

75p

CONTACT

MAY 2026



Some of our services are live-streamed to Zoom;
If you would like to join us online, please contact the Parish Office,
and we will send you the link!



The Parish of Hythe

SUNDAYS AT ST JOHN'S

YOUR CHURCH,
YOU'RE WELCOME

9:30am

BUBBLE CHURCH

10:15am

Morning Worship

11:15am

Holy
Communion

5:30pm

2nd Sunday of the month
Evensong
(British Summer Time only)



Not the Vicar.....

Not the Vicar's Letter....

So, Spring is well under way with all its possibilities... but whatever happened to dancing round the Maypole? I must have blinked and missed it!

As a Parish we're getting into the rhythm of our latest "Interregnum", the traditional name for the time in between one Priest and the next being with us as our teacher, companion and friend. That means a lot of extra busyness for some, and perhaps some disruption and puzzlement for others.

But there are so many good things! Traditionally it's a time when the congregation has space to let go of one Priest, with all his or her funny ways, to grieve over some things lost, and be excited over other things rediscovered.

Especially, it's a time for all of us to ask important questions of ourselves:

- What does it mean to be "church", and how is our community called to be different to others?

- What kind of community do we need to become, to be more like Christ?
- How can we be more welcoming of strangers and newcomers?
- How can we care for, love and forgive each other more practically and generously?
- As a community, how can we contribute to the wider life of Hythe and the Waterside?
- As a church, how do we care for our environment?
- How can we learn more about our faith week by week, not just giving a nod to Sundays?
- How can our worship, in differing styles, bring us closer to God and each other?

Only as we ask these questions of ourselves can we begin to think seriously about the kind of future direction we want to travel, and then ask what kind of qualities we need in a new priest to help us on that journey.

A new Vicar won't solve our problems.... they belong to all of us. But a Parish Priest is there to remind us that at the heart of our life together is Jesus of Nazareth, and his or her role is to help us model Jesus' life in the world around us.

The Interregnum is not a curse. And it's not a holiday! It's an opportunity we can and must embrace with faith, with hope and with love. So let's enjoy!



GIVING



Giving is part of our worship of God, and a way of showing commitment to His ministry in the Parish. If you would like to contribute to the work of our Parish, please use the QR code on this page to find out how, or visit parishgiving.org.uk to set up regular giving.

In Church, we also have a card machine which is easy to use and saves us handling cash. Please contact the Parish Office for further information or if you require help with th

WHO'S WHO?



Mr Craig Fowkes, Church Warden

075462187
craigfowkes@aol.co.uk



Mrs Sue Blomley, Licensed Lay Minister

023 80849482
sue.blomley@gmail.com



Reverend Edgar Ruddock, Retired Priest



Mrs Chris McMahon, Children's & Families Pastor

023 80844336
families@stjohnshythe.org



Mrs Hannah Rowlandson

023 80844336
office@stjohnshythe.org

PRAYER & DISCIPLESHIP

Did you know that we have numerous options for prayer here at St Johns?



Lectio 365

We have a monthly prayer diary that you can subscribe to by emailing the office on office@stjohnshythe.org. But you can also receive prayer on Sundays. Just ask one of the service leaders, or someone you trust if they wouldn't mind praying for you, and I'm sure they'd be delighted!

Many of us follow our own routine for daily prayer, and over the next few editions, I'd like to highlight some of the resources that are out there to aid you in your prayer life and walk with God.

The origins

Created to help you develop a deeper, daily connection with God.

Inspired by the ancient practice of Lectio Divina, daily devotionals guide users to pray the Bible through Scripture, reflection, and prayer each morning, midday and evening.

Since launching in 2019, Lectio 365 has helped thousands of people make prayer a regular, life-giving habit – wherever they are and whatever their day holds.



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MOTHERS UNION REPORT

It was a pleasure to meet with our Diocesan President, Sue Murphy, at our April meeting. She kindly came to enrol our three latest members, Val, Jackie, and Maureen, and explain to us the new 'clusters' arrangements.

