we cannot worship together or hold our regular meetings? Strange times indeed!



Yet, maybe there can be some positives to come out of all this. The Psalmist tells us to 'be still and know that I am God.' This is a time to consider priorities. I was really looking forward to the spring – a chance to get out and explore. So far, I have got to know my back garden extremely well! But I have come to appreciate our own parish. Blossom time is beautiful; seeing trees burst into bud; appreciating the open spaces that we have right on our doorstep – no need to drive anywhere else.

And perhaps more importantly – our relationships. I sense a real camaraderie and mutual care and support within the local community. Long may it last!

And underpinning everything, there is an overwhelming sense of God: God with us. As we focus upon the presence of God with us, God in our lives, then we discover a new contentment. To be in the presence of God is the only 'being' that matters. Take time to be still and appreciate what God has put right in

front of you – the people who God wants you to support; the small tasks which we feel that God is calling us to.

Make prayer a priority. We have just embarked upon a preaching series about prayer, but prayer needs to be more than teaching – it is something get involved in. Prayer is the key to engaging with God, and His plans for the world.

Let's make it our prayer that we will come closer to God in this season when so much else has been slowed down.

What is God saying to you?

St Joseph's Church holds a special place in the hearts of everyone who worships here. It is a greatly loved place, and in this season that we are living through, I invite you to commit your thoughts to paper:

- Your memories – the times that you have enjoyed and grown through at St Joseph's;
- Your faith – ways in which God has been real for you in your life;
- Your prayer – your conversation with God and your hope for the future.

We have an all-embracing church statement: For God; For you; For all. What do you have to share of your experience of God?

Write your thoughts down, and give them to Tim, so that we can compile a **book of St Joseph's Church** – a book of the saints of God in this place, in this community. Let it be a book of everybody, for everybody. Contributions please!

Alpha Course

We do intend to hold an Alpha Course, just as soon as possible – for anyone who is interested in discovering more about the Christian faith. Please get in touch to be kept informed!

All about St Joseph's Church

All of our normal events are suspended at the moment. Watch this space – they will resume as soon as we are able to do so. Meanwhile, look at St Joseph's Church Facebook page for daily prayers. Tim is live every morning at 7am. You can look at any time!

On Sundays, we broadcast a sermon and parish intercessions. Listen from 9.30am.

Sundays on St Joseph's Kidz and Families Facebook page, at 10.30am we have 'Butch Broadcasting'. Farrah is live at 3.00pm with Adventurers.

Do check our website: saintjosephs.co.uk – for daily prayer, the weekly sermon, and material to brighten up your day.

Make sure that Tim has your email address. He is sending out information as and when appropriate.

St. Joseph's What's App Group shares prayer requests and morale lifting news. If you would like to join the group, contact Tracey: 07718 791169.

May 21st On line worship for **Ascension Day**: 7.30pm.

The Prayer Course

Our new sermon series is based upon The Prayer Course. Go to www.prayercourse.org to watch the videos which accompany our sermons. There are 8 short videos, with discussion questions.

With sadness

News of the death of Jo Collins has come as a shock and great sadness to all of us. She has been a much-respected member of the church, and we keep Mike and family in our prayers. Jo's funeral will be held on May 11th, but because of social restrictions at the moment, it will be a closed service. There will be a Thanksgiving for Jo's life in church when we get back to normal.