

This Week Sunday 12th May		
9.00am	Holy Communion Luke 9:10-17	Team C
9.45am	Holy Communion at Highfields Luke 9:10-17	
10.30am	Family Worship Luke 9:10-17	
6.00pm	Evening Worship Esther 2:1-18	Team F
Tuesday	Midweek Communion in The Barn	
Friday	Parents & Toddlers	
Friday	Fuse Youth Group	
Next Week Sunday 19th May		
9.00am	Morning Prayer Luke 9:18-27	Team D
9.45am	Morning Worship at Highfields Luke 9:18-27	
10.30am	Family Communion Luke 9:18-27	
6.00pm	Evening Worship Esther 2:19 - 4:17	Team G <i>EXTRA TIME</i>
May 20	OMF Prayer Meeting	
June 7	Jonathon Lamb at Shallowford House	

LAST BUT NOT LEAST . . .

. . . STORMY WEATHER

One day, long after the great flood waters had died down, God calls down to Noah and says, "Noah, I want you to make me a new Ark".

Noah replies, "No problem God, you're the Boss." "Ah, but there's a catch. This time I want 20 decks one on top of the other".

"20 DECKS!", screams Noah. "Well, OK Big Man, whatever you say. Should I fill it up with all the animals just like last time?"

"Yes, but this time I want you to fill it up with fish." "Fish?" ask Noah.

"That's right, fish - well, to be more specific, I want Koi carp - wall to wall, floor to ceiling - Koi Carp!"

"Are you out of your mind?" asks the perplexed Noah.

"No, I just fancied a Multi-Storey Carp Ark".

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

Castle Church's Website

WWW.CASTLECHURCH.ORG.UK

Cross Words is compiled & edited by Les Deall

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Vicar:
Associate Minister:

Rev Philip Sowerbutts
Rev Christine Sykes

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C	R	O	S	S
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How great is the love the Father
has lavished upon us; that we
should be called the Children of God.

1 John 3:1

12th May 2019 3rd Sunday after Easter

WELCOME TO CASTLE CHURCH

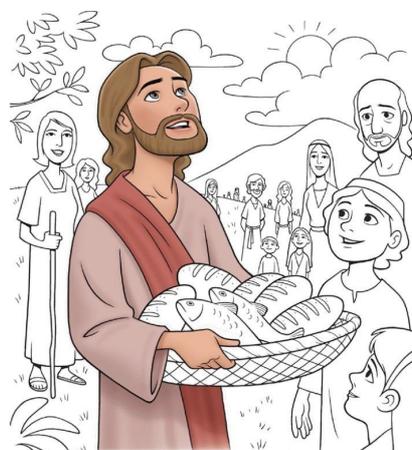
We meet to engage with God - to hear him speak through his Word - to thank him for his goodness to us - to bring our needs before Him - and to pray for his world and to encourage each other.

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

Almighty God, you show the light of your truth to those who are in error so that they may return into the way of righteousness: grant to all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion that they may reject everything that is contrary to their profession and follow whatever is in agreement with it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*They all ate
and were
satisfied, and
the disciples
picked up
twelve
baskets of
broken pieces
that were left
over.*

Luke 9:17

On The Road With Jesus

Our Morning Preaching Series

Luke Chapters 9 to 11



*We are a FAIRTRADE Church.
We have pledged to use
Fairtrade Goods wherever possible.*

FAIR TRADE REMINDER

Some years ago Castle Church was accepted as a Fair Trade church. As such, the PCC promised on our behalf that we would serve Fair Trade tea and coffee at all events organised in the name of Castle Church. Please help us to keep our promise. Thank you.



Vera

EASTER DUCKLINGS



Thank you to all who purchased Easter Ducklings or gave such generous donations to the Motor Neurone Disease Association. I was able to give £120 to add to Sandon Church's total, making £300 in all. This has been duly sent off to MNDA. God bless you all.

Mavis

ROSEMARY DAVIES

Rosemary has been moved to a care home near Newcastle. If you wish to send greeting cards, her address is:-

Abbeywell Court Care Home, Dragon Square, Chesterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, ST5 7HL.

CRAFT GROUP

We meet at 52 Barnes Road tomorrow 1.00 to 5.00pm. New members always welcome.



STAFFORD OMF PRAYER GROUP

Next OMF Prayer Meeting Monday 20th May 7.30 pm.

Japan – an Unreached Country. Hear more from Nathanael Ayling who is coming to the Prayer Meeting after being 10 years in Hokkaido.

Anyone welcome to join us at May Bee's home, 5 Keld Avenue ST17 9HY. Refreshments follow.



MIDWEEK COMMUNION

There will be a service of Holy Communion this Tuesday in The Barn at 10.00am.



ASCENSION DAY

Our next Midweek Communion will be on Ascension Day Thursday 30th May and will be followed by Coffee Morning.



PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

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

YOUTH GROUP

Friday 7.30 to 9pm for all aged 11 to 16.



FLOWERS IN CHURCH

The flowers in Castle Church Hall this week have been kindly donated by Angela Mangnall-Rice,



Join us at 6pm Tonight

THE BOOK OF ESTHER



Shallowford Bible Day

BOOK NOW!
A DAY WITH
JONATHAN LAMB
Friday 7th June 2019
10.00am to 4.00pm
(coffee from 9.30)



A day of bible teaching led by the CEO and 'Minister at Large' for the Keswick Convention, with praise and worship in the beautiful setting of Shallowford House.

£22 per person including a BBQ lunch. Teaching notes will be included and other resources available to purchase on the bookstall from 10ofthose. See Philip for details and get your name on the sign-up sheet in Church today. Transport available if required.

BARNABAS FUND PRAYER

O Lord God, we ask for Your protection over church ministers and pastors in places where Christian leaders are specially targeted for anti-Christian violence. May they never waver in their service to You, counting it a privilege to face danger for the sake of Christ. May they be faithful unto death, if need be, setting an example to their flock and a challenge to their persecutors.

We pray for the families and congregations of those recently martyred, including Pastor Tun, kidnapped and killed in Myanmar, and Pastor Anthony, kidnapped and killed in Nigeria.

In Jesus' mighty Name we pray. Amen.



YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers those who are unwell or need extra strength in body and mind, and pray that they may be reassured by the Lord's presence in their lives - Scott & Alisdair White, Irene Stacey, Andrea McEleny and her family, Meghan Gillen, Harry Kirkham, Rosemary Davies, Lilian Kelsall, Edwin & Joan Sowerbutts, Jill Cornwell, Dennis Wetton, Peter Hill, Les Neil, Bill Inns.

