

E News December 2023

t streetjesus2012@gmail.com News www.streetjesus.org.uk

Welcome to the December edition of Street Jesus e-news. I must confess that I have a healthy collection of Christian books most of which have come from my visits to Spring Harvest or New wine. Each year vowing not to buy so many invariably I come away with my arms full. I just love reading about how people see Christ but

particularly biographies and testimonies of Christians. The outworking of the teachings of Jesus in practical terms. I have recently scanned a book which my wife Barbara brought home from the library (it had to go back before I finished it) about a parish priest Alex Frost who ministers in Burnley, a town with lots of social deprivation. It is heart rending and eye opening, first the subject of a BBC documentary



The cost of Covid—A year on the front line. His experiences are recorded in a book. "Our daily bread" I have heard people over the years declaring that there is no real poverty in our local rural Christian communities but this runs counter to our experiences on the street. People confide in us, all sorts of problems, financial, relational, health issues. Food bank use in our local church has increased significantly. Particularly too at this time of the year where people are under pressure to spend big at Christmas and the energy bills are some bit higher. Poverty can be very much hidden in the countryside.

The church can be very active in supporting people in challenging circumstances, our community pantry here in Wickham Market is very well used. Its interesting that the bible mentions assistance for the



poor around 2,000 times with the word poor appearing over 200 times. It is clear where the focus of Jesus is and these verses are there to inspire us and we need to be obedient to him. We ask ourselves as Churches Are we like a cruise ship, comfortable in 'faith luxury' or on a battleship, fighting the spiritual battle and

sacrificing ourselves like Father Frost in Burnley to serve the poor and marginalised. We don't always know where the poverty is, its not always self evident but what is common to the cruise liner and the

battleship is they both have life rafts. The Church is a rescue mission. Whether you need to be saved from luxury or lack, the life raft is there for everyone. And when we are rescued we know that both vessels also have a sick bay, a place where Jesus can heal us. A person can be materially poor but rich in spirit and visa versa.



One of the interesting things about the Christian life is how ordinary everyday things can spark a spiritual response. Jesus himself used everyday things to demonstrate a spiritual meaning. I was recently listening to a radio programme about birdsong. Recording of birdsong



Street Jesus News:

was played and guests were invited to identify the birds. I was hopeless, being unable to identify one except the skylark which for some reason I remembered. The presenter then gave an interesting fact that the Skylark is the only bird that sings in the darkness as

well as the light. Although not knowing much about birdsong I immediately thought of the apostle Paul imprisoned in Rome, chained and beaten he sang songs of worship. He was singing like a lark in the darkness praising the Lord. For those who are having a tough time it is not usual to sing in joy. Paul is reminding us that in those tough times if we keep our hearts and minds on Jesus the burden is not so great.



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One of the things I like about our church here in Wickham market is testimony Sunday and our monthly evening service where people are encouraged to share how God is working in their lives. Last week we had somebody share the first chapter of Ecclesiastes written by the teacher. It is a downbeat chapter of frustration and despair. He cries that everything is meaningless. The person sharing explained that as a sixteen year old he felt unsettled and felt his life also had no meaning.



Having been introduced to Christian teaching he decided that God could give his life meaning and he gave his life to the Lord. What was interesting was that he didn't know anything about sin, what Jesus had done for us and what it all really meant. He simply wanted meaning and purpose. He went on to be a minister for many years. When we are engaged with somebody on the stall and going through Jesus at the

door we always ask the question. "Why did Jesus come to earth and we give a number of reason to which we will now add, to give 'Meaning and purpose.' See how we can learn from one another.

In our Wednesday evening seekers group we recently had a session on the holy spirit. Its quite hard to explain the experience of the Holy spirit because it is so personal and works in a way peculiar to each individual. A person gave me a great picture of its nature. She described us as being like leaves in a swirling breeze, being moved by the holy spirit but settling in one heap in a corner. All coming together in one place in the love of God. I rather liked that image.



