

75p

CONTACT

November 2025



John 10:10 “I have come, that you may have life, and have it to the full”

SUNDAYS AT ST JOHN'S

**YOUR CHURCH,
YOU'RE WELCOME**

9:30am

BUBBLE CHURCH

10:15am
Morning Worship

11:15am
Holy
Communion

5:30pm
2nd Sunday of the month
Evensong
(British Summer Time only)



Some of our services are live-streamed to Zoom;
If you would like to join us online, please contact the Parish Office,
and we will send you the link! office@stjohnshythe.org

EDITORIAL

Welcome to your November edition of The Parish of Hythe, 'CONTACT' magazine. I hope you enjoy this updated version!

I would just like to say a big thank you to our outgoing editors; Phil & Cat Preston, who have done an amazing job over the years; editing and often creating from scratch, our CONTACT magazine, we are truly grateful.

Do you have a special interest? A gift? Some spare time? Would you like to be on the editorial team of the CONTACT magazine or even submit articles, photos or other items for the editors to consider? If so, please do email contact@stjohnshythe.org by the 15th of the month for your item to be considered.

Reverend Lee

GIVING



Giving is part of our worship of God, and a way of showing commitment to His ministry in the Parish. If you would like to contribute to the work of our Parish, please use the QR code on this page to find out how, or visit parishgiving.org.uk to set up regular giving.

In Church, we also have a card machine which is easy to use and saves us handling cash. Please contact the Parish Office for further information or if you require help with this.'



JOKE

*Why doesn't Jesus wear any jewellery?
Because he breaks every chain!!*

VICARS LETTER

Wow! What a busy October it has been!
As predicted!

It's been wonderful to welcome new people into the 'big family of God' in the very joyful baptisms and confirmations we had. A busy Harvest Celebration in all three services, and preparations are well underway for our outreach at the Village Halloween Trail; where 1000 children come and 500 of them will stop at the church, where they'll be offered hot chocolates and given a 'bag of hope' which will contain some goodies and an invite to our Christmas services!



When I arrived in Hythe, I talked about having a vision for HOPE for our Church. For us to be a beacon of HOPE to all who live, work and socialise in our Parish.

Hospitality Outreach
Prayer (& discipleship)
Evangelism

This is a framework for us to view how we're doing in developing our church and we've seen gentle growth in most areas over the last year, which we should celebrate!



The leadership team will be meeting shortly to plan what 2026 will look like, and discipleship is top of our list for prayer & discussion. Maybe you could pray too! What part can you play in hosting or leading a Bible Study/Home Group? Is there a course you've always wanted to do? If so, have a chat with Rev Lee and see if this can fit into the plans for next year!

As we enter November, and the nights draw in very quickly, I pray for the light of Christ to shine in your hearts and minds.

Reverend Lee Davies, Vicar

BAPTISMS & CONFIRMATIONS

On the 5th & 12th of October, we held joint services at 10:30 for the wonderful celebration of Baptism & Confirmation for a number of our new believers (or people returning to God in some way) in St Johns.

On the 5th, we had Oliver, John, Sofia & Aaliyah who were all baptised by full immersion and on the 12th we had James, Carly, Jake, Elijah, Toby, Grace and Annie-Joy who were all baptised by full immersion and James, Carly, Annie-Joy, Stephanie, Hannah, John and Leon who were all confirmed by our very special guest, the Assistant Bishop of The Diocese of Winchester, The Right Reverend Geoff Annas.

Please pray for all our newly baptised and confirmed members as they take their first steps as new christians



PRAYER & DISCIPLESHIP

Did you know that we have numerous options for prayer here at St Johns?



Lectio 365

We have a monthly prayer diary that you can subscribe to by emailing the office on office@stjohnshythe.org. But you can also receive prayer on Sundays. Just ask one of the service leaders, or someone you trust if they wouldn't mind praying for you, and I'm sure they'd be delighted!