There will be no official meeting in May, as 'Cornerstone' women's guild have invited us to their Anniversary service, followed by refreshments, on May 14th at 2.30pm. Please come if you can!!

Sue Harvey
June Smith



CHRISTMAS ANGELS.....

Dear friends, we're coming close to that time of year when we begin to turn our thoughts to Christmas angels. Again, I thank you for all the hard work you did in 2025 when we gave out 1700 angels. We couldn't do this without all your help, if you are new to the idea, I can send you patterns, knitting or crochet, by email, or deliver them to you, so you can join the growing gang of crafters. With many thanks for your continued enthusiasm, The angel lady (Sue Blomley)



sue.blomley@gmail.com.

Sunday 3rd May

We are looking forward to being joined by special guest, Bishop Rhiannon, for all of our services.

9:30am **BUBBLE CHURCH**

10:15am Morning Worship

11:15am Holy Communion

Everyone is then invited to a bring and share lunch at 12:30pm



Parish of Hythe

APCM Meeting

**Sunday 17th May
St John's Church**

**10:30am Combined
Service with Holy
Communion
followed by a bring
and share lunch
and the APCM
meeting.**





Parish of Hythe

MAY 2026

Notices and Diary Dates

**"But blessed is the one who
trusts in the Lord, whose
confidence is in him.**

Jeremiah 17:7



Welcome to our May notices and diary dates.

If you have a notice to be included in future months, please email
office@stjohnshythe.org

In order to help us save on our printing costs, if you don't already
receive this by email and would like to, please email
office@stjohnshythe.org

Sundays in May

Sunday 3 May

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's

10:15am Morning Worship at St John's

11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

12:30pm Bring and Share Lunch at St John's

Sunday 10 May

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's

10:15am Morning Worship at St John's

11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

5:30pm Evensong at St John's

Sunday 17 May

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's

10:30am Combined Service at St John's

followed by a bring and share lunch and the
APCM

Sunday 24 May

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's

10:15am Morning Worship at St John's

11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

Sunday 31 May

9:30am Bubble Church at St John's

10:15am Morning Worship at St John's

11:15am Holy Communion at St John's

Midweek Services

Every Wednesday at 10:30am - Holy
Communion at St John's

Friday 29th May at 3:30pm - Messy Church at
St John's

Weekly Activities

Mondays

1:00pm Little Footprints Baby Group at St Anne's
(except bank holidays)

Tuesdays

9:30am Coffee Shop in St John's Hall

10:00am Coffee Morning at St John's Church

Wednesdays

12:00pm Lunch Club in St John's Hall

Thursdays 1:00pm

Toddle-Winks Toddler Group at St Anne's (term time only)

Fridays

6:00pm Youth Club in St John's Hall (term time only)

Saturdays

10:00am Coffee Morning at St John's Church

Other Events in May

Saturday 2 May

10:00-12:00am Who Let the Dads Out in St John's Hall

Thursday 14 May

2:30pm Mothers' Union {visiting Women's Guild at Cornerstone}

Saturday 16 May 10:00am-1:00pm

May Fair in St John's Hall





God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

NOTICES

Bishop Rhiannon's Visit

On Sunday 3rd May, Bishop Rhiannon will be joining us for the morning. We will have all of our usual services

9:30am Bubble Church,

10:15am Morning Worship,

11:15am Holy Communion.

Afterwards, we will then all come together for a bring and share lunch at 12:30pm.

May Fair

Our May Fair will be taking place in St John's Hall on Saturday 16 th May. Please let Hannah know if you are able to help on the day. Your donations of good quality items to sell at the Fair will be gratefully received!

APCM

We will be holding our APCM on Sunday 17 th May.

That day, we will have Bubble Church as usual at 9:30am followed by a Combined Service at 10:30am. We will then have another bring and share lunch and the APCM meeting following the Combined Service.



