



# St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

## 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - Barnabas the Apostle

### A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

This weekend we continue our Spring Celebrations series with a focus on Barnabas, one of the key figures in the early church and a companion of St Paul. Anne and I are away for the weekend so I'm delighted that Rev. Maggie Marsh has agreed to lead and preach at both services. Maggie is an old friend of St John's and I know many of you will be pleased to welcome her back. As noted below, please do pick up a copy of our Church Development Plan, 'St John's: The Way Forward' from church this weekend if you are not able to print your own at home. Blessings!

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

### ST JOHN'S: THE WAY FORWARD

After a series of meetings and discussions earlier this year, the time has come for us to actively progress our Church Development Plan, 'St John's: The Way Forward'. You can find a copy of the plan here:

[https://church.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/St\\_Johns\\_Development\\_Plan\\_Landscape.pdf](https://church.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/St_Johns_Development_Plan_Landscape.pdf). For those of you without printing capability we will have hard copies available in church (choose your favourite colour!). Please do familiarise yourself with the plan, and as it says in the document, let me know if you're keen to take a role in any of the four areas of focus. And either way, please pray for our church, that the Holy Spirit will inspire us to fulfil God's mission here in Stoneleigh.

*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*

### 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*

### DONATED BOOKS

I have made some space on one of the pews at the back of church for people to browse the books that have been donated to us over the past year, including those from Rene Grace's collection. There is some very good reading contained therein so please feel free to take whatever appeals to you. We don't have much room so those not claimed will be donated or disposed of.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

### FOODBANK

This week the Resources Centre is asking for:- Tinned spaghetti, Rice pudding, Coffee, Custard, Longlife sponge puddings, Longlife juice, Powdered milk, Mayonnaise, Washing up liquid, Washing powder, Cleaning products.

Financial donations are welcome too - please put your money in an envelope marked "Foodbank" and hand it in to a Welcomer or Church Warden.

Final, sobering thought. It has been proved that Food poverty can result in mental illness and low self-esteem. Even if we are unable to help with donations, we can support the work of the Foodbanks in prayer.

Bless you all for your contributions.

**Polly Elder**

made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: love each other.

## 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.

**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](http://saintpauls.co.uk/foodforthought) to book your place.

## Today's Services

### **Barnabas Day**

Barnabas was a Jewish priest from Cyprus whose name translates as 'son of encouragement'. He was a great friend and mentor to Paul, especially in the time after Paul's conversion. We read about Barnabas primarily in the Acts of the Apostles, though he is also mentioned in Paul's letters. He was supportive, unselfish, generous, loyal and wise, and there is much we can learn from his quiet yet very effective influence on the spreading of the gospel message.

## Readings

### **Acts 11.19-30**

**Graham Waller**

<sup>19</sup> Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. <sup>20</sup> Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. <sup>24</sup> He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup> and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. <sup>27</sup> During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. <sup>28</sup> One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) <sup>29</sup> The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. <sup>30</sup> This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

### **John 15.12-17**

**Rev. Maggie Marsh**

<sup>12</sup> My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have

## Collect

**Rev. Maggie Marsh**

God of truth, help us to keep your law and love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

## Intercessor

**Chris Redrup**

## Music 9.30am

1. Thy hand, O God, has guided (MP 705)
2. Brother, sister, let me serve you
3. Just as I am (MP 396)
4. *During communion:* Be still, for the presence of the Lord (MP 50)
5. Tell out, my soul (MP 631)

## Music 11am

1. Living Hope
2. Goodness of God
3. Jesus Paid it All
4. What a Beautiful Name

## **Book of Remembrance**

Doreen Simon