As advent approaches we all begin to turn our attention to the Christmas celebrations. We have advertised the Christmas services widely in our village. We are doing a humorous sketch in our carol, service highlighting how distracted we have become from the real reason for the season. As each year passes the secular tentacles spread further telling us that this is just a winter holiday. There will be more Robins and Santas than Nativity scenes on our Christmas cards. We will be told that we imposed Christmas on the pagans winter festival and that Jesus was actually born in September. Regardless, this is the time when we mark the fact that Jesus descended to earth as a mere baby born in lowly circumstances to save and redeem us that we may know God personally. Some people get very guilty about the abundance of Christmas, the excessive food drink and expensive presents. God loves a cheerful giver. None of it is wrong in and of itself as long as we share what we have and be thankful to God for his wonderful provision, most notably that of his beloved son Jesus. From everyone here at Street Jesus we would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas. Peace on earth and goodwill to all mankind. Graham



The Filling Station is an informal way of expressing the Christian Faith, using celebration meetings to encourage the local church, predominantly in rural areas across the UK.

What to expect when we meet:

A warm welcome with light refreshments... Contemporary worship led by local worship leaders... Stories of God at work today... Guest Speakers to refresh our faith...

Prayer together for worldwide and personal needs...

There will be no meeting in December. Details will be announced in next months e-news for the January meeting.

The Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew Refreshments at 7pm for a 7:30 start.

Everyone is Welcome

https://thefillingstation.org.uk/



New ALPHA course
Starts 27 September 2023
7pm in St John's Church
St John's Hill, Woodbridge IP12 1HS



Vicar: Rev Charles Trefusis
Tel:01394 383162
email: info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk
www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk



Trimley St Martin Memorial hall - Worship evening Every 4th Saturday of the month.





suffolk.hopeintoaction.org.uk/

Enabling churches to house the homeless





Clare priory

clarepriory.org,uk













PRAYER Every Tuesday 7pm Kelsale Village Hall IP172PB

Contact Paul or Mandy Weekes on 01728-604053

Open to God Service

3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am







Table Tennis Drop-In Every Wednesday starting on the 4 October 2023

10am to 12pm

With a 15min break for tea/coffee and a brief testimony In St John's Church Hall

St John's Street, Woodbridge
IP12 1ED

Everyone and any ability welcome, do bring a friend along



A suggested donation of £2 per person to cover costs Contact Bob Huddlestone $07754\,048056$ or Richard Bolt $07824\,177830$



St John's Discovering God and sharing the love of Jesus

Tel:01394 383162

email: info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

www.stjohnswoodbridge.ora.uk





The BASIC Life Charity COMMUNITY POP-UP SHOP

Come along to



2 Carr Road, Felixstowe, IP11 2FS

Friday Mornings at 11.00 am

AFFORDABLE FOOD

Fill a bag for £2.

NO CRITERIA - ALL WELCOME

NEW: Free Tea, Coffee & Biscuits

Our Faith Community is registered with

THE WELCOME DIRECTORY



Our commitment: We will welcome people, who have been in prison, into our faith community and support them



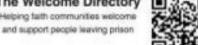
The Welcome Directory is a directory of faith communities in England and Wales who are committed to welcoming and appropriately supporting people who have left or are leaving prison, and is available on-line and in printed format. It enables prison chaplains, probation workers, other professionals, and individuals to identify a faith community in their local area that is a good place for someone leaving prison to attend.

For more information please talk to your local Welcome Directory Champion,

or visit welcomedirectory.org.uk

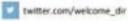
Note: Our faith community has a safeguarding policy which ensures that all safeguarding risks are managed appropriately.

The Welcome Directory Helping faith communities welcome





facebook.com/TheWelcomeDirectory



Pub Theology

Conversations about God. faith and life...in a pub.