St John's May Fair

ST JOHN'S HALL
Saturday 16th May
10:00am - 1:00pm

Plant sale
Wine draw
Books

Tea & Coffee
served all
morning

Crafts
Children's Toys
Cakes

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

St John's Hall, Hythe

10am - 12 noon

First Saturday of the month

Fun &
friends

Saturday 4th April

Saturday 2nd May

Saturday 6th June

Saturday 4th July

Lots of
toys

Games &
activities

Bacon
Butties



PRAY WITH US

Almighty God,

We turn to you as we witness the rising of conflict
and the fear laid upon ordinary lives.

Trusting in your steadfast love,
we hold before you our friends and partners across
the Middle East,
in communities already stretched beyond
endurance.

We remember before you all whose hearts are
filled with dread today.
Surround them with your protection.
Be a fortress for those who cannot flee
and a shield for those whose work is to heal and to
hope.

Open paths for wisdom, restraint, and justice
where none seem possible.
Give courage to peacemakers
and teach us to stand with those who suffer,
to pray without ceasing
and to hope, even now, in your redeeming love.

Amen.



No Greater Adventure: Find your Edge... at Spring Harvest 2027

Every Spring Harvest event has a theme - we always explore this theme together throughout all of the different seminars, celebrations, and kids and youth sessions. In 2027, our event theme is **NO GREATER ADVENTURE - FIND YOUR EDGE**. Inspired by Acts 1:8, it's about taking the gospel to the edges of the world - and discovering what your personal "edge" looks like.



A couple of sample quotes

1 ADULT 1 CHILD QUOTE

CATERED ACCOMMODATION

Comfort Room, 2 bedrooms - 1 double, 1 single - Upstairs	£807.00
Spring Harvest Child Discount	£20.00
ACCOMMODATION TOTAL	£787.00
Premium Dining	£219.60
Savings	£54.90
DINING TOTAL	£164.70
TOTAL COST OF YOUR HOLIDAY	£951.70

2 ADULT QUOTE

CATERED ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation	
Comfort Room, 2 bedrooms - 1 double, 1 single - Upstairs	£807.00
Premium Dining	£279.60
Savings	£69.90
DINING TOTAL	£209.70
TOTAL COST OF YOUR HOLIDAY	£1016.70

SELF CATERING

2 Bedroom Comfort Apartment - 1 Double, 1 Twin - Upstairs	£1276.00
Spring Harvest Child Discount	£20.00
ACCOMMODATION TOTAL	£1256.00

SELF CATERING

2 Bedroom Comfort Apartment - 1 Double, 1 Twin - Upstairs	£1276.00
2 Bedroom Comfort Plus Apartment - 1 Double, 1 Twin (Top Floor with Juliette Balcony)	£1436.00

If you are interested, I can send you an electrical copy of the booklet.

We already have a St Johns Party Booking in place which I can add you too.

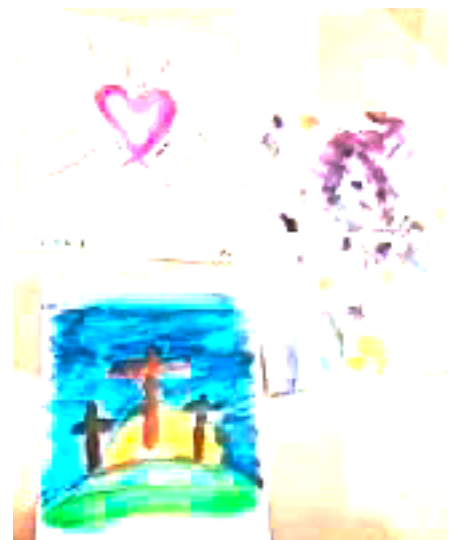
Please come and chat to me if you are interested or would like more information.

