



# St John's, Stoneleigh

## Weekly Newsletter

28th August 2022

### A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS

Welcome to our 10 am service at St Johns and at home for our last combined 10 am service this summer

We are looking at the well-known parable of the Prodigal or Lost Son this morning. Geoff has given two talks on Prayer and Healing this month. We anticipate offering prayer ministry after some services for any who would like to receive it for themselves or on behalf of others

Do make time to pray for all the events that are planned for St Johns in the autumn along with the distribution of the Magazine Details of some of them are given below

Next Sunday we kick off (no pun intended!) our autumn series "Meet the Team" at both 9 30 and 11.00 The first member of the team is Andrew

God bless you

*Rev. Ken Hobbs*

### RENE GRACE

We received the sad news last week that Rene Grace has died. Rene was a much-loved member of the St John's family who served as an ordained minister here over many years. We give thanks for a wonderful woman whose life shone with Christ's light and whose faith brought blessing and encouragement to so many others. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Please remember her family in your prayers. We will advise of the funeral arrangements as soon as we know.

### PETER COTTAT

Please also hold Pat Cottat in your prayers whose husband Peter died last week. Pat has been a member of St John's for many years and has devoted herself to caring for Peter in recent times. May God bless and comfort her in her loss.

### HOSTING GUESTS FROM UKRAINE

Anne and I are delighted to be hosting our new Ukrainian guest, Sasha, who has been living with us at the vicarage for the past 7 weeks. Sasha has a friend - a young woman with two boys aged 7 and 5 - who is also looking to leave Ukraine and needs a host family in the UK. It would be lovely if she could find a place in Stoneleigh so they could be close to each other. If anyone is willing and able to host this family, or if you know of someone who could, can you please let me know? It is a real blessing to help those in need.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

### CONCERT

On Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> a concert with Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley will be at St John's. Paul Jones was the lead singer for Manfred Mann and the Blues Band and they will be sharing their faith in words and music and speaking at both Services on the Sunday. This is a significant outreach event for us and our local churches. Details to follow on tickets etc. in due course. Book the Date!

There is a sign-up sheet at the front of church so we can get an idea of numbers. Please add your name and how many tickets you intend to buy. Many thanks.

*Rev. Ken Hobbs*

### SUNDAY SERVICES

Our 10:00am service is streamed via <https://stoneleigh.tv>. Any problems, please let us know.

*Tim Rogers*

### START COURSE

On Tuesday, September 27 at 7.30pm, we will be embarking on another edition of the Start Course. This is a six-week course exploring the basics of Christianity. The format is an informal discussion group with video clips, music, prayer and lots of opportunities to share stories and ask questions. Please speak to me if you - or someone you know - is interested in joining.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

### CHURCH CLEANING

We are currently short of people who can occasionally help clean the Church. If you are able to assist, can you please speak to one of us? Thank you.

*Church Wardens*

### THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

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



### UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

#### Priority List:

Food in jars, pot noodles, energy and protein bars, rice, pasta, coffee, tea, baby food, baby formula, toiletries, cleaning materials.

### DONATING TO ST JOHN'S



If you would like to contribute financially to the work of St John's, you can donate using this QR code. Using your smartphone's camera will take you straight to a page where you can make a donation using a credit card. Thank you.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

### CRAFT CLUB

Our Craft Club for September will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September from 10am to 12 noon.

*Veronica Gittins*

### OFFICIAL OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS

We are phasing out our old BT email address and it will stop working later in the year. When sending emails to the St. John's

office, please update your address book and use office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk if you can.

**Tim Rogers**



### Flowers for the Church

Please speak to Anne Andrew if you would like to donate flowers to be displayed in the church, perhaps in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. We would be delighted to hear from you and write a dedication to go in the newsletter and be displayed in the church.

**Anne Andrew**

### FOODBANK

**They urgently need:** Cooking sauce, Tinned meat (not corned beef, we have lots) Powdered Milk, Tinned Soup, Tea bags, Longlife Sponge puddings, Rice, Noodles (not pot), Shampoo, Conditioner, Male/Female deodorant, Adult toothbrushes (Singles please, no packs of two or more), Chocolate/Treats..

*Please no more of these items as they are fully stocked:* Pulses, pasta, beans, washing up liquid, cat food, dog food, peanut butter, non-dairy milk.

**Polly Elder**

### MORNING PRAYER ON MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

There will be **no** Morning Prayer on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August, due to this being a Bank Holiday.

### Readings for 10am

#### Ephesians 2:1-5

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*We stand*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

#### Luke 15:11-31

Jesus continued: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them.

'Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

'When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am

starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants." So he got up and went to his father. 'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him.

'The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." 'But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate.

'Meanwhile, the elder son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. "Your brother has come," he replied, "and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound."

'The elder brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, "Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!"

"My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Bloopers and Blessings – Preachers and Pastors

Early one Sunday, a mother went in to wake her son.

"Wake up, son. It's time to go to Church!"

"No Mum, I don't want to go. The choir don't like me, the congregation hate me and the sermons are boring! Give me two reasons why I should go to Church"

"Well son, for one, you're 55 years old. And for another, you're the vicar!"