Many of us follow our own routine for daily prayer, and over the next few editions, I'd like to highlight some of the resources that are out there to aid you in your prayer life and walk with God.

The first one is **Lectio365**, which is a free daily prayer app from 247-Prayer; with morning, midday & night devotionals to help you experience God's presence in your life. For more information and links to download, visit www.lectio364.com There's even a Lectio for families with accessible reflections.

The origins

Created to help you develop a deeper, daily connection with God.

Inspired by the ancient practice of Lectio Divina, daily devotionals guide users to pray the Bible through Scripture, reflection, and prayer each morning, midday and evening.

Since launching in 2019, Lectio 365 has helped thousands of people make prayer a regular, life-giving habit – wherever they are and whatever their day holds.



Download on the
App Store



Get on
Google Play

P.R.A.Y.

Lectio 365 prayers are inspired by the ancient practice of Lectio Divina (which means 'Divine Reading'), a way of meditating on the Bible that's been used by Christians for centuries.

Pause, breathe deeply, and be still in God's presence

Rejoice with a Psalm and reflect on Scripture

Ask God to help you and those you care about

Yield to God; welcome his love, his plans and his presence into your day.

On Sundays, we take a break from the normal routine to pray a different kind of Sabbath prayer.

The app celebrates heroes of faith on Feast Days, marks significant moments in the church calendar, and welcomes guest hosts throughout the year.

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MOTHERS UNION REPORT

We had an enjoyable time at our October meeting, trying to identify our older selves with our childhood photographs, which led to some childhood memories.

On Thursday November 13th at St John's Hall we will be holding our pre-Christmas celebration. NB: This meeting is at 2:00pm. There will be a Christmas quiz and a shared tea. Please don't forget a donation to send to the Womens' Refuge.

Sue Harvey
June Smith

Mothers' UNION 

OUR NEW BISHOPS COMMISSION FOR MISSION: WORSHIP!

My name is Veronica! For the best part of 50 years I have worshiped at St. Johns and a lot of that time served a choir member.

I was born in Marchwood and at the age of 10 just after my brother was born we were moved to Netley View Estate.

I was brought up in a mixed faith as my mother was a Roman Catholic and my father was Welsh Chapel, so things could get a bit confusing! As a child, along with my 3 elder sisters I attended St Johns in Marchwood, the Baptist church and The Pentecostal Mission.

On Special religious days, our mother would take us the Catholic Church in Totton. Most of the time I think it as to keep us out of our parents way, but that sowed a seed in me. As I grew up I always had a pull to come into the church, sometimes just to sit and be still.

Peter and I were married in St. Johns in the nineteen sixties by the Reverend Hobbs, we were his first wedding and Peter's Auntie Winn was in the choir. We have three daughters, 5 grandchildren, and to add to the brood we have 7 great grandchildren, whose ages range from 19 to one year, so we're a busy family.

It was in 1996 that I was first approached by the then vicar The Rev Paul Baird, he thought it would be good for me and St. Johns if I were more involved! We spoke about me becoming a licensed lay minister, but no! I used the excuse of being too busy with family, full-time work (I was a nurse) and Peter's business. I also had a major problem in my life that needed addressing. This I had help with and to this day I remain sober.

I did get more involved in church life with readings, leading prayers and I joined the PCC! Added to that, there was fundraising for the new hall and then being on the hall committee. I still ignored the higher request to take this further....Fast forward to 2024 and the call was still there, more and more I heard the voice in my head or just getting a strong feeling I was being



asked to do more.

Sue Blomley gently persuaded me to get more involved in the services and then broached the subject of doing some training! That idea came just at the right time. I mentioned this to Lee, and after a home visit with Lee and with Peter's blessing, and the PCC's support; I applied for my Bishops Commission for Mission training, and was accepted!

