

## The Result of Take 10

**James gave his first Renewal of Giving report in adverse circumstances.** 2018 was a memorable year for St John's - for all the wrong reasons. Our membership fell, and with it our income. In addition to those who died or moved away, we saw six people respond to the opportunity to join the new Pattern Church. This is an investment in evangelism in Swindon even though it constitutes a loss for us.

**James started with some bad news.** In 2018 our offerings, which we budgeted at a total of **£108,000** at the beginning of the year, in the end amounted to **£100,000**.

**Looking forward into 2019,** without a Renewal of Giving, we were projecting a gap of **£12,000** between income and expenditure for the year. That is a very significant sum. In the event, the Renewal of giving changed the picture a bit.

Of those people to whom we sent cards:

- 6% were people who had never given before and promised to do so
- 22% were people who had increased their giving
- 36% remained the same
- 10% needed to reduce their giving
- 26% did not respond

**In financial terms:**

- New giving will provide **£2,000**
- Increased giving meant a rise of **£6,000**
- We lost **£4,000** through reductions in giving.

This provides a full year forecast income of over **£96,000**; an uplift of around **£3,500** (noticeably more than inflation).

**We have reserves to manage the future.** Urgent repairs to the boiler will cost £4,000 but can be paid for from the Fabric Fund. We can hold our course and pursue the direction the PCC have set out.

**We will continue to maintain our support** for our mission partners and will be giving 11% of our offerings away.

**So, against a darker background than normal,** James pointed out that beating inflation at a time of great uncertainty in our nation is still a cause for celebration. Thank you to all those who responded. It's not too late to contact James should you feel able to confirm your giving for 2019. The higher the response rate, the more confidence we can have over our forecast income.

**Do look out for envelopes in the church foyer.** Where you have requested information or forms from James to help you with your giving, this information is all ready for you to collect.



**John Hodgkinson writes:** We can't believe the progress Sarah is making. We truly believe it's a miracle and down to prayer. The Muslim mosques in Peterborough are even spending time to pray for her recovery, Pete teaches a lot of Muslims.

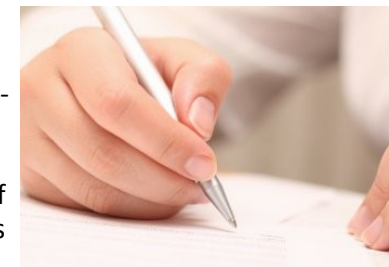
Thank God for the human race!

Sarah is now tubeless and is able to talk freely and eat solids. She still has to have amputations on her fingers and toes but she is now on a General ward. She doesn't remember any of the 4 weeks in Papworth but we thank you all for such strong prayerful consideration of her wellbeing. We are so, so grateful to you all.



## Electoral Roll Forms

Please remember to return your Electoral roll forms so that you will be listed in our church membership. We currently have 66 people who have yet to return their forms. No-one automatically goes on the Electoral Role this time, so please act if you wish to be represented as one of our members here at St. John's.



**Cath Sheldrake** would like to thank everyone for their love, support and prayers during her ongoing knee problems. A hospital appointment has confirmed that a right knee replacement is needed, the waiting list is 6 months. The left knee is not quite as bad as the right so the hospital can "maintain" that knee until the first operation has happened and then they will do the left knee.

## PCC Membership

It is not too early to start considering whether you would like to stand for PCC. The PCC consists of the vicar and lay members of the church. Together they are responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of their church, the church members, and the church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community. The basic guideline given is this: 'It shall be the duty of the minister and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern.'

**Who do we need?** We need visionary people who can set a direction for the future. We need people with the capacity to listen. We need people who can leave clear decisions in their wake and we need practical people who can get things done. And of course, need all of them to be spiritually minded and focused on Christ.



**Prayers:** Sue Branch is still suffering from restricted mobility following her fall at home some weeks ago; **Pauline Stacey** is suffering from a throat infection; **Cathy Sheldrake** has had good news about a future operation on her knee; **Cristina** is awaiting the results of an MRI scan following her stroke; We give thank for **Doris** who has made a good recovery after her recent illness; **Andy Hall** is currently struggling with his health and undergoing tests.

Mon 18th	9.30-11.30am 2pm	Pram Club Edna Webb's Homegroup in the Quiet Room
Tues 19th	8pm 8pm	Paul & Carol Nichol's Homegroup 20 Furlong Close David Rudland's Homegroup, Purton
Wed 20th	1-3pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Craft Club in Church Room The Bible Course in the Quiet Room Bill Hunt's Homegroup at 17 Rother Close
Fri 22nd	10.30-1.30pm	Rock Cafe

**Please pray for our church family**

<b>Mon 18th</b>	Val & Kate Bartlett
<b>Tue 19th</b>	James & Jo Bennett & family
<b>Wed 20th</b>	Val Bowditch
<b>Thurs 21st</b>	Sue & Ted Branch
<b>Fri 22nd</b>	Faure & Louise Breytenbach
<b>Sat 23rd</b>	Ian Bridge
<b>Sun 24th</b>	Allan & Cathy Brown & Sophie

**Prayer Circle**

Joan King will be looking after the prayer circles while Sharon is away between 16-30th March.

Joan can be contacted on [joanking@live.co.uk](mailto:joanking@live.co.uk) or by phone, Tel: 490396.

**Services Next Week**

<b>24th Mar</b>	9am 11am	Holy Communion Morning Praise	Simon Robertson Simon Robertson
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Parish Office Email: [parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk) or Telephone 726000. All items for the bulletin to the office in writing by first thing on Thursday. Thank you.



**Sunday Mar 17**

**2nd of Lent**



**"Something to laugh about"**

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Morning Prayer	Raymond Adams	Genesis: 1-15 Matthew 19: 23-26
11.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Genesis: 1-15 Matthew 19: 23-26