



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

3rd October 2021

READINGS

Mark 4 v1-9

MUSIC

Jesus is Lord (MP 367)

Our God is a great big God

Come you thankful people come (MP 106)

We plough the fields and scatter (MP 732)

A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS

Welcome to our Harvest Festival this morning both in church and at home. It is a pleasure to welcome Bishop Andrew as our guest speaker today. We also welcome back representatives of the uniformed organisations. We congratulate Viv Frisby on her Silver Wolf award for her longstanding service in scouting. All gifts brought today will be given to Epsom and Ewell Food Bank.

This is the last 10am service (with the occasional exception) as we move to two services on a Sunday. The 9:30am Holy Communion will be the same as what was previously at 10am. Coffee will be served in the church at 10:30am and will provide a meeting point for both congregations and a welcome to those arriving for the contemporary, family friendly service which we are calling "Worship for Everyone" at 11 am.

Running 2 services on a Sunday morning will be costly in terms of time and effort but we believe that this is the way forward for the future ministry of St John's to a new generation. Please make this a subject of your prayers.

God bless you

Ken

CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EXHIBITION

CRE will be at Sandown Park from 12-14 October. For more information or tickets, please visit <https://creonline.co.uk/cre-national-2021-sandown-park/>

Rev. Ken Hobbs

THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

Thursday morning coffee via Zoom at 10:30am is still taking place. For the Zoom link, please email the office.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

KEEPING IN TOUCH AND PRAYERS

The WhatsApp group, Facebook and website will continue to be updated so please keep in touch. Any prayer requests for the prayer board can still be submitted to Jean Tutton.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

SUNDAY SERVICES

All live services in church are now being streamed via <https://stoneleigh.tv>. Any problems, please let us know.

For those joining manually the code you need is 9655 8696378.

To join using the telephone, please dial 020 3051 2874

You will be asked to enter the meeting ID followed by # (hash).

Key in: 96558696378#. You will be asked for a personal ID, just press # again and you will be connected to the Service.

Tim Rogers

SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER

Following the TWAM event on Saturday the 9th, the halls will be out of use and coffee will be served at 10:30am in church after the 9:30am service and as people arrive for 11am. This is also a test run for the safe and efficient serving of refreshments in the church on a regular basis so that it can become the meeting point between the two congregations.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

I am pleased to say the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Diocese was a great success. He spoke to over 5000 people over the course of the weekend. Looking ahead, the challenge is now to encourage as many as possible of those who heard Archbishop Justin to join in an enquirers' course in a local parish. Going alone to a church-run course is a difficult step for many, so you may like to encourage people to accompany their guests on the first night. You will find later in the newsletter information about our upcoming Start! course.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

PERSONAL BIBLE READING

It is a vital and healthy habit and we commend it to you. The Bible Reading Fellowship and Scripture Union are two well established ways of doing this. On the table by the door are samples of Scripture Union's "Encounter with God", one of several produced by them and there is an order form there if you wish to give it a try. Annual subscription is either £16 or £19 per year. If you would like to know more about how Bible Reading Fellowship works, do talk to Sue Pennington.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

REAL ADVENT CALENDAR

"The Real Advent Calendar is a great idea. Not only does it raise money for good causes and is made from Fairtrade Chocolate but it also tells the Christmas story."

Alan Titchmarsh

The Real Advent Calendar is available to buy online only this year <https://www.eden.co.uk/real-advent-calendar/>

Rev. Ken Hobbs

JOB VACANCY

The Foodbank are recruiting for a full time Administration Assistant. For more information about this, let the office know and Kerrie can forward you the full email that we received from the Foodbank about the vacancy.