I started my training in January this year, this was daunting at first, it had been such a long time since I last studied. Our first session was at Old Alresford Place where I met some lovely people, whom will remain great friends. There were also zoom meetings and long discussions. Once I got over my impostor syndrome I realised I was actually enjoying myself. I came to believe I was where I should be. It pushed me sometimes, but on the whole I learned so much about myself. You are never too old to learn new things. On March 22nd this year; I completed the course.

On Saturday 11th October I attended a service in Winchester Cathedral to receive my Commission from the Bishop of Winchester; This was a very emotional service, all the candidates were made to feel very welcome, and processing out of the Cathedral afterwards out into the sunshine seemed very fitting.

Some of you will have been part of the services I have officiated at, and I hope you found something helpful in them. I have been asked, "what I can do now", my answer. "With the Lords Help, anything is possible. Watch this space".

I would like to thank all the people who have supported me in this journey, The Rev. Paul Baird, Lee, the PCC and all the members of the wider family of St. John's. Not forgetting Susan Blomley.....Last but not least my husband Peter, without whom my story would have been very different.

Thank you all for your continued prayers.

Veronica

Maybe reading Veronica's story has sparked something in you about what God is calling you to now, or in the future. Have a look at winchester.anglican.org and search BCM for more information and/or have a chat with Rev Lee.

BLISTER PACK RECYCLING NOW AT ST JOHN'S

Each year, empty medicine blister packs end up in landfill sites as most local councils will not recycle them! This causes terrible harm to our environment and we can play our small part in fixing this problem. Chris McMahon will act as our 'blister pack champion' and will collect any medicinal blister packs from you, and ensure they are recycled when she takes hers to the collection point.

A blue poster with a festive theme. At the top left, there are blue Christmas baubles and a string of warm white lights. The title 'CHRISTMAS COMPLETE 2025' is in white, bold, underlined text. Below it, a paragraph in white text says 'Your donations will help to provide parcels of toys and gifts to local families, where children might otherwise go without presents this Christmas'. A list of needed donations is on the left. In the center, there is a logo for 'SCRATCH Fighting Local Poverty' featuring a map of the UK. To the right of the logo is a QR code. At the bottom right, there are more Christmas baubles and lights. Contact information is at the bottom left.

CHRISTMAS COMPLETE 2025

Your donations will help to provide parcels of toys and gifts to local families, where children might otherwise go without presents this Christmas

We need donations of: -

- Books
- Games / Puzzles
- Soft Toys
- Colouring books, pens, stationery
- Toiletries & other teenage gifts
- Age relevant toys
- Sweets & Chocolate
- Boxes
- Wrapping paper & tape
- Finance

For further information and to find out about volunteering, please visit our website - www.scratchcharity.co.uk
Email - cc@scratchcharity.co.uk
Tel: 023 8077 3132

SCRATCH
Fighting Local Poverty



Please scan above to visit our Amazon wish lists or to make a financial donation

SCRATCH!

We will once again be a collection point for this much needed charity!

There will be a collection trolley on Sundays in Church and midweek, in the hall entrance.

Thank you in advance for your generous donations

CALLING ALL SEAMSTRESSES.....

I need your help 😊

Last Christmas I appealed for some one to make us angel costumes in the sizes we needed for children, and was very blessed when Jenny, took up the challenge.

So in January I asked if anyone can help by making sure our puppets had angel costumes this year, as we often need them, the Christmas season is going to call for them, and Jenny has moved away! BUT the right person I am sure will be able to get a few very simple tabards similar to the pictured one, out of the remnants of material we have, and maybe move onto other Nativity costumes if time allows.



I have the pattern to make costumes for the puppets, or these simple ones like the mini ones we use at open the Book (not the wings but white, silver, gold material, stiffening for adults, and children just need an elastic) .

