



ST JOHN'S NEWS – 9 MARCH 2022

Dear friends,

Aid for Ukraine

Lent is a time of fasting and is a very helpful spiritual discipline. However, there is something even more important that we as Christians do:

*"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter -
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"
Isaiah 58:6-7*

Thank you everyone for the amazing response of giving to Ukraine. Five cars full of aid have been delivered to be loaded onto lorries in Bury St Edmunds.



We have been asked to stop collecting practical items for the time being and instead give online to aid agencies. Can I commend the Mission Direct JustGiving page. Mission Direct is the excellent organisation I went to Cambodia with and they are working with churches in Moldova through their partner Foundation Ancora. I am confident donations will quickly help many refugees in Moldova.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SupportUkrainerefugees>

Mission Sunday with Bring and Share Lunch – 20 March

I am delighted to welcome back Margaret Rugira from OMF who has been working as a missionary in Japan on 20 March. Margaret has visited us twice before and will be preaching and updating us on her work.

There will be a simple bring and share lunch afterwards (following coffee). This will consist of sandwiches, cakes, crisps and drinks. If you would like to join this, please let Peter whether you can bring some sandwiches or cakes – simply reply to this email. We have already arranged crisps and drinks.



Giving to the work at St John's

Some people have asked where they can get a Standing Order and Gift Aid form. You can download these forms here: <http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk/giving.php>. If you wish to give in this way (or amend your giving) please print and fill in the forms, marking the envelope "Treasurer." This can be delivered to Mike Schofield, Minerva, Fairmead, Elmswell IP30 9HT or to Mike Brown at church.

Services at church

In case you missed Sunday's All Age service, you can watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5Yytwtelnl>

This coming Sunday's main service is Holy Communion at 10:30am and the main reading is Luke 19:11-27 (The parable of the 10 Minas).

Annual Church Meetings – 24 April 10:30am

Our annual meetings will take place as part of the service on 24 April. It would be really good to have a second churchwarden to help Mike Brown or another assistant warden. Please pray for this important need and please also pray for new PCC members.

Prayer Meeting

The weekly church prayer meeting is on Zoom on Saturday at 9:00am for 40 minutes. To join, click <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6852951296>, or load Zoom and use Meeting ID: 685 295 1296 and Password: 816262. All welcome.

With every blessing in Christ,
Peter

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<http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk/>