



## **Finchampstead & California Parish News 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Parish Office, Baptism, Wedding, or Funerals, please ring 0118 9730133

Church Centre bookings for St James'; Sue Sampson 0118 9732069

Parish Centre bookings St Mary & St John's; Marjorie Stalker 01344 779636

Email: office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk Website: parish.finchampstead.co.uk

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Notices Contact: parishnotices@finchampstead.co.uk

Social Media: joannemyall@hotmail.co.uk



**Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesFinchampstead/>

**You Tube :** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBROBFfWjqOwt9smqlzhv-w>

### **Sunday 25 July – St James' Day**

**11.00am Parish Communion** – Join Canon John and Revd. Tonia's service on YouTube –

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBROBFfWjqOwt9smqlzhv-w>

### **Week - days**

Use the **Thoughts for the Day** prepared by Canon John based on the readings for this week's Morning Prayer. To access Morning Prayer online go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

### **Thursdays**

Bi-monthly prayer meeting at SMSJ Parish Centre at 8pm with Reverend Julian (2nd and 4th Thursday of the month)

### **Prayer**

Loving God, thank you for the appointment of Rev Leonard to be our new rector. Please be with him and his family as they prepare to join us. Please also be with us as our vacancy comes to an end. Amen

### **Notices:**

**The results of our Giving Appeal taking account of the Covid pandemic** - On behalf of the PCC may I very sincerely thank everyone who has made a one- off donation and/or increased their regular committed giving to church. There was an excellent response in one off donations. We expect the total amount given will cover our losses in 2020 of £43,000 and contribute significantly to our estimate of ongoing losses during 2021. There has also been a good response by increased regular giving, assisting our planning for this year and the future. If you still wish to contribute, please do so by our Patronal weekend when our appeal will close. If you have any questions, please ask. Best wishes Robert Alder. Planned Giving Coordinator. robert@alder.ndo.co.uk

### **A update about COVID-19 restrictions, services and events.**

Since last week's parish messages, we have received initial guidance from the government and the Diocese about services and church related activities following the changes in law and regulations effective from 19 July. We have been strongly advised to take the necessary time to consider them in detail. The ministry team and representatives of the churchwardens have met this week for an initial discussion. The current arrangements for church services will continue in the short term whilst we take time to carefully consider the new guidelines and how they might best be applied in our churches and buildings. We will continue with our current online services and in person services, including opportunities to worship outside where practical. Meeting to celebrate our patronal festival outside will go ahead with appropriate precautions. Should the weather be limiting we hope to be able to proceed, but will communicate further if necessary. The limit on numbers attending our services in church remains in force. In person services (except Family Services) should still be booked by using the Eventbrite link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/office-33226759523> . Bookings can be made up until 4pm on Saturday. If you have any questions or problems to do with bookings please contact the parish office (0118 973 0133).

We will provide further information as soon as we can. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Best wishes from your Ministry Team and Churchwardens.

### **Finchampstead & California Mothers' Union**

Because of the continuing Covid restrictions, our AGM, planned for Thursday 8 July will now take place in September. We still plan to celebrate our founder Mary Sumner's birthday with a picnic at 1pm on Thursday 12 August, at St James' Church Centre, using the centre's tables and chairs but bring everything else for your picnic. It will be so nice to get together, albeit in a different format as it has been so long since we last met. Your MU committee

### **Tech Help Urgently required**

We are very blessed to be in a position to be able to live stream services from St Eligius fortnightly in the future. However, we really do need a team to help with this if it is to be sustainable. Could you please pray and see if you feel you would like to join a small team to help with this vital ministry. While some technical ability is an advantage the main training will cover all that you need to know. If you would like to join the team or require further information, then contact Tonia. [tonia@steligius.church](mailto:tonia@steligius.church)

### **St James' Patronal Festival Weekend 24th and 25th July.**

We are going ahead with the free choir concert on Saturday evening and we will use the hall if it's raining. There will be tables so everyone can still bring their picnics and we hope the rain will hold off for long enough to allow us to have our singalong outside. Just come along at 6pm on Saturday. On Sunday we also have alternative arrangements if it rains on our garden party. Cream teas and stalls will be in the church centre so please still come along from 2pm.

Offers to Nicky: [nicky@alder.ndo.co.uk](mailto:nicky@alder.ndo.co.uk) or Sue: [sue@sampsononline.co.uk](mailto:sue@sampsononline.co.uk)

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*Names are listed for one calendar month. Please contact the Parish Office each month to confirm names as needed.*

**Parish Intercessions List – Please pray for:** Joyce Beckett, Bridget, Sophie Hall, Thea, Kate, Ann Pask, Colin Ramsay McClaren, Natalie, Louise, Reuben, Rosalind Drury, Simon, Bernadette, Andrew, Sarah, Daniel, Jack, June Warr, Hazel & Maurice Levy, Ann, Doreen and family, Linda Whiteside, Claire, Steve Prosser, the Thomas family, Amber and Paige, James, David Powell, Bob Helliwell, Pamela Redford, Meg Hostler, Barbara Hill and family, Maurice Driver

**And those who mourn the loss of their loved ones:** Lillian Dingle, Carlene Beattie, Rosemary Goodchild, John Fruin, Marjorie Judge, George Pollard