



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 18th June 2023

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

Many thanks go to Rev Maggie Marsh for stepping in to cover for me last weekend. Anne and I were in Banbury celebrating the 90th birthday of my friend's mum...and I was also keeping an eye on Manchester City in the Champion's League final – another cause for celebration! This week we welcome yet more special guests. I am delighted that our mission partners, Yagya and Sally Singh, will be preaching at both services. They are visiting here from their home in Nepal and will be sharing God's word with us, as well as providing an update on their work.

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 . 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

PETER MURTON

We have received the sad news that Peter Murton, a long-time member of St John's, died last Thursday morning. Peter had been living in Epsom in recent years and so had been unable to attend church in person. However, the pastoral team has been visiting him on a regular basis to offer Holy Communion and share news from St John's. He was always very interested in the latest news and events at church and very supportive of our work. Peter lived a full and active life for which we give thanks in the knowledge that he is now at peace with his Lord. Please pray for his children and the rest of the family.

Rev Geoff Andrew

BRING AND SHARE LUNCH TO CELEBRATE OUR PATRONAL FESTIVAL ON SUNDAY 25th JUNE AT 12.00

On Sunday 25th we will be hosting a Bring and Share Lunch for all members of the congregation, All Nations and any friends and relatives who wish to join us. Please see the sign-up sheet at the front of the Church for all who wish to attend indicating whether, if you are able, to bring either a sweet or savory dish, bread, cheese etc. