

This Week Sunday 10th September		
9.00am	Holy Communion 2 Peter 1:1-11	Team A
10.30am	Sunday School Prize Giving 2 Peter 1:1-11	
6.00pm	Evening Worship Psalm 20	Team G
Monday	OMF Prayer Meeting	
Tuesday	Shallowford Midweek Break	
Friday	Parents & Toddlers	
Friday	Youth Group	
Next Week Sunday 17th September		
9.00am	Morning Prayer 2 Peter 1:12-22	Team B
9.45am	Holy Communion at Highfields 2 Peter 1:12-22	
10.30am	Family Communion 2 Peter 1:12-22	
6.00pm	Evening Worship Mark 1:1-8	Team H 3@6
Sept 19	Morning Bible Study	
Sept 24	Harvest Festival	

### LAST BUT NOT LEAST . . .

### . . . BACK TO SCHOOL

Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

Donald: H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O.

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Donald: Yesterday you said it was H to O.

What kind of school do you go to if you're...

...an ice cream man? Sundae school.

...a giant? High school.

...a surfer? Boarding school.

...King Arthur? Knight school.

Jacob: Why was the teacher wearing sunglasses to school?

Leonard: Why?

Jacob: She had bright students!

The office in the Church Hall is used for administering the business and clerical materials for the services. Dalena is usually there on Tuesday and Friday between 2 and 5pm. Telephone 01785 241894

The photo-copier in the office is available for hire from 5p per copy. If you have any personal copying requirements or need any commercial printing, please get in touch.

Castle Church Growth Trust Charity Ref No: 1126686

For contact details, please visit

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**WWW.CASTLECHURCH.ORG.UK**

Cross Words is compiled & edited by Les Deall



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**Castle Church** STAFFORD

W				
C	R	O	S	S
R				
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Vicar:  
Associate Minister:  
Ministry Apprentice

Rev Philip Sowerbutts  
Rev Christine Sykes  
Michael Hayden

May the LORD give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

*Psalm 20:4*

### 10th September 2017 13th Sunday after Trinity

#### WELCOME TO CASTLE CHURCH

We meet to engage with God - to hear him speak through his Word - to thank him for his goodness to us - to bring our needs before Him - and to pray for his world and to encourage each other.

Our aim is to encounter the living God together, through his Son Jesus Christ, and to discover, in our daily lives, the difference that a relationship with heaven makes to the way we live.

If you are a visitor to Stafford or this is the first time you have worshipped here, please make yourself known to those leading the service and join us for refreshments after the 9.45, 10.30 or 6.00 services.

#### Collect for Today

**M**erciful God, by whose gift alone your faithful people offer you true and acceptable service, grant that we may serve you faithfully so that we do not finally fail to obtain your heavenly promises, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*Grace and Peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord*

*2 Peter 1:2*

*'Our Mission is to make the love of God known to everyone out of our common faith and life in Jesus Christ'*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**



**PRIZE GIVING**

Sunday School starts again today after the summer break. We welcome our children back with our annual **Prize Giving Service**.

We also welcome **Owen Cornford** to be commissioned by the Vicar as our 'Youth, Children & Families Worker'.



Owen will be supported by Jon White from the Diocese of Lichfield, with the unenviable title of 'Youth and Vocations Enabler' in the 'Reaching New Generations Team'.



**MEN'S SHED FOR AUTUMN**



Well its been a while since we all met up, so I thought I would try to plan a few events before the end of the year. If anyone can make it I would like to meet up on Friday 22nd September from 7:30pm in the Barn. I will plan some entertainment and we can talk about future activities.

Let me know if you can make it! *Colin*

**"FROM BEHIND BARS"**

Penny Wheat will be giving a talk on her time spent corresponding with prisoners on Death Row entitled "From Behind Bars" at 7.30pm on Friday 13th October in the Barn. She is an entertaining speaker. Tea/coffee and cake will be served!

**NEW STYLE EVENING SERVICE - 3@6**

On the 3rd Sunday of each month for the rest of this year our 6.00 Evening Service will be held in Castle Church Hall.



More space. - Music group. Come along and see if 3@6 suits YOU.

September **17**

**HARVEST FESTIVAL**



September **24**

**Parent & Toddler Group**



Meeting every Friday during term-time from 9.15 to 11.15am in Castle Church Hall.

**Youth Group**



**TRUTH**

— 2017 —

This week we meet on Saturday 10.00am till 4.00pm at Shallowford House for the "TRUTH 2017" event. Truth 2017 is an unmissable event for teenagers! An action packed fun filled day with a load of different activities to try... archery... climbing... shooting... zip wire... ultimate tractor rides and more. There are also some quieter more sedate activities for the less adventurous!

And there's going to be some great bible teaching and seminars from top speakers - Matt Waldoock, Ros Clarke, Iain Baker and Phil Sowerbutts - covering a wide range of topics.



**APPEAL FOR GARDENERS**  
 We have run short of people to look after the Churchyard. If anyone has the skills or the inclination, please contact Barbara Boote.

**PRESIDENT APPOINTED TO OAK HILL COLLEGE**

The College Council of Oak Hill College has appointed Reverend Jonathan Jukes, currently rector at St Andrews Kirk Ella, as President with effect from 1st January 2018, following the very unexpected death of Mike Ovey earlier in the year. In the mean time, Jonathan will be the guest speaker at our Shallowford Mid-week break, when we shall be studying the Book of Ruth.



**NO COMMUNION IN CHURCH**



There will not be a Midweek Communion in Church this week because the preaching team will be leading the Shallowford Midweek Break.

**CALLING ALL TREBLEMAKERS**

Don't forget that we are singing at Shallowford this Wednesday. Love to you all. *Mavis*



**HOT HOT NEWS**

We have already booked Shallowford for our 2018 Midweek Break, 11th - 13th September.

**OMF STAFFORD PRAYER MEETING**



Tomorrow at May Bee's home. 5, Keld Avenue, ST17 9HY, 7.30 to 9.00pm followed by refreshments. Sarah Hoskins has been working with a team from The Globe Church from 6th to 19th August. Pray for good follow-up from their visit to Vietnam.

**BARNABAS FUND PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, we rejoice at the growth of the Church in China. Only You know how many people there now love and follow You, but we pray that each one will stand firm in the faith. We ask that the Holy Spirit, who brought them to know and love You, will guide them step by step as they follow You and will lead them into all truth.

As they face daily marginalisation in society and the ever-present threat of imprisonment in the current government crackdown, may their faith not falter or fail. May they witness boldly and bear persecution bravely, bringing glory to Your Name. Amen.



**YOUR PRAYERS**

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell, and pray that they may be reassured by the Lord's presence in their lives -

Andrea McEleny, John & Barbara Kirkham, Alan & Jan Hodson, Harry Kirkham, Paul & Winnie Wright, John Weaver, Stuart & Lilian Kelsall, Beryl Martin.

