

Dear friends,

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor,  
so that you through his poverty might become rich.  
2 Corinthians 8:9*

It was a pleasure to welcome Val Dufour on Sunday and to hear her talk about the work of Tearfund and how we can help. If you missed it, do catch up on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnselmswell>. Next week is "Eco Sunday." Andy Mellen will be speaking about care for God's creation and the service will include the Lord's Supper.

The following Sunday, 1 October, is Harvest Festival and the service will be followed with a Bring and Share lunch. This will be a lovely occasion, when we can enjoy an extended time of fellowship with each other. Please sign up at the back of church. You are invited to bring tins and packets of non-perishable food to the service and all donations will be passed onto the Stowmarket and Area foodbank.

Sunday afternoon was a great occasion for families new(ish) to St John's to get to know each other. 26 people gathered for games, hot dogs, soft drinks and tea and coffee and all had a lovely time. Please keep praying for the church as we seek to grow in number, grow younger and grow in discipleship.



A reminder that St John's is switching to the *Parish Giving Scheme*, which will make the administration of our giving more efficient. You will notice QR codes have appeared on the pews. You can scan this if you wish to make a donation online to St John's or to start regular giving by Direct Debit. The introduction of this scheme is also an opportunity to review your financial support of St John's. More information is coming soon, but please note, if you have an existing Standing Order, you should stop this with your bank when you create a Direct Debit through PGS.

The weekly church prayer meeting is on Zoom on Saturday at 9:00am for 40 minutes. You are welcome to join us by clicking <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6852951296?pwd=hK0dRt6eX3LdUXcB-C4l8rcjKX1RVA> or, load Zoom and use Meeting ID: 685 295 1296 and Password: 816262.

A reminder that Pam Green's funeral takes place at the St Edmunds chapel, West Suffolk Crematorium on Friday at 11.00am

Finally, I hope you find using the lovely, new red cushions a comfortable addition to the church pews.

In Christ  
Peter

