

WONDER

MAY - AUGUST 2025



ST JOHN
THE BAPTIST
CHURCH
LEICESTER

LOST IN WONDER

In his book *The Knowledge of the Holy*, AW Tozer wrote "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. ... worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God"

I find this a deeply provocative statement – what is it that comes to mind when we think of God? How are our lives shaped by who God declares himself to be through scripture?

In Mark 4 we see the disciples caught in a storm in a boat with Jesus asleep in the stern; their response to wake their teacher was the right one. Jesus arises and speaks to the wind and waves "Peace ! Be Still !" Immediately calm comes and yet this leaves the disciples with a question, "who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?".

They have been journeying with Jesus and yet they are blown away by what they are seeing - that this Jesus they know is even more powerful and amazing than they had believed up until this moment. They are being struck by the otherness of Jesus. Otherness gives us a sense that God is so pure, matchless, and unique that no one else and nothing else even comes close. How are our lives and worship shaped by the otherness of God?

Across the Summer term we will be reminding ourselves of the majesty, the power, the beauty, and the otherness of God, the God who declares "I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God." (Isaiah 45:5).

As we continue our journey with this Jesus, my prayer for each of us is that we would have a deeper revelation of who this God is and that it would change us forever.



**Blessings,
Scott**

FORTNIGHT OF PRAYER

Launching Monday 28 April

**MONDAY 28 APRIL
7AM**

30 mins of prayer at SJB

**WEDNESDAY 30
APRIL**

*Day of Fasting, followed by
worship & prayer 7:30pm*

**SUNDAY 4 MAY
AFTER THE 11**

*Bring and Share, coming together
at the halfway point*

**SUNDAY 4 MAY
7PM**

*Global Focus on Zoom:
sjbchurch.co.uk/prayer*

**WEDNESDAY 7 MAY
7:30PM**

Worship and Prayer

**SUNDAY 11 MAY
7:30PM**

Worship and Prayer

All resources will be available at
sjbchurch.co.uk/prayer, where you can also
download our weekly prayer diary.



Scan for a playlist of worship songs old and new to help you connect with God anytime, anywhere. Also at sjbchurch.co.uk/worship or search St John's Leicester on YouTube



Starting on 4 June, are our Summer Term four-week equipping tracks, to go deeper in discipleship as a church.

Watch the video and sign up at sjbchurch.co.uk/be-equipped

**WEDNESDAYS IN
JUNE 7:30PM**

| THE INNER LIFE

**THURSDAYS IN
JUNE 7:30PM**

| CONFIDENCE IN THE
GOSPEL

**BE
EQUIPPED**



TERM PLAN

SUNDAY THEMES

OTHER EVENTS

MAY

Sunday 4	The Pharisee & The Tax Collector	28 Apr - 11 May	Week of Prayer
Sunday 11	Minster & Building	Sunday 4 May	Bring & Share after The 11
Sunday 18	The Power of the Gospel		
Sunday 25	People Jesus Met: Bartimaeus		

JUNE

Sunday 1	The Holiness of God, Part 1	Sunday 22	SJB Day - more details to follow
Sunday 8	Pentecost		
Sunday 15	The Holiness of God, Part 2		
Sunday 22	The Holiness of God, Part 3		
Sunday 29	The Mission of God, Part 1 Full immersion baptism service		

JULY

Sunday 6	The Mission of God, Part 2	Sunday 6	Newcomers Meal
Sunday 13	Old Testament Heroes: Moses		SJB Worship Night - more details to follow
Sunday 20	Old Testament Heroes: Abram		
Sunday 27	Old Testament Heroes: David		

AUGUST

Sunday 3	Old Testament Heroes: Joshua		
Sunday 10	Old Testament Heroes: Elijah		
Sunday 17	Old Testament Heroes: Noah		
Sunday 24	Old Testament Heroes: Ruth		Find out more about events and sign-up at: sjbchurch.co.uk/calendar
Sunday 31	Old Testament Heroes: Jehoshaphat		<i>*These events require sign-up</i>