I look forward to hearing from you

Chris

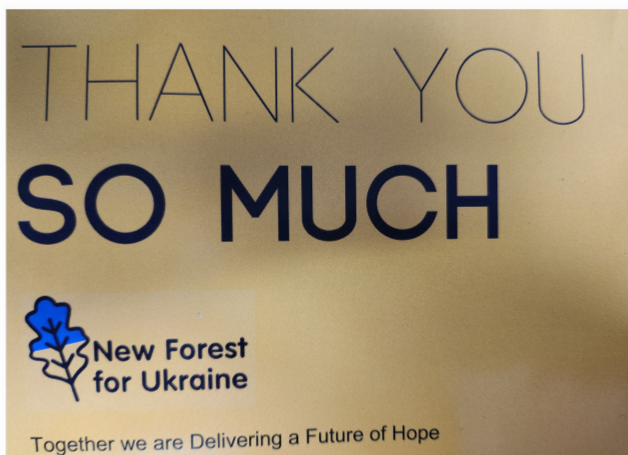
Mrs Chris McMahon 023 80844336
families@stjohnshythe.org

LITTLE FOOTPRINTS 'INSIDE & OUT'

At 'Little Footprints Inside & Out' we welcome all expecting and new parents & carers, to enjoy time with other adults and babies, giving company and support. Along side our 'Baby Bank' where we receive donations of pre-loved equipment, toys & clothes, left over nappies and in date sealed tins of baby milk, parents and carers can come along and pick up what they need 'Free'.

We also recently donated some bits we had had for a while to 'New Forest for Ukraine'

A massive thanks to Trish, Michelle and Debs who all support me in this outreach work.



Little Footprints

Inside & Out



Are you expecting? Just welcomed a new baby to your family?
We have the group for you!

Monday's 13:00 - 14:30
(Except Bank Holidays)

St Anne's Community Centre,
Warry's Close, Butts Ash, SO45 3QR

Story Time • Arts & Crafts • Scales • Refreshments

Our FREE 2nd hand shop • Support • Toys and Books

Song Time • Expecting mums welcome • Themed Talks



**This group is run by the parish of Hythe & is donations only.
Week by week basis, No booking needed.**

Chris McMahon | Children's and Families Pastor | 02380 844336 | families@stjohnshythe.org

TODDLIEWINKS

At Toddliewinks we have been thinking about the season change and thanking God for the Harvest! Here are some pictures of what we've been up to!



WELCOME OUR NEW BISHOP OF BASINGSTOKE

On Wednesday 15th October, Kelly Betteridge was ordained and consecrated as Bishop of Basingstoke in a joyful service at Southward Cathedral! Please do pray for Bishop Kelly as she begins her ministry in our Diocese.

A service of welcome will be held at St Mary's Andover on 15th November, and all are invited to attend and welcome Bishop Kelly into her new role.



'Diocese of Winchester' used with permission



WELCOME TO OUR NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

We're delighted to share the news that the next Archbishop of Canterbury will be Bishop Sarah Mullally, currently Bishop of London. We invite you to pray for Bishop Sarah as she takes on this role.

Bishop Philip said, "I am wholly delighted by the announcement that Bishop Sarah Mullally is to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. I'm sure I speak for us all in the Diocese of Winchester in assuring her and Eamonn of our prayers.

"As Archbishop Designate, Bishop Sarah's address today was marked strongly by an emphasis on faith, hope and love: three virtues which are absolutely central to the Christian faith and which have certainly marked her ministry up to now. Please join me in praying not only that she will be sustained in these but that more and more they will be the hallmark of us all, as the Church of Jesus Christ."



'Archbishop of Canterbury' used with permission

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Hythe
2000



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 22nd NOV — SATURDAY 6th DEC 2025

Church open daily from 10:00 - 5:00 **FREE!**

If you would like to sponsor a tree
please email hythe2000@gmail.com or pick up an
application form from St. John's Church Office

www.hythe2000.org

Charity 1095039

Money raised for Hythe 2000 Charitable Trust & St John's Church.
Hythe 2000 supports Smarties Parent, Toddler Group, IT 4 All
and Community projects



Visit Father Christmas at Christmas Tree Festival

Our Father Christmas Experience includes
a personal 1- 2 -1 with Santa, photo opportunity,
and a Christmas gift!

