



In 1950 the turnout for the general election was an impressive 83.9% but in 2010 it was only 65.1%. It dipped to an amazing low of just 36% in recent local elections.

Some commenters suggest that one of the major contributory factors here is that many people have become marginalised from the political process and unimpressed by the monochrome nature of some politicians.

Voting is an option in this country – as indeed is going to church. Interestingly, recent church attendance figures would seem to buck the perception many people have about a downward trend here too. It's not the case.

For example, did you know that just in the Church of England alone on average, over one million people attended Church each week showing no significant change over the past decade?

Or that over the year, the Church of England conducted over 356,000 services of baptism, wedding and funerals at an average of about 6,700 each week – that's almost 1,000 per day - marking the rites of passage in people's lives in local communities.

Be interesting to see if any other voluntary organisation within our society could match those regular weekly figures?

And if those reading these facts came to take a fresh look by visiting their local church one Sunday too – that might be very interesting.

Rev David Abbott

News and Upcoming Events

COFFEE and CAKES

Make this a special one. Bring friends and family.



And please contribute cakes or preserves if you can....

Our coffee and cake mornings on the last Friday of each month continue to

be popular. The next ones will be on Sept 26th (in aid of Macmillan), Oct 31st and Nov 28th (**Christmas Bazaar**).

Please ring Jane if you would like a lift. Tel: 878058

Pot Luck Lunches



Our popular Pot Luck Lunches continue on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Come at 1 pm, bring a dish and enjoy a short talk followed by a Christian reflection. It would help if you could let Annie know numbers: Tel: 851854

Wednesday 17th September

Wednesday 15th October

Wednesday 19th November

Harvest Festival and Lunch

The Harvest Festival is on October 12th at 10.30am. Harvest gifts will be donated once again to the Dacorum Food Bank.

Please join us for lunch in the Village Hall from 12 noon. Tickets are £12 (£10 concessions) and can be obtained from Edith Harkins 871040

Girls' Night Out



World Vision is holding a *Girls' Night Out* at Sunnyside Church on 26th September.

Carrie Grant is a star of Fame Academy, a motivational

speaker and a personal voice coach to the stars. Jo Enright is an award winning comedienne and star of Peter Kay's Phoenix Nights. It should be a great evening. Tickets are £5.00. Contact Jane: 878058

Historic Churches Trust Bike'N'Hike Saturday September 13th 2014

How many of our beautiful ancient buildings can you visit on feet or on two wheels in a single day? If you would like to join us for a great day out please contact Edith on 871040. Otherwise you can still support our historic churches by coming along to St John's on the day; we will be open to visitors and you may even get a cup of tea...

Hertfordshire Open Studios

From 22nd – 27th September Photographer Stuart Grieve and associates will be exhibiting in the Parish Room as part of Herts Open Studios. Our own Julie Wrathall is exhibiting at the Stables on Pouchen End Lane. Contact Julie on 07976 700737

SERVICES

Sept-Nov 2014

All are warmly invited to come and worship on Sundays at 10.30am and the second Sunday of the month at 6pm. The Remembrance Day Service at the Church will start at 10am.

Sept 7 Holy Communion
Sept 14 Morning Prayer

secondsunday@six
6.00pm

Sept 21 Holy Communion
Sept 28 Morning Prayer
Oct 5 Holy Communion
Oct 12 **Harvest Celebration –**
followed by lunch in the village
hall

secondsunday@six
6-00 pm

Oct 19 Holy Communion
Oct 26 Morning Prayer
Oct 29 Wednesday 9.30 am service
Nov 2 Holy Communion

Nov 9 Remembrance Sunday – 10am
secondsunday@six
6-00 pm Traditional Evensong

Nov 16 Holy Communion
Nov 23 Morning Prayer
Nov 30 Morning Prayer
6-00 pm Advent Carol Service

*Children are welcome at all services.
Please check the website for changes or updates to services*

St John's Church Bourne End



Contact Us

Vicar	Rev. David Abbott	865100
Officiating minister	Rev. Dick Clarkson	873014
Reader	Stephen Fletcher	864322
Church Wardens	Helen King John Marshall	862327 219776
Treasurer	Edith Harkins	871040

Hiring the Parish Room

The Parish Room is available to hire. For enquiries: jane.manson@btinternet.com or 01442 878058

Holy Communion at home

If you are unable to attend Communion at church, we are happy to come to you. Please contact the vicar.

Village Prayers



Our prayers in church each Sunday include prayers for the residents in each of these roads in turn. In this way we can pray regularly for all the residents of our village. Please let us have your prayer requests.

Sept Residents of London Road
Oct Residents of Sharpes Lane and Pix Fm
Nov Residents of Bourne End Lane

Choir

If you would like to join the Christmas Choir in preparation for the Carol Service on December 21st, please contact Helen King on 862327

NEWSLETTER September October November 2014

Sign up for email newsletters at:

www.stjohns-bourne-end.org.uk

OR

email: jane.manson@btinternet.com

follow us on Twitter @StJohnsBE