WEEKLY EVENTS

TUESDAYS Youth 6:30 - 8pm

WEDNESDAYS Emmaus 9am
MOLO 11:15am

THURSDAYS Tiny Treasures 9:30am

FRIDAYS Foodbank 8pm

SUNDAYS The 9 & The 11



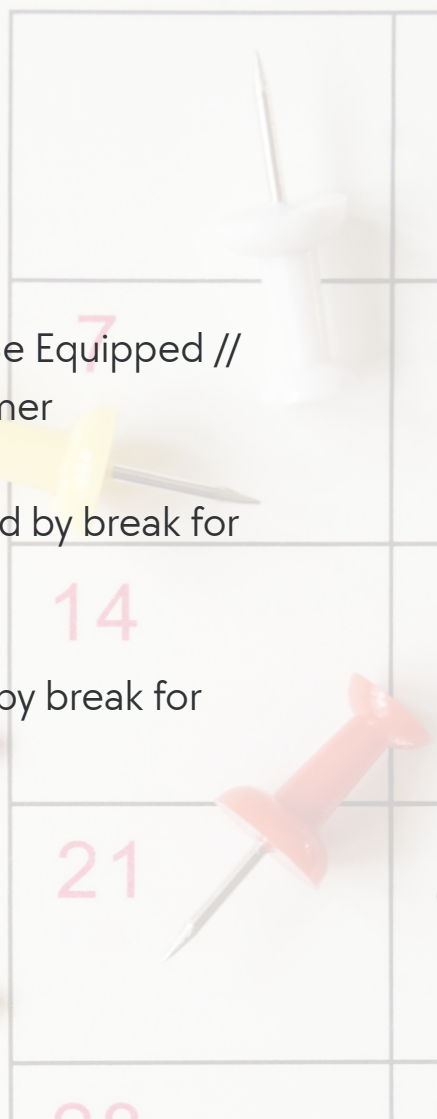
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MONTHLY EVENTS

Prayer & Worship Nights 7 May // break in June for Be Equipped // followed by break for summer

Morning Prayer 19 May // 16 June // followed by break for summer

Global Focus 4 May // 1 June // followed by break for summer



ST PETER'S OADBY

We have been working with St Peter's Oadby since 2020, seeking to bring revitalisation to the church and help position them for growth and the future. There have been many positive signs including the work at The Black Dog pub. This is part of our call as a Resourcing Church and also our Network Vision.

When Jon Tearne became unwell last Summer, we felt that Jesus was calling us to recommit to St Peter's, and Sami was released to support the work there in a more hands-on way. At this time, we agreed that Sami would help lead a process of evaluating the current work and exploring new possibilities.

Sami recently shared with St Peter's (and here at SJB) about possible changes in service patterns and an opportunity to create a new contemporary service focusing on families. The St Peter's PCC is currently discerning the right way forward. However, we believe God is leading in this and we are excited by the possibilities. Launching a new service will involve us supporting them as they start children's work, with musical support and possibly some families from SJB moving to part of the new service.

Please can we encourage you to pray:

1. For Sami and the PCC at St Peter's as they seek to follow Gods leading with these changes.
2. For families to hear the call of God to move from SJB and other local churches.
3. For smooth transition to the new service pattern.

BE BAPTISED?

On Sunday 29 June, we will be having our next full immersion baptisms at The 11. Ahead of this date, if you are thinking about being baptised, you are invited to two preparation sessions.

These sessions are for anyone who might want to explore full immersion baptism. We will be thinking about why we should be baptised and what the significance of baptism is.

The sessions will be held in the Octagon Room:

Sunday 18 May, 3-5pm

Sunday 8 June, 3-5pm

Sign-up at sjbchurch.co.uk/baptism



SERVING AT ST JOHN'S

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others" 1 Peter 4:10

Here at St John's, everyone has their part to play. God has given us all gifts to be shared and bless others, and one way we can do this is to serve on a team; honouring God with our time, and helping to make the life of the church happen. Read on to see what opportunities there are, and who to contact to get involved.



Welcome Team, Coffee, Reading, Practical Support

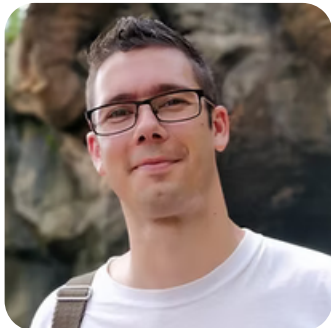
There is always need for help with Sunday services from start to finish, whether that is welcoming people, serving refreshments, doing a reading during the service, or helping set up. There is also lots to do around the church during the week.