Blessings

Chris McMahon
Children & Families Pastor

Spring Harvest 26 – a group of 16 of us went to Minehead for Spring Harvest this year, the weather was wonderful all be it a bit windy! We all enjoyed the huge variety of Bible Study's, Worship, talks, activities and children/young peoples groups that were available to us. Along with fellowship together, relaxing, swimming, the fun fair and a walks along the beach. It was refreshing, enjoyable and my Christian battery charged. Thes pics give you a taste of what we enjoyed and did, and we are planning another trip next year we 11 of us already booked in, 6 more about to be booked in, have a look at the Spring Harvest 27 details in this magazine and have a chat with me, if you are interested in coming with us.











PALM SUNDAY



The procession with a donkey has been a tradition at St John's for many years, and is very popular with members of the congregation, young and old. This year's service was



Hop-In-Easter-Crafts – A massive thank you to all of you who offered and helped out at our Easter event, and Liz for keeping us hydrated so well. We saw a lot of families come into church and enjoy easter crafts and fellowship with us, and shared the true meaning of Easter.



Hythe Easter Trail – We opened up the Church as one of the stop off points in the Hythe Alive Easter Trail, and were visited by families popping in to do some Easter crafts, and a chat, thanks to Nikki



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Dibden Purlieu

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Lee's Licencing – a few of us made the long journey up to Ossett, Yorkshire, to attend the licencing service for Lee. We were warmly welcomed by his new church, treated to an amazing spread, we taught them a couple of songs with actions, attended Lee's 1st service with them on Palm Sunday, and had a tour of their church centre. It was an emotional weekend for some of us, but we could see how welcome he was and how the Church is so the right place for him to be. Praying that Lee, Emily and all the family settle quickly into their new homes and jobs.



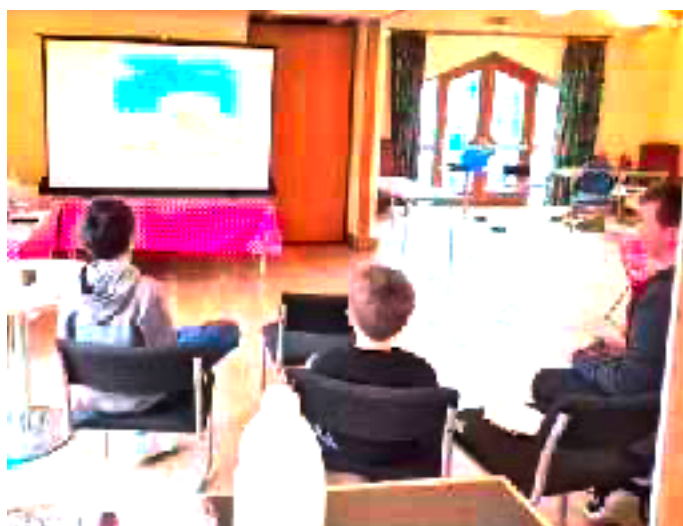


Bubble Church – All of our newly trained Service Leaders have completed their first services, and have done so well, we have been having very busy lively services, and meeting new families. We have had new adult and child team members join us, which is exciting.