> Fortnightly on Sundays following Evensong













East Sulfok
COMMUNITIES
Team

https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/.../east-suffolk-

Rural Business & Community Hub Fund

Grants of up to £30,000

Apply Now



0800 804 8044 Daily HOPE

A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



Thursday Lunchtimes

Refreshments at low cost 12 noon - 1.00 pm A short talk 1.10 - 1.50 pm

You are welcome to either or both

Season 2023/2024

Nov 30th Winter Music

Diz Deacon & David Stainer

Dec 7th Ipswich's Response to the Ukraine Crisis

Alan Cutting, 'Together for Ipswich'

Dec 14th Christmas Carols, Readings and Celebrations

Forum then takes a break for Christmas

Jan 11th The Role of a Police and Crime Commissioner Suffolk PCC Tim Passmore

> www.christchurch-ipswich.org.uk Twitter at @ThursdayForum and Facebook:ThursdayForumipswich

Informal service for all ages

Wickham Market

Every third Sunday of the month at 11am All Saints Church, refreshments from 10.30am

Join us for the Christmas Story

A CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY DAY FOR SCHOOL YEARS 1 - 6

Friday 22nd December
10am to 3pm
Quay Church Woodbridge

Families are welcome to attend at 2:30 to for the Nativity story

Contact Just42 to book your space

Email: info@just42.org.uk

Tel: 01394 380992

JUST making a positive impact



Advent Carol Service
with Holy Communion

10.30am Wednesday 6th December 2023



You are invited to our Advent Carol Service, with seasonal hymns and readings, in preparation for welcoming the Lord Jesus at Christmas.

St John's Church, St John's Hill, Woodbridge IP12 1HS

Tel:01394 383162

Email: info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk



FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 7:30PM

WITH TONY VINO (MC), DAVE THOMPSON, DUNCAN OAKLEY AND LIVE BAND TICKETS £5 PER PERSON. BOOK NOW: WWW.CRBC.ORG.UK | (01473) 290115

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE ALL SAINTS CHURCH KESGRAVE











We would love for you to join us at our Christingle celebration and bring hope to more children's lives.

Sunday 3rd December 2023 At 5.30pm



If you wish to donate in aid of the Children's Society please visit_ https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/christingle. Alternatively, a Collection will be held in aid of The Children's Society







5 - 8pm WITH MULLED CIDER & mince pies

PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEUS [FOSM] in St Michael's Church, Framlingham with thanks to our friends & supporters:- Fram Town Council, The Bellringers, Turner & Ellerby Moore Bros., Framlingham Girl Guides.



Sunday 10th December 6.00 pm at St Michael's **Advent Carol service**

Sunday 17th December 9.30 am at St Michael's Lessons, carols and communion

Christmas Eve

3.30 pm at St Michael's Church Children's Nativity Service

6.00 pm at All Saints Saxtead Carol service with mulled wine and mince pies

11.00 pm at St Michael's Church Midnight communion

Christmas Day

St Michael's family service **All Saints Saxtead Holy Communion**

We wish everyone a blessed and holy Christmas







St Mary-le-Tower
Civic church of Ipswich



BLESSING JARS

Supporting the Beehive Nakuru Kenya
A great place to put your loose change in and say a
blessing at the end of the day.
To obtain a jar please e-mail
thepaellalady@gmail.com or
Pam@jenkins-net.co.uk

Community Christmas Day Lunch





Hearty Traditional Grub,
Good Company and Good Cheer!
In All Saints Church
Monday 25th December from Ipm



£4 mininum donation on the door but if you could let us know you plan on coming, it will help us with catering.

wardens@wickhammarketchurch.org

River of Life

01728748224

www.riveroflifechurch.net or find us on Facebook





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Christchurch Park

Meet by the benches near the mansion

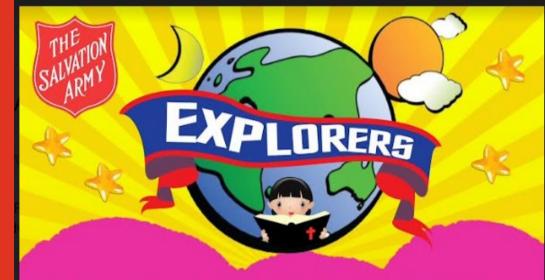
Free twice monthly walk to connect and share without fear or judgment

