



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 28th May 2023 - Pentecost

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

The 50 day Easter season reaches its climax this Sunday with the Day of Pentecost. It is the day we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples, an occasion that is sometimes described as the birthday of the church. It is also (yet another!) bank holiday weekend, so I hope that all those of you who are planning a long weekend away have a wonderful time and some decent weather. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

REMEMBERING RITA

A thanksgiving service for Rita Ramsay's life will be held at St John's on Friday, June 2 at 12 noon. A reception will follow in the parish centre. If you would like to attend the reception, would you please sign the sheet at the front of the church so that the family can plan for the catering. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

UKRAINIAN REFUGEE HELP NEEDED – ACCOMMODATION

A Ukrainian mother and her 13-year-old daughter, who arrived in the UK last May 2022, need to move from their current host at the beginning of June and find a new home. The mother is a confident person, keen to build a future for herself and her daughter in the UK. Her daughter is not coping well. Sponsors/hosts are paid £500 per month by the government to provide accommodation only. There is no need to provide food as the family is in receipt of government benefits. If you can help, please speak to me. **Rev Geoff Andrew**

REFUGEE HELP NEEDED

One of the refugee families staying at the Orchid Hotel includes a young man with autism. The family are desperate to spend more time outside the hotel but are not confident on their own. We are looking for someone with, perhaps, SEN teaching experience to accompany them on occasional outings to local areas of interest. Please let me know if you can help. **Rev Geoff Andrew**

ZOOM

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

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP – JOB

Mel Brock, our assistant children's worker at the Toddler group, has resigned. Mel has been a valued member of the team over these past few years and we thank her for all she has done. Mel's departure leaves a vacancy which we need to fill. This is a paid position. The role involves supporting Gin Yershon for four hours on a Tuesday morning during term time, plus some preparation work, and occasional additional planning meetings. In particular, we are looking for someone who can create and manage fun craft activities for the children. A full job

description and details of benefits are available from the church office. Please speak to me or Janis Forder, our churchwarden, if you are interested. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

The Ukraine Crisis Appeal still need: Shower gel, shampoo, soap, sanitary items, nappies, warm socks, protein bars, packet soups First aid kits, toothbrushes, toothpaste, 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

Hurrah sunshine at last! Some lives don't feel too sunny just now - can we spread a little love with an item from this list. Say a quiet prayer on your donation before you pop it in the box if you wish.

They need: Tinned meat, Tinned vegetables, Tinned fruit, Cooking sauce, UHT milk (full fat & semi skimmed), Custard, Ling life puddings, Squash, Spaghetti, Honey/Jam, Ketchup/mayo, Sugar, Cereal bars, Male/female deodorant, Adult toothbrushes.

Not needed at the moment please: - tinned soup, tinned fish, tea bags, dog/cat food. Thank you everybody. **Polly Elder**

CRAFT CLUB

The next meeting of Craft Club will be on Monday, 19th June. We meet in the Parish Room from 10am - 12noon. All are welcome, so bring your crafting and see you there!

Veronica Gittins

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Bring your friends to St Paul's Howell Hill to hear a message with a Christian edge from a speaker of note and enjoy conversation over a tasty lunch:

11:30 Arrival and Coffee and ends by 2.30pm.

- 7th June** What's love got to do with it?
Mark Tomlinson (Sutton Community Works)
- 5th July** Doing time as a politician, prisoner & priest.
Rev Jonathan Aitken

Please see the flyer at the front of the church or visit:
saintpauls.co.uk/foodforthought to book your place.

Today's Services

Pentecost

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised his disciples that his Father would send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who would come and 'teach you all things'. And so, on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit did indeed come in great power, setting in motion the mission of the church which is still growing to this day. But who or what is the Holy Spirit? And what do Jesus' promises about the gift of the Holy Spirit mean for me today?

Readings

Acts 2:1-21

Maggie Savill

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. 5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?' 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs – we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues! 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?' 13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, 'They have had too much wine.' 14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. 20 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. 21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. 15 If you love me, keep my commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you for ever – 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them. 22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, 'But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?' 23 Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. 25 All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Collect

Rev. Geoff Andrew

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessor

Chris Redrup

Music 9.30am

1. Come down, O Love divine
2. Love divine, all loves excelling
3. Father, we love you
4. *During communion:* Spirit of the Living God
5. Great is thy faithfulness

Music 11am

1. Oceans
2. The Creed
3. Be still for the presence of the Lord
4. The Blessing

From Our Book of Remembrance

Grace Moyna Constable