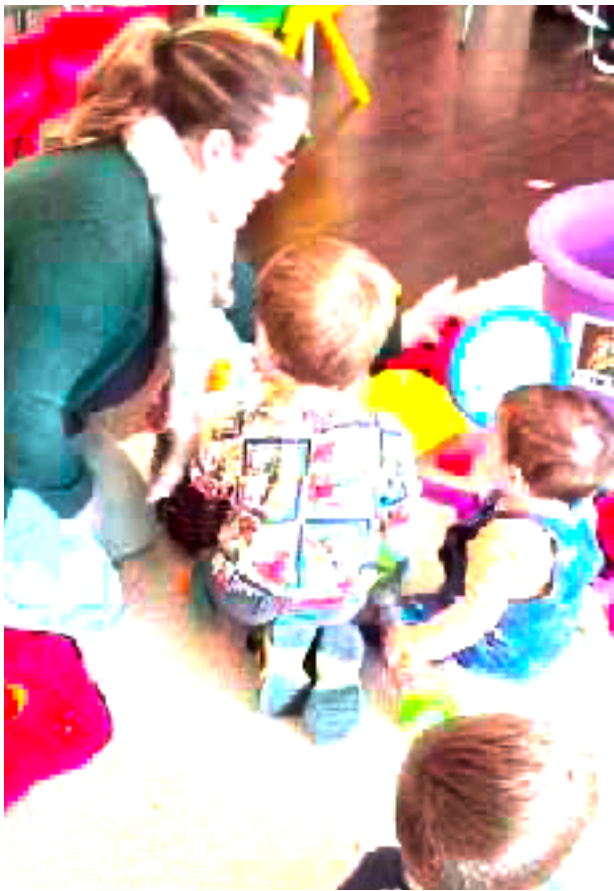




Who Let The Dads Out– Another successful meeting , where we also celebrated 2 dads birthdays. This monthly group is for all dad, grandfathers and male carers and their children, a chance to meet others, enjoy bacon butties and refreshments, playing and crafting with your children. Male volunteers to come along and welcome and join in the fun would be very welcome, have a chat with James, Craig or Tim.



Youth Activities – In Messy Church, Toddlewinks and Little Footprints (Inside & Out) , we celebrated the meaning of Easter together, through various activities, sharing laughter, stories, craft, singing, food and lots more.