Santa will be at the Christmas Tree Festival on
Saturday 22nd Nov and Saturday 6th Dec.

Limited spaces, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Book your visit

www.hythe2000.org

Charity 1095039



Money raised for Hythe 2000 Charitable Trust & St John's Church.
Hythe 2000 supports Smarties Carer & Toddler Group, IT 4 All
and Community projects

APPEAL: BIBLES FOR BUBBLE CHURCH FAMILIES

Would you be able to sponsor a new family in St John's & St Anne's to help them continue their faith journey?



We are thrilled to have baptised children from two Bubble Church families, this year and have more children and adults coming forward for Baptism & Confirmation who are part of our fellowship.

Good News Family Bible - We have presented bibles to these families and will be offering them a chance to join together and explore them as a family with other families.

Bubble Church Truth Cards - a new resource to equip parents and children to keep growing in their faith at home, especially where they might be beginning a journey of faith together.

The idea is simple: a pack of cards in a drawstring bag that contain simple truths from God's amazing true story, the Bible, along with Bible verses that go with each of them. The truths will be familiar to Bubble Church families, as most are taken from the liturgy and songs.

If you are interested in sponsoring a family with either of these gifts please talk to Chris McMahon, Children's & Families Pastor, who can explain more how it all works.

Tel: 02380844336 Email: families@stjohnshythe.org



Steve's Piano Tuning and Repairs

Steve Robson

19 Depden Gardens,

Dibden Purlieu

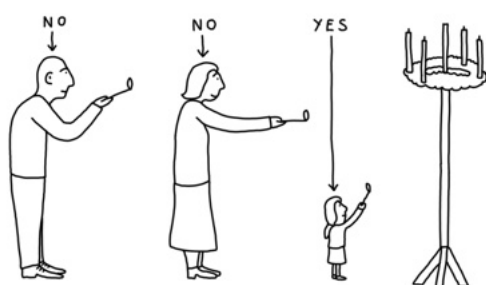
S045 4RX

Tel: 07476 815497

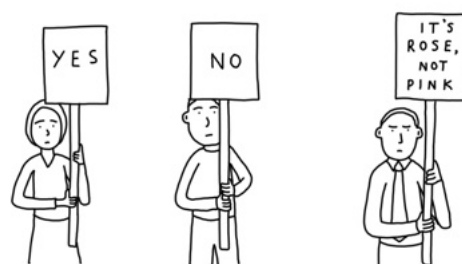
Mob: 07905 451131



ADVENT CONTROVERSIES

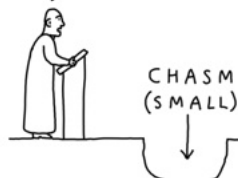


WHO WILL LIGHT THE CANDLES
ON THE ADVENT WREATH?



SHOULD THE WREATH HAVE
ONE PINK CANDLE?

