

All Things New



'So God created mankind in his own image'

Genesis 1: 27a



JOIN US ONLINE

<https://stgilesnorthampton.online.church/>

10am with Nicola Aylett and Ali Wagner

Bible Reading: Genesis 1: 1-8, 20-28 and 31

Talk: In the Beginning

Please join us for **breaking bread** together on Zoom at 10.55 am, after the service [864 6724 3848/stgbible](https://stgilesnorthampton.online.church/). And for those who wish to, stay on for the **Bible Zoom** at 11.15am.



JOIN US ONLINE

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7pm with Nicola Aylett and Ali Wagner

Bible Reading: Genesis 1: 1-8, 20-28 and 31

Talk: In the Beginning

7.45-8.15pm Coffee, chat and catch up on Zoom (all welcome)
Zoom Meeting ID: 816 7271 1469 Passcode: gather123



Families at St Giles are looking at the topic of 'In the beginning'. The activities and resources have been included in the covering email to this news sheet.

See the news sheet for details on our Pancake Party on Tues 16th!

News and updates

Budget and Finances Update

2020 was undoubtedly the strangest, toughest, weirdest year in living memory. It has depleted health, spirit and the economy. We all have individually endured and sacrificed. We have not been able to join together in our usual way and some of us have forfeited income and jobs too.

St. Giles has had to adapt and has done so well but our finances have been impacted by the pandemic. 2021 offers hope and light though and we look to the future with faithful eyes.

Next Sunday will see the launch of a new initiative, one that will restore our spirit, restore our finances and re-fulfil our vision. Please make sure you tune in, we're all in this together!

Staffing update

We welcome Nicola back from her study break and are glad to have her taking up her role as **Associate Minister**. Last week, we expressed our thanks to Maggie for what she has brought as our **Assistant Minister** in the last 3½ years. There has been some 'shuffling' of staff team responsibilities as a result of these changes. Some ministry areas are 'on hold' and awaiting some further discussions as we consider how to deal with areas which Maggie was overseeing.



For the latest information about the **Clergy Team responsibilities**, please visit our church website. <https://www.stgilesnorthampton.org.uk/our-people>

We wish Nicola and Maggie every blessing in this new chapter.

What's On...

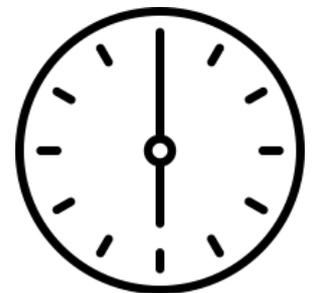
Call to prayer

You may be aware of the call by the Archbishops to pray at 6pm each day. For some of us, this is a mealtime or time we are travelling etc. Perhaps a reminder/alarm on a phone will prompt us to stop what we are doing and turn to God in prayer, beginning or ending with the Lord's prayer.

To join with others at 6pm, there are Facebook Live prayers at 6pm as follows:

24-7 Prayer UK: <https://www.facebook.com/247PrayerGB/>

The Archbishop: <https://www.facebook.com/archbishopofcanterbury>



Join Beth and Jo to make and eat pancakes and play some pancake games on **Tuesday 16th Feb at 12.30pm**. Sounds like great fun!

Click on the image to book your place on ChurchSuite.



What's On...

Bible Zoom

The popular **Bible Zoom** is back from this week on Sunday mornings. As before, there will be an opportunity for 'altogether' discussion and 'breakout rooms' to delve into the bible more deeply. We will follow on from the Sunday teaching which is based on **ALL THINGS NEW** for February and March.



So please come with your bible, your questions and be ready to participate. Reading Scripture in community is such an exciting venture and takes us on a journey from understanding the text more deeply to applying it more fully in our daily lives.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. James chapter 1

All Things New - Wednesday Hub

If you are not in a homegroup and would like to be part of a discussion group as we read 'All Things New', please join the Hub. We are starting on Wednesday online and will be meeting every week at 7.30pm from 10th February to 24th March to share our thoughts and ask questions. We would love you to sign up and join us! Sign up on ChurchSuite ([click here](#)).

Lent and Ash Wednesday



Many people associate **Lent** with slowing down (Latin "lento" = slow). Well, for many of us life has slowed to a standstill in lockdown while for others, we find ourselves with greater demands at home and at work and it is anything but slow!

For some, it is a time for abstinence and stepping back. Well I am sure that many of us have abstained from face to face contact, gathered worship and contact with our

families for long enough. If and when lockdown eases, there will be a sense of relief and a longing for things to pick up again!

Therefore at St Giles, we are NOT making any attempts to observe Lent in some of these traditional ways*. Instead, our focus is reading and studying ALL THINGS NEW together. And we are expressing our commitment to prayer in the invitation to join the **Call to Prayer** in the mornings (**830am**) and Thursday evenings (**8pm**). Where we can, we are also invited by the Archbishops to stop and pray at **6pm**.

As we prepare for and approach **Easter**, may this time of anticipation and preparation awaken in us a longing for **the resurrection power of Jesus** to be made manifest in our lives and in our nation. We pray that it will be possible to celebrate **Holy Week and Easter Sunday** with joy and celebration.

*** Note: There will be no Ash Wednesday service on 17th Feb but we will share details of any televised/streamed services from the Church of England if they are advertised.**

Love your neighbour

It's wonderful to know that our acts of kindness make such a difference. It's also brilliant when we add it together with what others do.

At Christmas we contributed to the foodbank, EVE and Baby Basics. We blessed our seniors and gave gifts to local nursing homes.

We delivered food boxes and wellness packs and bags of sunshine to women at St Giles! Our acts of kindness and generosity were a real blessing!

When you 'zoom out' and look at the national picture, the **Love your Neighbour** campaign at Christmas reached almost **778 thousand people**.

The church in the UK has truly stepped up to the plate so we can praise God for a wonderful initiative which brought hope and joy across our nation.

We look forward to helping many more households here in Northampton with love, practical care and support at this difficult time during 2021.



Linking Lives

It would be wonderful to enable those who are not on line to connect with us. If anyone has a spare electronic device (eg lap top/ipad/tablet) they would be willing to contribute please get in touch with the church office.



Thank you!

St Giles Prayer Diary

Please continue to pray for all who are mourning the loss of loved ones at this time.

This week, in our cycle of prayers, we are praying particularly for:
Jonny and Anna Dade, Church on the Heath, Stepping Stones (providing housing for the disadvantaged)

