

ORDINATION SERVICE FOR Mark Spiers and Paul Reynolds



Mark and Paul will be Ordained (DV) Deacons on Sunday 1st June at our 6pm Service.

Please come and support them as Bishop Paul lays his hands upon them on this important day for both them and St Andrew's.

The service will be followed by refreshments.

Come early to get a seat.

NEW CONFIRMATION CLASSES

These will begin Thursday 19th June, so if you are interested, please speak to Bishop Paul as soon as possible.

ORDINATIONS - God Willing Mark and Paul will be Ordained to become Deacons at tonight's Evening Service. Following the rehearsal yesterday both Mark and Paul feel confident they at least know what and where and when they do things during the service. St Andrew's has been really blessed with men willing to take on the challenge to serve. The role of a Deacon is found in scripture in Acts chapter 6. It was when the Apostles couldn't cope with all the



extra work so they appointed seven Deacons to help out. Just the thing Bishop Paul needs at this point in time. This service will also be a first for the newly approved Ordination Rite. Please continue to pray for Mark and Paul and Donna and Janet.

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BAPTISM

St Andrew's had yet another Baptism last Sunday. This was the twelfth so far this year. The pictures are of baby Lucas Jack Perry and parents, Laura and

Richard. Richard used to attend the church youth club many years ago before we had the church hall. How lovely he thought of coming back to us and sharing in the joy of parenthood. We must have sown at least a few good seeds. Some Baptism enquiries are coming from our website. Last Thursday Mark showed the Church Council the



Website and Facebook page. If you haven't the facility to see what it's all about (Alfie) just ask Mark or Donna to show you on the church computer. We get hundreds of visitors every week who are having a look at what we're doing, or not doing, more importantly. Thank you, Lord.



COFFEE & CHAT—FREE

The Coffee & Chat Shop will be open for business as usual tomorrow and every Monday.

Come and enjoy a chat and a specialised coffee or the best Bishop's Brew in Bentley! Toast is always available. The kitchen staff have stickyfuts to prove they can produce quality toast with jam and marmalade or just butter.

This is a free community project compliments of St Andrew's Church and you will, as always, be made very welcome.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

MINISTER ~ Bishop Paul Hunt, MSc

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329 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD WEST, WILLENHALL, WV13 2RL

CHURCH OFFICE : 01902 604044

CHURCH WARDENS

Colin Hunter & Mark Spiers BA(Hons) 1st Class

01902 601656

01902 632750

LAY READERS

Paul Reynolds, Colin Hunter and Mark Spiers

SUNDAY SERVICES

10am ~ Morning Service

11:30am ~ Family Praise

6pm ~ Evening Prayer

Holy Communion 1st am & 3rd pm Services

Mid-week activities:

- **MONDAYS** 10am to 1pm Coffee & Chat
- **TUESDAYS** 9:30am BWS Ladies Group
- 10am to 1pm Bishop in Denom. Office
- 7:00pm Bible Study
- **WEDNESDAYS** 7:30am Prayer Group
- 12:30pm Luncheon Club
- 2:00pm Friendship Club
- 7:00pm Youth Club
- **THURSDAYS** 11:00am Holy Communion
- 10am to 1pm Bishop in Denom. Office
- **SATURDAYS** 10:00am Saturday Workshop

MORE CHURCH CLEANERS REQUIRED (See +Paul)

NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

This will be held on **Monday 21st July** at 7pm.

LESSONS LOG

1st June—Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; Acts 1:6-14

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

am L-Colin, P Bishop; pm L & P-Bishop
ORDINATION SERVICE OF MARK AND PAUL

8th June—**PENTECOST**

Psalm 104:24-34, 29-31, 34; Acts 2:1-21;

Numbers 11:24-30; 1Cor 12:3b-13; John 20:19-23;