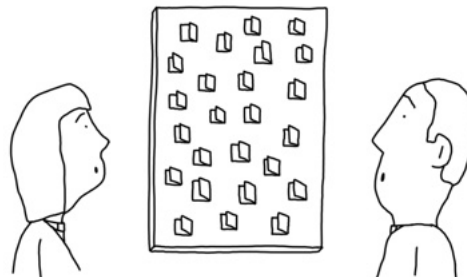
SERMON ABOUT
PENITENCE AND
JUDGEMENT



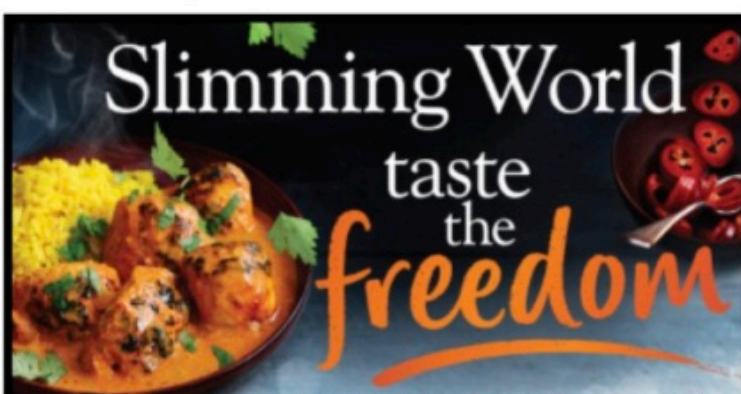
SHALL WE PUT
THE TREE UP
THIS AFTERNOON?



WHETHER TO PREACH ON
CHALLENGING ADVENT THEMES



WHO COULD HAVE EATEN THE
VESTRY ADVENT CALENDAR CHOCOLATES?



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Karen - 07590516009

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Tues 4.10pm Tots 3 - 6 yrs
Applemore scout Hall

Weds 6.30pm Mixed class
Bartley Jnr School

Sat 10am beginners/mixed
Applemore Scout Hall

JIU JITSU

Tues Mixed 6.30pm
St Johns Hall Hythe

Thurs Mixed/Adv 6.20pm
Marchwood Scout Hall

TAI CHI

Mon Colbury Memorial Hall 09.30

Tues: Royal British Legion Bartley 09.30

Tues Dibden Purieu Scout Hall 09.30

Fri Dibden Purieu Scout hall 09.30

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www.newforestmartialarts.co.uk



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NPFA 00000



**FUN
FITNESS
CONFIDENCE
SELF-DEFENCE**

WHO'S WHO?



Reverend Lee Davies, Vicar

07809682085

vicar@stjohnshythe.org

Mr Craig Fowkes, Church Warden

075462187

craigfowkes@aol.co.uk



Mrs Sue Blomley, Licensed Lay Minister

023 80849482

sue.blomley@gmail.com



Reverend Edgar Ruddock, Retired Priest



Mrs Chris McMahon, Children's & Families Pastor

023 80844336

families@stjohnshythe.org



Mrs Hannah Rowlandson

023 8084436

office@stjohnshythe.org



Parish of Hythe

NOVEMBER 2025

Notices and Diary Dates



**The earth is the Lord's, and
everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it;**

Psalm 24:1

Welcome to our November notices and diary dates.

If you have a notice to be included in future months, please email
office@stjohnshythe.org

In order to help us save on our printing costs, if you don't already
receive this by email and would like to, please email
office@stjohnshythe.org

Sundays in November

Sunday 2nd November

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's
10:15am Morning Worship at St John's
11:15am Holy Communion at St John's
5:30pm All Souls Service at St John's

Sunday 9th November

10:30am Remembrance Sunday Service at St John's

Sunday 16th November

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's
10:15am Morning Worship at St John's
11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

Sunday 23rd November

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's
10:15am Morning Worship at St John's
11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

Sunday 30th November

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's
10:15am Morning Worship at St John's
11:15am Holy Communion at St John's
5:30pm Advent Carols at St John's

Midweek Services

Every Wednesday at 10:30am - Holy Communion at St John's

Friday 7th November at 3:30pm - Messy Church at St Anne's

Friday 28th November at 3:30pm - Messy Church in St John's Hall

Weekly Activities

Mondays

1:00pm Little Footprints Baby Group at St Anne's

Tuesdays

9:30am Coffee Shop in St John's Hall

10:00am Coffee Morning at St John's (except 11th November)

Wednesdays

12:00pm Lunch Club in St John's Hall

Thursdays

1:00pm Toddler-Winks Toddler Group at St Anne's

Fridays

6:00pm Youth Club in St John's Hall

Saturdays

10:00am Coffee Morning at St John's

Other Events in November

Saturday 1st November

10:00am-11:00am Who Let the Dads Out in St John's Hall

Thursday 13th November

2:00pm Mothers' Union in St John's Hall

Saturday 22nd November

10:00am-1:00pm Christmas Fair in St John's Hall

God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



NOTICES

Christmas Fair

Please make a note of the Christmas Fair on 22nd November in your diaries. If you are available to help on the day, please let Hannah know. We would appreciate donations of raffle prizes, bottles of red wine, and Christmas items.

