



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

27th November 2022

A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS

Welcome to our worship at St Johns and at home at our combined service at **10am**.

In the Spring of 2019, the Bishop of Guildford asked me to consider coming to St Johns and help the church after a rather unsettling and difficult period. I have been effectively on a long-term secondment from St Paul's Howell. I asked for two things (a) Could we still live in our own house in Cheam and (b) Could I have a curate/associate minister with experience who could work alongside me, live in the vicarage and assume the leadership of the church. You all know the story! When the adventure began none of us had any idea what the impact of COVID would be!

We thank God for His faithfulness to us and we give thanks for the growth of the church over this time.

I will be saying thank you on Sunday morning but I want to place on record my thanks to all of you who have supported Margaret and I through these challenging years, It has been a privilege to serve you and I warmly commend Geoff's ministry and leadership to you for your prayers.

God bless you and Goodbye!

Rev Ken Hobbs

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

There will be refreshments and a presentation in the parish centre for Margaret and Ken. Everyone is warmly welcome.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

November 26th at 7.30pm Bryn Haworth

December 2nd at 8pm – Beer and Carols

ROCK CHOIR CONCERT AND CAROLS ROUND THE TREE, December 9th from 6.15pm

There is no charge for this event but there will be collection buckets available for anyone who would like to make a cash donation for the RUSH School, Kenya to provide a nutritious Christmas meal for orphan children and widows, in the village of Kakamega. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available.

WORSHIP BOOKLETS

The 'Worship at St John's' booklets that we are currently using at the 9.30am service and which have served us so well during Covid and Lockdown will be replaced in Advent by seasonal service books based on those which were used at St John's a few years ago. This will enable us to introduce appropriate seasonal variations to the Liturgy and should make it easier to follow the service. The Advent season service booklet will be made available before the end of November and be posted on the website.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS CARDS

The St John's Christmas cards are now ready for distribution. At the front of the church there is a signup sheet, the Christmas cards are on a table inside the parish centre for those who are willing and able to deliver them.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

We will be holding our Christmas Carol Concert on **Sunday December 18th at 6.30pm**. Please save the date and we would love

as many of you as possible to join the choir. Signup sheet is at the front of the church. The rehearsals will be on a Wednesday from 7.30 – 9.00pm with a rehearsal on Sunday 18th December from 4pm – prior to the actual service.

Chris Webb

SUNDAY SERVICES

Our 9.30am service is streamed via <https://stoneleigh.tv>. Any problems, please let us know.

Tim Rogers

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL



With Christmas quickly approaching please can we add a few extra seasonal items to our list as follows:

Chocolate tubs – Celebrations, Heroes etc. Biscuit Selection boxes, Victoria, Foxe's etc, Marshmallows, Assorted Roasted Nuts. Hot Chocolate. Soup packets and tins.

Thank you so much for your support.

Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee Contact

UKRANIAN REFUGEE NETWORK

Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network urgently needs to find more sponsors and landlords for Ukrainian refugees. If you or anyone you know could consider taking in a refugee, please speak to Rev. Geoff.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

MAVIS REDRUP'S FUNERAL

Chris and her family would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers following the death of Mavis. You are all warmly invited to a service of thanksgiving at 1.30pm on Thursday 1st December followed by refreshments in the parish centre. In lieu of flowers there will be a collection for the Children's Trust which was a charity that Mum had supported for many years. If you would like to stay for refreshments, please add your name to the signup sheet by the North door. Many thanks.

Chris Redrup

CAFÉ THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER

The Café will not take place for this day only.

GRAHAM KENDRICK CONCERT WITH INTERNATIONAL NEEDS

International Needs will be hosting a concert with Graham Kendrick on Saturday 3rd December.

To find our more details and to book your ticket, please visit our website here: <https://ineeds.org.uk/events/celebration-2022/>

BEER AND CAROLS

Join us at The Station pub at 8pm on Friday 2nd December. Come along and sing your favourite Christmas carols with a carol sheet in one hand and your drink of choice in the other.

FOODBANK

Items for the Christmas Goodie Bags are still needed - closing date is **December 2nd**. Lists of what is needed are on the table at the door. Cash donations towards fresh vegetables and meat or gift cards to help parents to get a present for their children are also gratefully accepted. Please put them in an envelope marked Christmas Foodbank and hand them to a welcomer or a church warden.

This week stocks of the following are very low - can you help out at all please: - Male deodorant, Kid's toothpaste/adult toothpaste, Sanitary towels/tampons, Sugar - 500g bags, Custard, Gravy granules, Instant coffee - 100g jars, Chocolate spread, Dog food, Crisps (multipacks).

They would also appreciate any bags for life/very strong bags

No more of these items please: washing up liquid, pasta, pulses, non-dairy milk, peanut butter, baby wash.

Bless you all.

Polly Elder

MICHAEL EMMETT – A TRUE STORY OF REDEMPTION

Saturday 26th November 2022 at 9.00am to 12 noon

The event is free and will include a full cooked English breakfast, Michael Emmett's Testimony, a short discussion on churches collaborating on men's activities and a period of worship. The event will take place on Saturday 26 November 2022 at 9am to 12am at Stoneleigh Baptist Church, The Glade, Stoneleigh, Epsom KT17 2HL. For more details, please see the flyers at the front of the church.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

Order of Service 10.00 am

Welcome and Greeting Informal welcome – Farewell & Advent

Rev. Geoff Andrew

When Moses finished reciting all these words to all Israel, he said to them, "Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you—they are your life. By them you will live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to possess."

(Deut 32:45-47)

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (MP 493) 1,2,4,5 **Chris Webb**

Lighting of advent candle (family to assist) **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

Advent 1

God of Abraham and Sarah
and all of the patriarchs of old,
you are our Father too.

Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of David.

Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth
to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit
to make his home among us.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the Light who is coming into the world.

**Lord Jesus, Light of the World,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts this Christmastide,
be king of our lives today.**

KidZone

Worship Song: Be Still for the Presence of the Lord **Grace & Team**

Confession

Rev. Geoff Andrew

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,

and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

May the God of love bring us back to Himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of His eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Peace

Rev. Geoff Andrew

Worship Song: No Longer Slaves

Grace & Team

Bible Readings

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Chris Grayling

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Mark 1: 14-20

Chris Grayling

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Talk: Joining God's Team

Rev. Ken Hobbs

Reflection: Brother, Sister, Let Me Serve You (MP 1261) **Tim/Nick**

Prayers inc. the Lord's Prayer

Janis Forder

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray...

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
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: Lord for the Years (MP 428) vs 1,2,4,5

Chris Webb

Closing Prayers: Commissioning
Releasing

**Rev. Ken Hobbs
Rev. Geoff Andrew**

Blessing & Farewell: Picture roll with music (You'll Never Walk Alone)

Rev. Ken Hobbs

From Our Book of Remembrance
Jean Abbotts