For details email mhmipswich@outlook.com or find us on Instagram:



mhmipswich mentalhealthmates www.mentalhealthmates.co.uk





THURSDAYS FROM 5-6:30PM 5-11 YEAR OLDS



£1 PER CHILD GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS, MESSY FUN, COMPETITIONS, PRAYERS, BIBLE STORIES, CHALLENGES, TUCK SHOP AND MORE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 07500058657 OR POP IN TO FELIXSTOWE SALVATION ARMY, COBBOLD ROAD, IP11 7EL



THE SALVATION ARMY IS A REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND (214779)

For 11-16 year olds



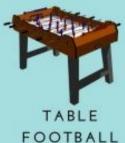
Tuesdays 15:30 - 17:30

AT THE RUNWAY CAFÉ MARTLESHAM

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO IN THE AFTERNOON AFTER SCHOOL?













The Runway Cafe, attached to St Michael's Church, The Drift, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3PL

Affordable Food



Community

Business And Service In Christ

The BASIC Life Charity Pop-Up Shop

St.Felix Church, Rendlesham

Every Tuesday 11am

All Welcome!





BLESSING JARS

Supporting the Beehive Nakuru Kenya

A great place to put your loose change in and say a blessing at the end of the day.

To obtain a jar please e-mail thepaellalady@gmail.com or Pam@jenkins-net.co.uk





Song Prayer

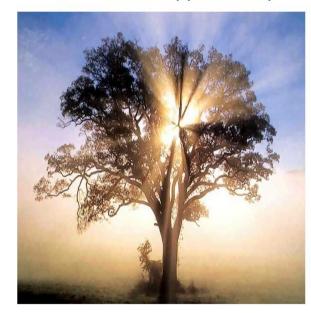


3pm every Second Sunday. All invited!

A time of worship, fellowship, and light refreshments.



Bereavement Support Group



Wednesday 8 November 13 December

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at **2.30pm**. If you would like more information or support please contact Kathy Blair



RIVER OF LIFE CHURCH APP DOWNLOAD TODAY!



www.riveroflifechurch.net/hubb

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/libya-floods-appeal





SPONSOR A SHOEBOX

Not got time or unable to make a shoebox? Why not let us do the work for you!

For just £10 (which includes the transport donation) we will pack a shoebox in your name.

Form more information or to sponsor a shoebox, contact Sally: sallyverow@riveroflifechurch.net



Samaritan's Purse® Water Filter Project Offering

We usually take up a special offering this time of year for Samaritan's Purse Water Filter Project.

We have decided to move this offering to co-inside with World Water Day and the offering will therefore be on Sunday 24 March 2024.

If you would like to donate to this project beforehand, please visit: https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/water-sanitation-hygiene/resources/

"I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink" Matthew 25: 35



BOOST Primary School Chaplaincy

We would ask for your prayers as the BOOST Trustees explore the possibility of appointing a voluntary part time chaplain to work in a local primary school. The role would be 2-3 hours per week based over a lunchtime through term time.

This venture will build on the excellent work of chaplaincy already at Felixstowe School. The volunteer chaplain would be accountable to, and receive support and training from, the BOOST Trustees, the BOOST Chaplain and the school involved.



We are excited about this possible new venture and ask that you continue with us in prayer so that we may be attentive to God's prompting and direction. If you would like to know more about the role please do get in touch via boostfelixstowechaplaincy@gmail.com





Worried how you're going to afford Christmas?