Ezekiel 11:17-20; John 7:37-39

am Bishop; pm L-Bishop, P-Paul

15th June—Psalm 8; Genesis 1:1—2:4a

2 Cor 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

am L-Paul, P-Colin; pm L & P-Mark

WEEKLY PRAYER UPDATE

- Lord, we pray for **Pamela, Chrissie**, and great grandson **Finley**.
- Lord, we put the following friends and congregation into your hands: **Mary, Julie, Jean, Hilary, Pam** and **Elizabeth**.
- We bring **Betty & Colin** before you, Lord. Keep them safe.
- Lord, thank you that **Arline** is keeping much better.
- Please pray for **Iris** and **Alan** with Alan's deteriorating health.
- Thank you, Lord, **Dan's Nan, Dot**, is much better. May it continue.
- Pray for **Audrey** who battles on with her mobility difficulties.
- Lord, we pray for **Carole** as she improves following an operation.
- Pray for **Doris** who continues to suffer with her sciatica.
- Remember too **Doris** (who sits with Sheila) who has been diagnosed with having Pleurisy.
- Thank you, Lord, for all the worship team **Nigel, Colin, Paul** and **Mark** who look after all the services, while Bishop Paul's away.
- Pray for **Jean's** husband, **Al** as he continues his cancer treatment.
- Give thanks that **Doreen** is a little better and was able to come to Monday's Coffee & Chat. Pray also for **Jimmy's Ukrainian family**.
- Pray for **Steph, Lucy's** carer, *as she is now well on with her treatment of Chemotherapy. Her sessions are every three weeks.*
- **John Haynes** came out of hospital last Wednesday, thank the Lord. John had baffled the specialists and consultants because of the remarkable recovery of his heart. The part that was dead is now miraculously alive again and the poorly valve has also repaired itself. This has left them all bemused, yet John has told them he knows things they, as clever as they are, don't know. He told them of all the prayers that have lifted up to God. What a wonderful witness to the power of prayer. Why should we doubt?
- Pray for the family of **Sharon Webb**, who was 54 years old. Her funeral takes place this coming Friday at Sandwell Valley.
- Give thanks for **Lucas Jack Perry's** baptism last Sunday.
- Pray for the family of **Gillian Hilary Edge**, who was 63 years old. Her funeral took place at Bushbury Crem last on Tuesday.
- Pray also for the family of **Heather Marie Walker-Jordan** who passed away on the 4th May, aged 54. Her funeral takes place on Friday 6th June at Church at 10:30am. Bishop Paul has now seen the family. Pray for husband Paul and children Heather used to attend St Andrew's and was always active at our Holiday Clubs and Youth Camps. Heather was just 54 years old and was always great fun to be around. Please pray for her husband **Paul**.



THE FINGER OF GOD

On this important weekend where two men will be Ordained from amongst us, I was pondering the importance of answering the call when the finger of God points in our direction. In Scripture, **the finger of God is seen in**

creation. The Psalmist David said, 'When I consider...the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him?' The Bible opens by telling us, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth' (Genesis 1:1). In a day when many challenge the inspiration and infallibility of the Bible, we need to teach our children Who made the universe, Who runs it, and to Whom each of us is ultimately accountable. In 1961 Yuri Gagarin, the first Russian cosmonaut to go into space, boasted, 'I looked and looked but I didn't see God.' Guess what? One day he will see God and stand before Him and be judged (Romans 14:11-12). We all will! Faith and reason are not necessarily opposed. But when reason won't take you another step, faith keeps on going because it connects you to God. The stars convinced David of God's existence.

They say if you counted stars at a rate of 125 a minute, it would take 2,000 years just to count the stars in our Milky Way. If you look you will see God at work everywhere-including your own life.



The finger of God in calamity. When God sent plagues that Pharaoh's wizards couldn't duplicate, they cried out in fear, 'This is the finger of God.' Finally Pharaoh got the message: 'Maybe God's trying to tell me something.' Ten times Moses stood before him with God's Word, saying, 'Let my people go.' Notice, God was only asking for what was rightfully His. The question is: What is He asking of you? Only when you say yes to God, like Paul and Mark are doing today, will things begin to go right for you! The sanctuary or the storm! God will bring you the easy way or the hard way. If you refuse to listen to His voice in the sanctuary, He will speak to you in life's storms. Pharaoh rebelled against the providential dealings of God and it cost him his kingdom and his life. Don't miss the lesson here. God wants what belongs to Him, what He bought and paid for at Calvary. He wants His rightful place in your life, which is first place. And you have an option: you can rebel against Him or respond to His love. If you feel God tugging at your heart today, it's because He wants to save you, use you and bless you. If you're wise you'll say yes to Him.



The finger of God in stone. Why do you think God wrote the Ten Commandments in stone? Because His principles are permanent and unchanging. You say, 'But what about all those people who have never heard God's Word? How will He judge them?' Paul answers: 'Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law...show that they know His law when they instinctively obey it...They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right'

(Romans 2:14-15). Your conscience acts like a compass. If you let it, it'll guide you right. But when you reject its warnings, its voice gets quieter and quieter until you can no longer hear it. Picture yourself standing on a bridge, dropping pebbles into a pond and watching the ripples go out to the edge. It's just a little pebble, but look at the effect it has! Yet in winter, when that same pond freezes over, you can drive a truck across it. Your conscience is like that.

The finger of God in cleansing. One day the Pharisees brought a woman to Christ. She'd been 'caught in the act' of adultery and they expected Him to condemn her. But instead, 'Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.' This is Jesus at



His best! He stooped down to identify with the victim in her shame, refusing to listen to the words of her accusers. Then He scattered them with a single statement: '...He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first'. Ouch! Then the One Who came not to tear us down but to build us up, said to her, '...Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more'. The question is, where would she find strength to live such a life? Through

Christ! Jesus sees every weed as a potential rose, every doubter as a potential believer and every sinner as a potential saint. Stop listening to the voices that condemn you. Stop beating yourself up over your failures. Come to Jesus today; He will cleanse you, make you whole and give you the life you've always longed for. No, I am not expecting to be Ordaining everyone in St Andrew's, but let us give thanks we are witnessing his hand upon those men willing to serve.



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BENTLEY

WEEKLY NEWS & PRAYER SHEET

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

1 JUNE 2014

ISSUE 360

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