Polly Elder

PROGRAMME CARDS

Programme cards for Autumn 2021 are available at the front of church. The theme is 'Building for the Future, the Story of Nehemiah'. Please take one home.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

DEREK PAVEY MEMORIAL

There will be a memorial for Derek Pavey on Saturday 16th October at 2:30pm. All are welcome to come and celebrate the life of Derek.
Rev. Ken Hobbs

FOODBANK

Harvest. Even though most of us are no longer ploughing & scattering the seed we all love this festival of thankfulness. When I was small I believed that God provided our dining table. Each day we'd gabble through "Thank you God for a very nice dinner/tea please may I leave the table"! Even though comprehension may have been a trifle slow I think it's sad that saying Grace for our meals seems to have gone out of fashion. Thank you for showing thankfulness for our daily meals by supporting the Foodbank as well as you have this year. Do you have a favourite grace? This was my Father in law's 'Some hae meat and canna eat, And some wad eat that want it, But we hae meat and we can eat, And sae the Lord be thankit.'

This week the Foodbank has asked for:-

Female & male deodorant, Powdered Milk, Shaving foam, Shower gel, Noodles (dried egg/rice noodle or straight to wok), Squash, Tinned fruit, Coffee, Kids toothbrushes, Meat pies, Sugar (500g bags, ideally), Bags for Life - we urgently need these

Please, no more donations of the following items at this time:

pasta, baked beans, porridge, baby shampoo, tampons, sanitary towels, marmalade, cat/dog food, adult toothbrushes.

Polly Elder

FACEBOOK

If you're not already a follower of the St John's Facebook page, please find us and like our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnschurchstoneleigh>

I regularly put updates on Facebook about what is going on at St John's and I'd be grateful if you could like and share the posts with your friends and the community groups you are part of. Thank you.
Kerrie Winter

START COURSE

I will be running a 'Start' course over 6 weeks from Wednesday 3rd November. For more information, please see the flyer which is available at the front of church or speak to me.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

TWAM

Please be reminded that we are collecting tools for TWAM on Saturday 9th October. More information about what is being collected is on the leaflet at the front of church.

Claire Cornell

Order of Service

Welcome and Introduction

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse that there may be food in my house...and see if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it!" (Malachi 3.10)

Hymn Jesus is Lord (MP 367)

Confession

O God our Father, we confess that we have often used your gifts carelessly and acted as if we were not grateful. Hear our prayer and in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

When we enjoy the fruits of the harvest but forget they come from you then Father, in your mercy,
forgive us and help us.

When we are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry and those in need, then, Father, in your mercy,
forgive us and help us.

When we are thoughtless and do not treat with respect or care the wonderful world you have made, then, Father in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

When we store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven, then Father, in your mercy, **Forgive us and help us.**

Grant us thankful hearts and a loving concern for all people through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Interview with Bishop Andrew

Scout presentation

Song Our God is a great big God (On screen)

Video The Parable of the Sower (from Friends and Heroes)

Prayers

For the rich soil of the countryside; for good seed and the corn springing out of the earth we thank you Lord
and praise your holy name.

For the life giving rain and the ripening sun and for the harvest they bring we thank you Lord
and praise your holy name.

For the yield of the forests, the earth and the sea we thank you Lord
and praise your holy name.

For all who work on the land, in the mines or on the sea and for their courage in the face of disappointments we thank you Lord
and praise your holy name.

For all those who work in our shops, offices, industry and transport to meet our needs we thank you Lord
and praise your holy name.

We continue to pray for the needs of the world

Our Father in heaven; hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come; your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us/

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

Now and for ever. Amen

Hymn Come you thankful people come (MP 106)

Mark 4 v1-9 read by Maggie Savill

Again he began to teach beside the lake. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the lake and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the lake on the land. He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.' And he said, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

Address Bishop Andrew

Hymn We plough the fields and scatter (MP 732)

Be with us Lord as we go out into the world. Help us to care for the world you have made and for those who share it with us. We pray that the seed of your word will grow in our lives to produce a rich harvest. May the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth; may the ears that have heard your word listen only to what is good and may our lives as well as our worship be always pleasing in your sight, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing Bishop Andrew

Book of Remembrance

Evelyn Dorothy Boxall, Jean Martin,
Sydney William Ramshaw