Get advice on how to budget, spend and save with free and friendly **Money Coaching** from CAP



Starts Wednesday 1 November, 12pm St Augustine's Hub Meeting Room Sign up for free now



All Saints SS Peter & Pau

OPEN DOOR

LOVE

Coffee, tea, biscuits and friends Friday morning
Drop in from
10:00am

At All Saints Church
Every Friday Morning



Christmas at Ipswich Citadel

558 Woodbridge Road, IP4 4PH

Christmas Carol Concert Sunday 3 December, 5:30pm

Festive Fun (ages O-14 years) Sunday 17 December, 10:00am

Carol Service Sunday 17 December, 5:30pm

Christmas Morning Carol Service Monday 25 December, 10:30am

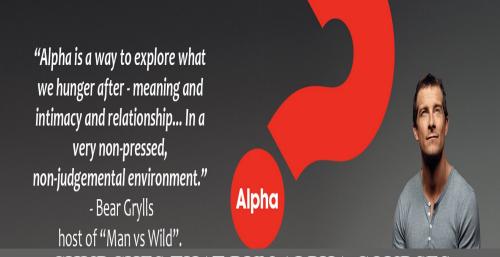
The band will play in the town centre every Saturday in December 10:15am - 12:15pm

Salvation Army Trust Registered Charty in England and Wales 214779, registered in Scotland 90000359



Celebrate Christmas together Welcome to one or all of our events.

Saturday 9th December 2-4pm
Community afternoon, free Christmas activities
Sunday 10th December 10.45am
Christmas celebration for everyone
Sunday 17th December 6pm
Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 24th December 6pm
Carols by the Pond
Christmas Day 10am
Christmas Worship
info @ www.rushmerebaptist.org.uk and find us on



CHURCHES THAT RUN ALPHA COURSES

HOPE CHURCH IPSWICH - www.hopeipswich.co.uk BURLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH I IPSWICH Tel- 01473-259271
TRIMLEY ST MARTIN CHURCH Tel 01394-200406
ST JOHNS CHURCH WOODBRIDGE 01394-383162
COLCHESTER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH IPSWICH -01473-290115
ST AUGUSTINES CHURCH - IPSWICH - 01473 723960
ST JOHNS CHURCH WOODBRIDGERIVER OF LIFE CHURCH FELIXSTOWE

Outreach



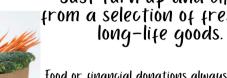
Our next outreach is at Wickham market
Christmas market
Saturday December 2nd

OPEN EVERY THURSDAY 9-11AM **ALL SAINTS CHURCH**



"ANYONE WHO HAS TWO SHIRTS SHOULD SHARE WITH THE ONE WHO HAS NONE. AND ANYONE WHO HAS FOOD SHOULD DO THE SAME" **LUKE 3:11**

Free for anyone in need.
Just turn up and choose from a selection of fresh and





Food or financial donations always welcome.

SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS



We meet in St. Michaels Church

At 4pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month

This is a family worship with a difference, with activities for children and families including crafts, music, and games and a special tea for everyone.

We currently meet in St. Michaels Church ready to start at 4pm.

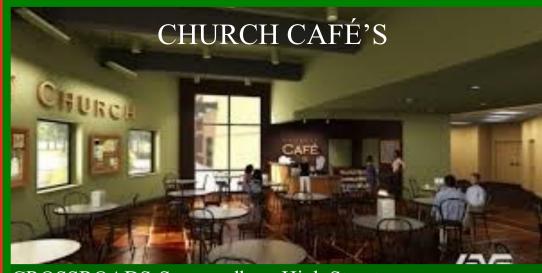
There will be a short time of worship as we begin Everyone is welcome; please let us know if you are planning to come so that there is plenty to eat.

For more information, or to tell us you are coming, please contact:

Revd. Mary Lamb, marylamb1952@googlemail.com

or Wendy Phelan on 01728 720125 or check details with the parish office ...framparish@gmail.com We have had great fun in the past and look forward to seeing old and new families.

