

# Small group notes

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**Bible notes: Jesus: An encounter with Nicodemus - John 3:1-21**

**Welcome** – What were you first told about where babies came from? How old were you when you learned the real answer?

**Worship** – You could use a song such as 'No longer a slave' to worship Jesus for your re-birth as a Christian, acknowledging your heritage as a child of God.

**Word** – Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you as you read **John 3:1-21** together

What was the main thing which struck you from Sunday's service?

What surprises, shocks, bothers or moves you about these passages?

- o What do you understand when you hear the phrases 'born again' and 'Spirit gives birth to Spirit'?
- o How do you think Nicodemus felt as he was challenged by Jesus?

What does this passage say about human nature?

- o What can you find out about Nicodemus in verses 1-2?
- o What is significant about his coming to Jesus? And why do you think he came at night?
- o Why was Jesus so direct with him?
- o What two ideas about birth are Jesus and Nicodemus thinking of?

What does the passage say about God's nature?

- o What point is Jesus making by comparing spiritual birth to the wind?
- o What does Jesus claim about himself in verses 13-15?
- o From verses 16-18, what stands out to you about God?

What is God saying to you through the passage?

- o How is Jesus' use of the words "born again" similar to, and different from, the way it is used today?

**Witness** - How does this change the way you will live your life this week?

- o Where are you right now in the birthing process of spiritual life: Not yet conceived? Developing, but not so anyone could tell? Heavy with child and waiting? Kicking and screaming like an infant? Growing daily?
- o When did you begin to see God saving you, and who can you share that with this week?

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**contact us:**

t. 01744 602641 e. info@stmarkshaydock.org

**Office:** Mon—Thurs 10am—2pm Charity Registration No 1128590

Find us on Facebook and Twitter - @stmarkshaydock

**Zoom:** 347 999 912 - **Password:** 020523



This Week

**9th January**  
10am Holy Communion

Other meetings

**Daily Prayer 9.15 Monday-Saturday)**  
(on zoom\*)

\* zoom codes  
Meeting ID: 347 999 912  
Passcode: 020523  
All are welcome

**website:**

[www.stmarkshaydock.org](http://www.stmarkshaydock.org)



**ST MARK'S**  
CHURCH HAYDOCK

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**9th January 2022**

**16th January**

10am Celebration  
3pm Holy Communion

**23rd January**

10am Morning Celebration

**30th January**

10am Holy Communion  
**COMPASSION UK SUNDAY**

**6th February**

10am Celebration w/Baptism  
3pm Afternoon Service

**13th February**

10am Holy Communion

**20th February**

10am Celebration w/Baptism  
3pm Holy Communion

**27th February**

10am Holy Communion

# welcome

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If this is your first time here, we are really excited to welcome you! Here's some information that might be useful. For more information, please speak to a member of the Welcome Team.



**TOILETS:** including wheelchair-friendly with baby change are in the entrance area to the right as you come out of the body of church.



**ACCESSIBILITY:** Large print song & communion sheets available at the back of church, hearing loop is available



**CHILDREN & YOUTH:** Children are welcome here! Little Stars 0-4s, All Stars Reception—Y5, Youth Y6-High School (2nd and 4th Sundays) in the Centre



**PARKING AROUND THE CHURCH:** Please be respectful of our neighbours and do not park on West End Road, Park Street or St Mark's Street, but use the car park behind the centre instead.



**FOODBANK DONATIONS PLEASE:** Coffee, Tomatoes, Sugar, Milk, Juice, Potatoes, Instant Mash, Jars of Pasta Sauce, Pkt Pasta in Sauce, Rice Pudding, Custard, Snacks, Toiletries, Cereal.



**GIVING:** If you would like to give to the work of the church, then you can give cash, via contactless payment, via direct debit or through our stewardship scheme. Also don't forget gift aid if you are a UK taxpayer.

# prayer

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## **Please pray for God's healing and recovery for:**

Brian Evans, John Carson, Josie Burgess, Brenda Twamley, Sheila Appleton, Janet Barnes, Anne Birkett, Michelle Bond, Lynda Briody, Doreen Bulger, Carol Burrows, Pat Chisnall, Barry Curran, Margaret Davies, Phyl Dixon, Hayden Farrugia, Alvis Frith, Katie Garner, Don Garner, Enid Hill, Margaret James, Libby Kelsey, Michael Kennedy, Chris Lamb, Dorothy Lawton, Eric Littler, Renee Littler, Phyllis Lomax, Jen McMasters, Davy Montieth, Jane Pennington, Nigel Pope, Wilf/Leslie Potter, Joan Scott, Helen Smith, Peter Summers, Margaret Warren, Barbara White, Stan Wilcock, Jude Williams, Enid Woolley, Irene Yeates.

## **Please pray for the bereaved families of:**

Edna McClymont & Dorothy Unsworth

## **Please pray for:**

Leadership: Clergy and lay readers and all St Mark's volunteers

# news

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## **FOOD PANTRY EVERY THURSDAY 8.50-11AM**

Our fantastic new Food Pantry is now open! If you are on the electoral roll of St Mark's, live in or have children who attend a school in Haydock or Blackbrook then you can become a member. There's no membership fee, just £4 every time you shop. If you want to tackle food waste and grab a bargain join Claire and the team on Thursday.

## **CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH GROUPS**

Now that the Christmas holidays are over, the Children's and Youth groups in church will be resuming. Our Children's groups are as follows:

Cool Club: For ages 5-10, every other Monday, 3.30 - 5.00pm, starts back 10th January.

Smarties: For babies to pre-schoolers, Wednesday & Friday, 8.45 - 11.15am, starts back 12th January.

Sunday Children's group: For ages 3-10, during Sunday 10am Service, start in church then taken over to the centre.

For any details on any of these groups, please contact Kay White.

At the same time our brilliant new Youth group 'Voyage' is continuing, for Yr 6 children and above, on a Wednesday evening from 6.30 - 8.00pm, and also during the Sunday 10am Service on the 16th & 30th of January and then the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the months after. For any more information please contact Josh Thornhill.

## **CONNECT GROUPS - WE'RE NEARLY THERE**

My apologies for not managing to get everything together by the beginning of December. I am approaching potential leaders this week with a view to reaching out to group members shortly. If you have any questions please chat to me or checkout the info on the website. Dan

## **CORONAVIRUS CHURCH RESTRICTIONS**

As a church we are committed to helping as many of our church family worship together as safely as possible. With the new emergence of the omicron strand, and with updated government guidance, we want to reiterate the importance of wearing masks while moving around and singing. Please do regularly pick up your lateral flow tests from your local pharmacy and we'd love you to test yourselves on a Sunday morning as an extra measure in keeping each other safe. No evidence is needed and it is only an encouragement. Thanks for remembering Bibles - Masks - Mugs.

## **PRAYER LIST**

We have decided to start the prayer list fresh, to make sure it is up to date. To this end, from Monday 10th of January 2022, if you wish for someone to be on the prayer list, there will be a form both in paper and online to submit, this **MUST** be renewed every 4 weeks for that person to remain on the list. The form will be ready in a couple of weeks, but will not go live until this date, this is just to make sure everyone has plenty of notice of the change. For any more information, please contact the office.

## **SENDING OFF THE BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL**

Bishop Paul is retiring in February and if you would like one of the 4 remaining tickets for +Paul's farewell service (12th Feb 3pm) please email [info@stmarkshaydock.org](mailto:info@stmarkshaydock.org) or ring the office. It's a first come first served offer