All Souls

We will be holding our All Souls Service on Sunday 2nd November at 5:30pm in St John's Church. All are very welcome to attend.

Remembrance Sunday

Our Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 9th November at 10:30am in St John's Church. This will be our only service that Sunday.

*All Souls Service
of Thanksgiving
and Commemoration*

**Sunday 2nd November
5:30pm
St John's Church**



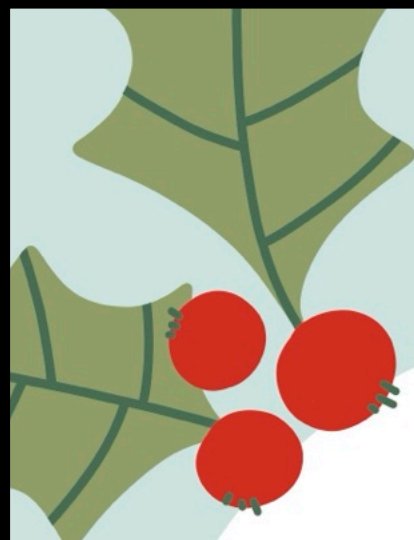
REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Sunday 9th November

10:30am

St John's Church





ST JOHN'S

**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

10:00AM TO 1:00PM

IN ST JOHN'S HALL

BOTTLES - TOMBOLA

REFRESHMENTS - BOOKS

GIFTS - CAKES AND SAVOURIES

AND MUCH MORE



LONGING FOR LIGHT

**A service of music, readings
and reflection for Advent**



SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

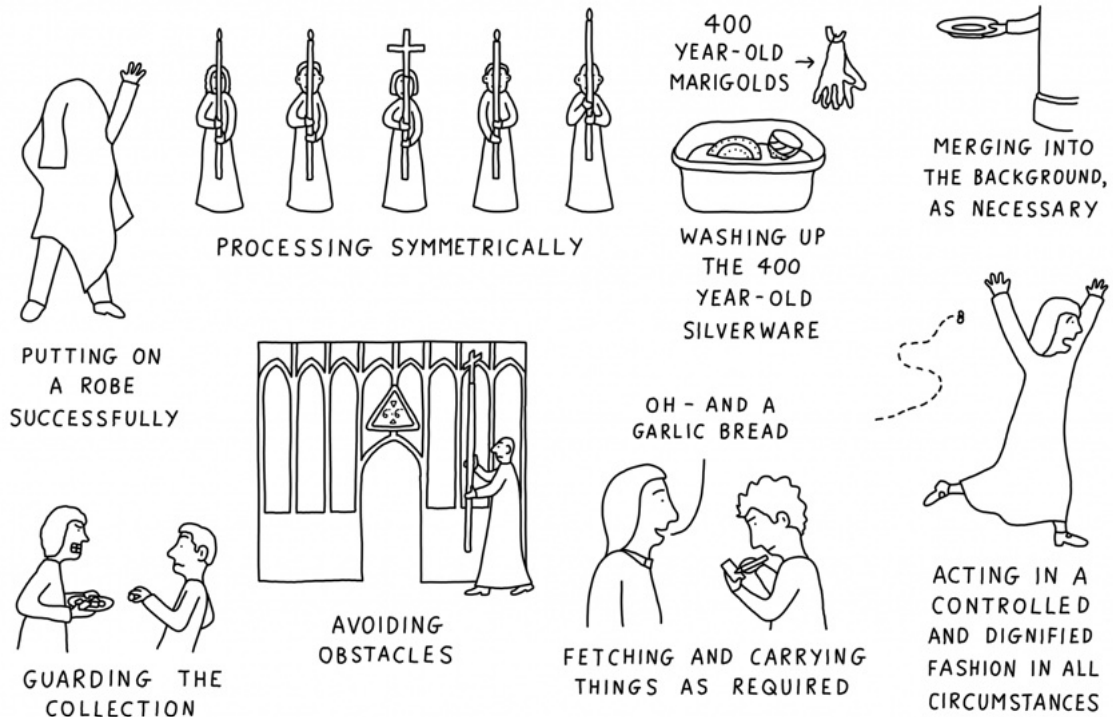
5:30pm
St John's Church, Hythe

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

JOY

SERVERS

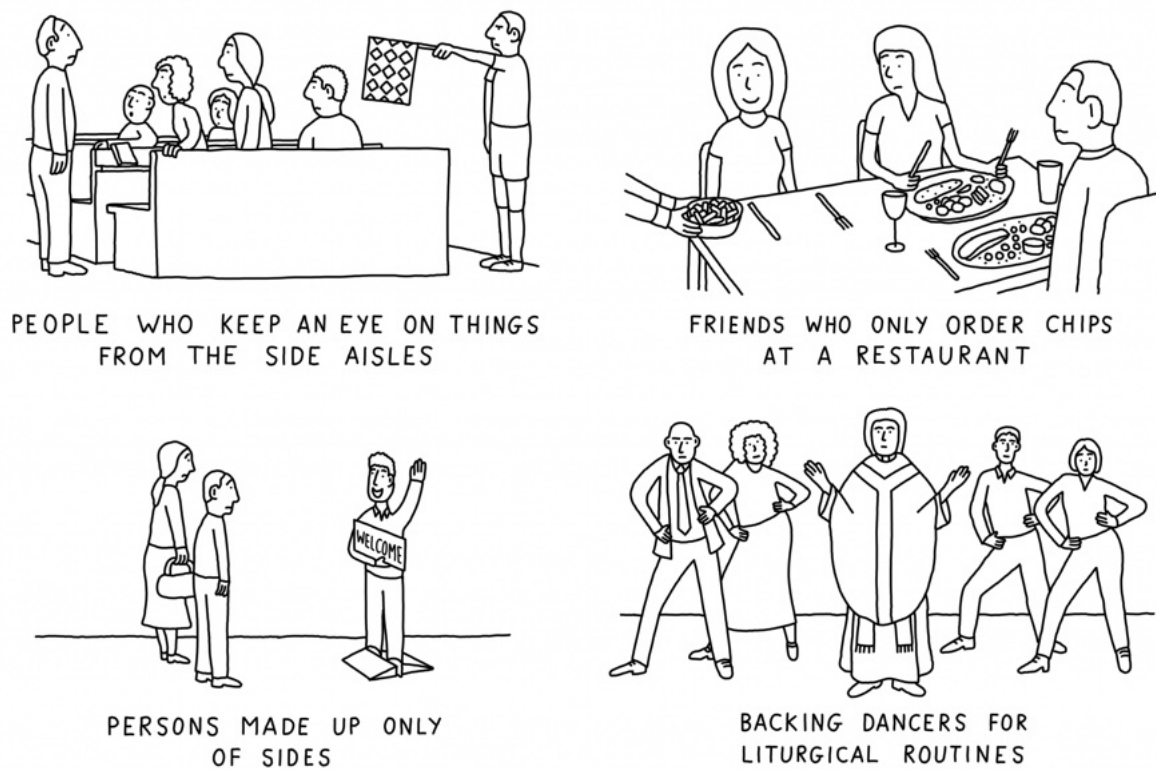
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SIDESPERSIONS

COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT THEIR ROLE



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