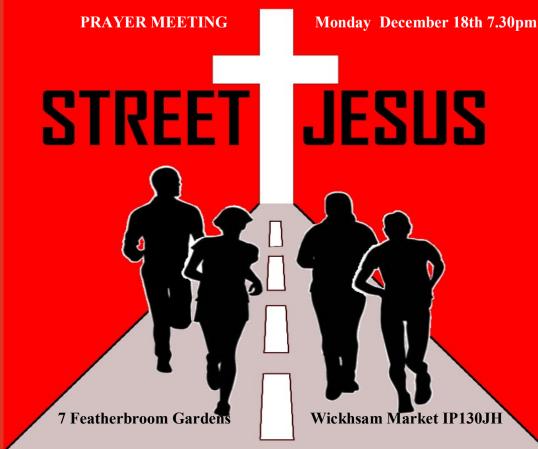




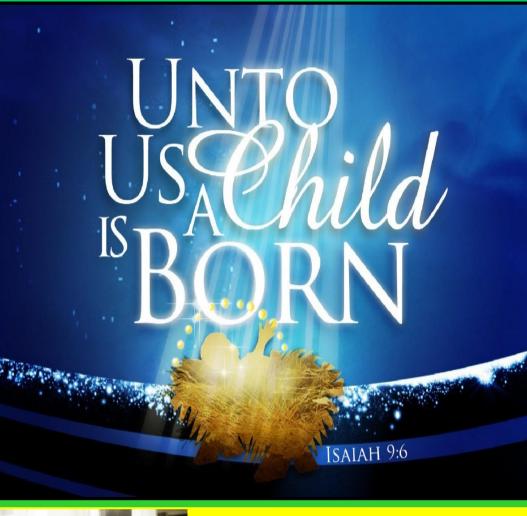
CROSSROADS-Saxmundham High Street THE RUNWAY-St Michaels and all Angels Martlesham OPEN DOORS -All Saints Wickham Market-Every Friday morning.

HUB COMMUNITY CAFÉ-St Johns Woodbridge - Every Monday morning 10-12





Gallery



CD of the month

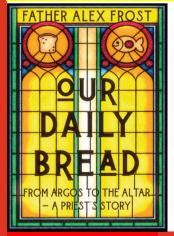


CD of the month

Christ our hope in life and death

Keith & Kristyn Getty

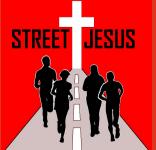
Book of the month



BOOK OF THE MONTH

Father Alex Frost was not always a man of the cloth. He found his calling while running an Argos store in his native Burnley, moonlighting as a stand-up comedian and die-hard fan of The Clarets and Depeche Mode. This heartfelt and moving book seeks to give a voice to the voiceless, charting the tragedy and pain, humour and hope which are ever-present in his community. It is ultimately about modern poverty – and how we all can, and should, espouse Christian virtues of love, kindness, tolerance.

Facebook



Check out our facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/1246450225452294

Think tank on religion and society

www.theosthinktank.co.uk

Gatherings





Bible reading

The words of the Teacher, [a] son of David, king in Jerusalem. Everything is meaningless says the teacher, completely meaningless. What do people get from all their hard work under the sun.? Generations come and generations go but the earth never changes. The sun rises and the sun sets, then hurries around to rise again. The wind blows south and then turns North. Around and around it goes blowing in circles Rivers run into the sea but the sea is never full. Then the water returns again to the rivers and flow again to the sea. Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we hear we are not content. History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under thesun is truly new. But actually it is old. Nothing is truly new. We don't remember what happened in the past and in future generations no one will remember what we are doing now. Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Prayer

Loving and compassionate God,
Help us to see hope
in the most desperate situations.
Help us to uphold the value of others
in our words and actions.
Help us to see the potential
you see in each of your children.
Help us to know and to respond
to your guiding hand in our lives.

Amen .

Quote to note

".When we work we work. When we pray God works.

James Hudson-Taylor

Please get involved

If you have a heart for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others and would like to become involved with our project then please contact us for more information. If you would like us to promote any of your Church events we will do our best to include them in our e news. If you would like to contribute to e-news with any information or recommendations such as a book, music C D, film, article, a prayer, or a bible verse then please e mail us on streetjesus2012@ gmail.com. Our next meeting will be on Monday January 22nd at 7.30 pm. At 7 Featherbroom Gardens Wickham Market IP130JH

THANK YOU!

Thank you for showing interest in the Street Jesus project. If you do not wish to receive our e news or would like more information about the project please e mail streetjesus 2012@gmail.com