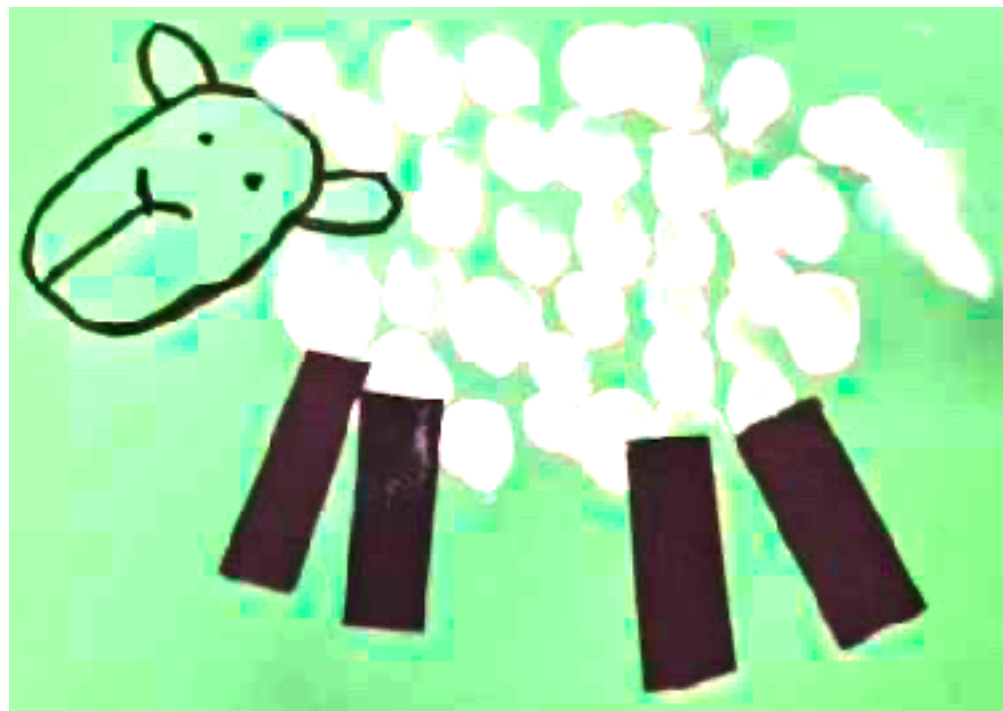


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Happy Easter

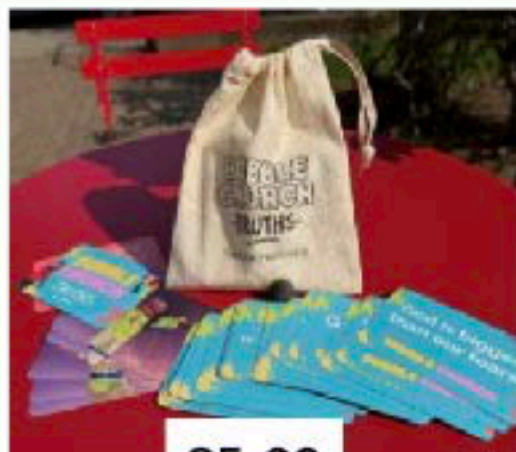




APPEAL: BIBLES FOR BUBBLE CHURCH FAMILIES

Would you be able to sponsor a new family in St John's & St Anne's to help them continue their faith journey?

£30.00



£5.00

We are thrilled to have baptised children from two Bubble Church families, this year and have more children and adults coming forward for Baptism & Confirmation who are part of our fellowship.

Good News Family Bible - We have presented bibles to these families and will be offering them a chance to join together and explore them as a family with other families.

Bubble Church Truth Cards - a new resource to equip parents and children to keep growing in their faith at home, especially where they might be beginning a journey of faith together.

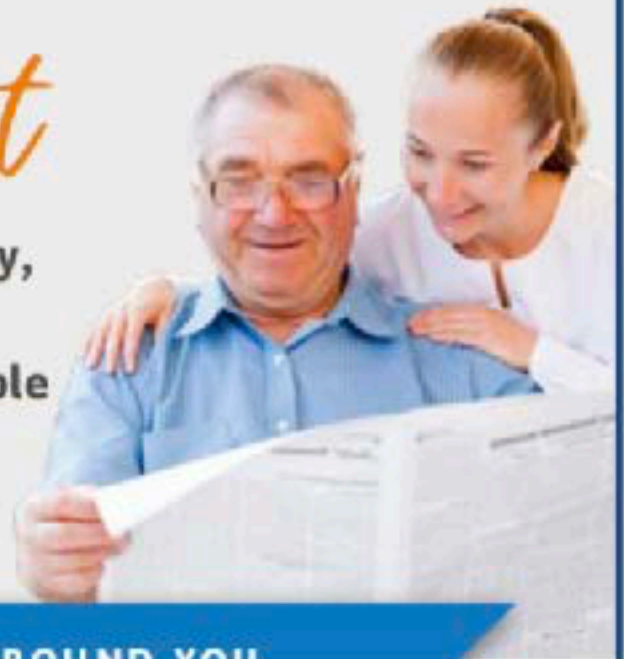
The idea is simple: a pack of cards in a drawstring bag that contain simple truths from God's amazing true story, the Bible, along with Bible verses that go with each of them. The truths will be familiar to Bubble Church families, as most are taken from the liturgy and songs.

If you are interested in sponsoring a family with either of these gifts please talk to Chris McMahon, Children's & Families Pastor, who can explain more how it all works.

Tel:02380844336 Email: families@stjohnshythe.org

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Applemore Health & Leisure

Tues 4.10pm Tots 3 - 6 yrs
Applemore Scout Hall

Wed 6.30pm Mixed class
Barley Jnr School

Sat 10am beginners/mixed
Applemore Scout Hall

JIU JITSU

Tues Mixed 6.30pm
St John's Hall Hythe

Thurs Mixed/Adv 6.20pm
Marchwood Scout Hall

TAI CHI

Mon Cobury Memorial Hall 09.30

Tues Royal British Legion Barley 09.30

Tues Dibden Purley Scout Hall 09.30

Fri Dibden Purley Scout hall 09.30

All enquiries please to:
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