If you would like to serve in this way please contact **Grace McSharry**, office@sjbchurch.co.uk



Technical Team

Our Technical team work behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of sound, visuals and live streaming during our Sunday services and events. If you already have skills in this area or are willing to learn, we'd love to hear from you- please contact **James Banks**, jbanks@sjbchurch.co.uk



Emerging Generations

On a Sunday and during the week, St John's has various opportunities for children and young people to come together, as well as for parents to connect whilst their little ones play. This includes:

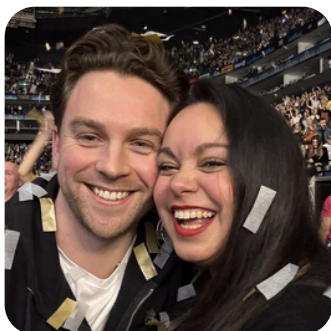
- Sunday Groups
- Tuesday Night Youth
- Mums of Little Ones (MOLO)
- A parent toddler group relaunching in the Spring

These groups can't run without our wonderful team of volunteers, but there is still a need for more people to serve. If you wish to get involved, please contact **Mike Corner**, mcorner@sjbchurch.co.uk



Foodbank

Every Friday, 6 - 7pm, a Foodbank is run from St John's. It is a vital lifeline for those in a time of need. If you would like to be a part of the team who serve on a Friday evening, please contact **Rachel Lowe**, rlope@sjbchurch.co.uk



The Worship Team

Our Worship Team serve us by leading us in musical worship during our services and monthly prayer nights. The worship team has a united vision to see God placed at the centre, and encourage everyone to be open to God's presence - leading to ever deeper encounters with him. If you are a skilled singer or musician, please contact **Daniel and Grace McSharry**, gmcsharry@sjbchurch.co.uk

VISION

GROWING DISCIPLES

Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. We must never lose sight of the mandate He has given us to go and make disciples of all nations. We're committed to growing as multiplying disciple-makers, because Jesus' call to make disciples is fundamental to how we want to build church.

We are committed to investing in our children and young people, to build our relationship with St John's School, and to help parents as they seek to disciple their own children.

Leadership Development is a key part of our strategy; we want to invest in everyone who leads in some capacity, seeking to find ways to support their growth. Putting on training for them, creating spaces for prayer ministry, and teams that support and spur one other on to grow in every area .

BUILDING A NETWORK

St Johns is a Resourcing Church within the Diocese of Leicester and we are called to constantly look beyond ourselves, seeking to make disciples, plant new, and revitalise existing worshiping communities of different shapes and sizes.

We are building a Network of Churches that will receive support and oversight from us. We partner with churches, as they seek to develop and grow, and we run conferences and leadership development that will equip church members across Leicestershire.

CHANGING A CITY

We love Leicester! Shaped by the words found in Jeremiah 29:4-7, we seek the peace and prosperity of the city we call our home. It is our mission to put our roots down and to love and bless our city. We are just one part of a much bigger picture of what God is doing in our city, and we believe that He wants to change our city as His Kingdom advances - to bring genuine cultural transformation across every area of life.

EVERYONE ALL IN

We want St John's to be a church where everybody belongs, contributes, and is supported. God is calling us to be extended family on mission. This means that everybody is:

LIVING FOR JESUS

Live as kingdom influencers wherever God has placed us and seeks to make and grow disciples like Jesus did.

PRAYING

Collectively and individually, we pray 'Your Kingdom come' as Jesus taught us to do. We do this in our personal prayer and prioritise attendance at our gathered prayer times including the week of prayer.

SERVING

We each seek to serve in different church ministries as Jesus calls us by joining a team. Find out more on the serving pages of this booklet.

GIVING

Find out more at sjbchurch.co.uk/giving, or pick up a leaflet from the giving station

BELONGING

Engaging with our Sunday services regularly, engaging with new groups as they are started and investing in informal relationships.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another."

Hebrews 10:24-25



NEW TO ST JOHN'S?

We'd love to welcome you.

Chat to a member of the team after a service, or get in touch with: hello@sjbchurch.co.uk

It is really helpful if you can add your details to our database so we can keep in touch, please go to www.sjbchurch.co.uk/new, or scan the QR Code.





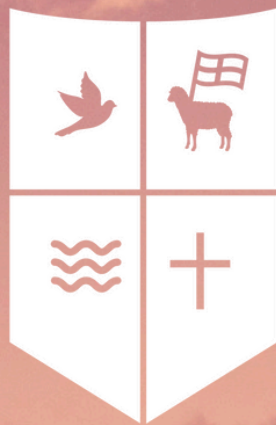
JOIN US ON WHATSAPP!

All the information and announcements about church life and upcoming events easily accessible in one place.

The benefit of a 'WhatsApp' community is that you will only get messages from us, instead of joining another busy WhatsApp group.

Your phone number and identity remains confidential unless you are already a contact in another member's phone. There is potential for us to expand into ministry specific groups within the community in the future.





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