



# St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

I'm delighted that so many of us are participating at the planning meeting this Saturday morning, facilitated by Emma Coy from the diocese. This is the first step of the process that will ultimately lead to us producing a Church Development Plan which should be finalised before Easter. If you can't make the meeting, please do pray for us, and continue to hold St John's in your prayers as we trust God to lead us into an exciting, fruitful and fulfilling future. Have a blessed week!

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## MESSAGE FROM JANET ALDER

Firstly, Janet would like to thank the kind person who bought a new mat for Nugget, it was much appreciated. Secondly, Janet is knitting a blanket for Nepal and is asking if people can donate any spare wool they may have.

## CORONATION STREET PARTY

Last Summer, St John's played a central role in the Stoneleigh Park Road Queen's Jubilee Street Party. The organising committee (of which I am a member) has reconvened to plan a similar event for the King's coronation. The Street Party will take place on the day of the coronation, Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>, from 2pm to 6pm. We are looking for some additional people to help with the planning, so if you live on SPR or one of the adjacent roads, please let me know if you would like to lend a hand. For everyone else, wherever you live, please consider whether you can help on the day to set up or take down or assist during the event. The Street Party is a wonderful way for us to enhance our visibility and extend our hospitality to the community in Jesus' name. (Oh, and please pray for good weather!).

*Rev Geoff Andrew*

## COURSES RUNNING AT ST PAUL'S, HOWELL HILL

### New Beginnings

*New Beginnings* is for anyone suffering a divorce, separation or broken relationship. Its aim is to help people to come to terms with the past and make a fresh start in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

The group begins on **Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.45 pm**. It is free, lasts 10 weeks, and is open to everyone. For more information, or if you wish to come, please call Colin on 07855 245 619 or [new.beginnings@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:new.beginnings@blueyonder.co.uk)

[www.saintpauls.co.uk/NB](http://www.saintpauls.co.uk/NB)

### Exploring Anxiety and Depression

This self-help group seeks to provide helpful perspectives in a friendly and supportive atmosphere, but does not provide counselling or therapy. Professional and experienced speakers help us to look at various ways of combating anxiety and depression. There is also ample time for discussion. The 10 week course starts on **Wednesday, 22nd February at 7.45**

pm and is free of charge. If you would like to come along, or wish to discuss whether it would be right for you, please contact Judith [exploringanxietydepression@gmail.com](mailto:exploringanxietydepression@gmail.com) [www.saintpauls.co.uk/EAD](http://www.saintpauls.co.uk/EAD)

## SERVICE BOOKS

Ordinary Time Service book is available in church and on the website at:

<https://church.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Advent-Season-Service-Book-2022-11-29.pdf>

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

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

*Tim Rogers*

## CHANGES IN THE PARISH CENTRE MANAGEMENT

David Wiltshire has been involved in managing our Parish Centre Hall (and previously Dell Lane) for over 66 years. He was very involved in making the Centre, which is such an asset for St John's, a reality. His most recent role has been invoicing regular hirers. He has now decided that the time has come to retire. We have to say a very big thank you for so many years of faithful service and wish him a happy retirement! Claire Cornell is taking over responsibility for invoicing.

Jean Tutton has also decided that after 10 years in the role the time is right to stand down as Chair of the group that manages the Centre. We are very grateful for her many years in this role. I am delighted that Amanda Reed has agreed to take on this role. Many of you will know her from her work on the committee which organised the Jubilee Street party last year. She also helped promote our Season of Music last autumn.

Kerri Hawkins will continue to look after casual bookings. She can be contacted on [hire@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk](mailto:hire@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk)

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## SHEELAGH WILTSHIRE

Polly Elder's mother, Sheelagh has died this week. Sheelagh was a long-time member of St John's though in recent times she was unable to join services in person and was a member of our Zoom congregation. Polly would like to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes.

Sheelagh's funeral will take place at Randalls Park on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm. More details to follow.

## UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL



Shower gel, shampoo, soap, sanitary items, nappies, warm socks, protein bars, packet soups First aid kits, toothbrushes, tooth paste, torches, Bandages and gloves.

This is a selection from the appeal, a full list of items needed is taped to the donation box marked UKRAINE at the front of the Church.

Thank you so much for your support.

**Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee Contact**

## HARP CONCERT FUNDRAISER AT ST PAUL'S, BANSTEAD

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February there will be a Harp Concert by Margaret Watson at 3.00pm. More details at:

[vicar@notkwithburghheath.com](mailto:vicar@notkwithburghheath.com)

## CRAFT CLUB

February's meeting will be on Monday, 20th February.

**Veronica Gittins**

## 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**

## RECYCLED SPECTACLES

If anyone has any old or unused spectacles they no longer need please bring them to church where they will go for recycling to a local charity.

**Claire Cornell**

## 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**

## FOODBANK

Urgently needed this week: Cooking sauce, Tinned potatoes, Tinned fruit, Instant mash, Squash, Longlife sponge puddings, Rice pudding, Longlife fruit juice, UHT milk, Jam / honey / marmalade, Peanut butter, Male / female deodorant, Shower gel, Shaving gel / foam, Shampoo / conditioner, Washing up liquid, Nappies sizes 6 and 6+

We keep hearing about charities who are losing support so all your help is most appreciated thank you.

**Polly Elder**

## Sunday's Services

### Today's Service

#### Fit for the Future: Modelling not Meddling. (1 Thess 4:9-12)

For us as for the Thessalonians, we are called to live faithfully not just in the home or at church, but also in the wider world. Now as then, how we conduct ourselves as Christians - matching our words and our actions - is vitally important if we are to be seen as people of integrity. According to this passage, we should seek to live a life that pleases God, within the context of love for fellow believers, and a missional concern for the wider world. This passage also contains one of Paul's most surprising instructions: 'make it your ambition to lead a quiet life'!

## Readings

### 1 Thessalonians 4: 9-12

**Maggie Savill**

<sup>9</sup> Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. <sup>10</sup> And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, <sup>11</sup> and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: you should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, <sup>12</sup> so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

### Matthew 5:38-48

**Rev. Geoff Andrew**

<sup>38</sup> 'You have heard that it was said, "Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth." <sup>39</sup> But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. <sup>41</sup> If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. <sup>43</sup> 'You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbour and hate your enemy." <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? <sup>48</sup> Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

### Collect

**Rev. Geoff Andrew**

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord.

### Intercessor

**Chris Redrup**

### Music at 9.30am

1. Immortal invisible
2. Now thank we all our God
3. Be still for the presence of the Lord
4. Take my life and let it be

### Music at 11am

1. Hosanna (Praise is Rising)
2. Jesus Paid it All
3. Be Still for the Presence of the Lord
4. This is Amazing Grace

## From Our Book of Remembrance

Sylvia Milner