



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

26^h March 2023

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

Spring is officially with us (though as I write this, no one has told the weather) and it is my solemn duty to remind you to put your clocks forward on Saturday night. Yes, you will lose an hour's sleep, but hopefully you will be spared the embarrassment of turning up for church just in time for the last hymn as I did a few years ago! We are currently putting the final touches to our Church Development Plan and this week we are asking everyone to think and pray about how we can find sufficient resources to support our growth. I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

PASSOVER REMEMBERED

On Maundy Thursday, 6th April 2023, we will commemorate the Last Supper with a Passover-style meal in church at 7pm. This will be like last year's event. The meal element is symbolic so please don't expect to replace your usual dinner! Please let us know you're coming by signing the sheet at the front of church. Friends and neighbours are welcome.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

HOT CROSS BUNS

On Maundy Thursday, 6th April, we shall as usual be giving Hot Cross Buns to commuters between about 6.15am and 8.30am. We do this together with the Baptist Church. I need people to help cut and butter the buns and put them in a bag together with a serviette telling them the times of the Easter services at our Church and the Baptist Church. I also need someone to open up the church at 6.15 and turn the oven on. Please let me know if you can help with this.

Sue Pennington

ALL NATIONS SERVICE AND LUNCH

Sunday 2nd April at 2pm

All Nations warmly invite the St John's family to join their Sunday afternoon service (including English translation) on the 2nd of April at 2pm. They will be joined by the worship team, Isaiah6tyOne from Korea. After the service food and coffee will be served at the back of the church. There is a sign up sheet at the front of the Church so numbers can be catered for. This is a wonderful opportunity for our two congregations to strengthen our fellowship.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

SERVICE BOOKS

Lent 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

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL



Thanks to everyone at St John's who has supported the Ukraine appeal for the last year. Your generosity had been amazing. The Polish White Eagle club has sent one hundred lorries to Poland and Western Ukraine since the war started and they are full of donations for the refugees. Over six million people are displaced in Ukraine and Poland needs help with the ten million who have arrived in their country. Your donations are very gratefully received and please see me if you want to give cash or cheques.

Claire Cornell

They still need: 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

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

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

The items on the urgently required list are:- UHT Milk, Long life fruit juice, Cooking sauces, Long life sponge puddings, Men's deodorant, Shaving gel/foam, Adult toothbrushes, Adult toothpaste Bags for Life / Very strong bags are always welcome

Please, no more of these items as they have sufficient at the moment: Dog Food, Cat Food, Tea Bags, Tinned Fish, Coffee

Thank you everyone
Polly Elder

If you would prefer to send cash please put your donation into an envelope marked "Foodbank" and hand it to a Welcomer or Church Warden.

All contributions most gratefully received.

Polly Elder

BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUGS TO HELP SAVE THE PLANET

It has been suggested that people, where possible, bring their own mugs/cups for coffee/tea on a Sunday. There will be paper cups available for those who are unable to do so – we won't deprive you of your refreshments! Thank you to those of you who already do this.

Church Wardens

Sunday's Services**Today's Service****Resurrection Road: Money can't buy God's love (Mark 10:17-27)**

The story of the rich man who asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life is incredibly challenging for all of us who live in relative affluence. Jesus tells him to sell everything he owns and give the proceeds to the poor. While few would interpret Jesus' words as being a universal instruction for all believers, each of us must consider carefully our relationship to our own wealth and ask the question, 'am I being a good steward of all that God has given me?'

Readings**Malachi 3: 6-12**

AJ

⁶ 'I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,' says the LORD Almighty. 'But you ask, "How are we to return?" ⁸ 'Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. 'But you ask, "How are we robbing you?" 'In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse – your whole nation – because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,' says the LORD Almighty. ¹² 'Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,' says the LORD Almighty.

Mark 10:17-27

Rev. Geoff Andrew

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. 'Good teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' ¹⁸ 'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good – except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honour your father and mother. ²⁰ 'Teacher,' he declared, 'all these I have kept since I was a boy.' ²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. 'One thing you lack,' he said. 'Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' ²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. ²³ Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!' ²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' ²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?' ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.'

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessor

Chris Redrup

Music at 9.30am

1. Great is thy faithfulness (MP 200)
2. Lord, for the years (MP 428)
3. Father, hear the prayer we offer (MP 132) vs 1,2,3,4
4. Communion: Breathe on me, breath of God (MP 67)
5. O worship the King (MP 528) vs 1,2,5,6

Music at 11am

1. King of Kings
2. Waymaker
3. Be Still for the Presence
4. What a Beautiful Name

Book of Remembrance

Peter Roland Miles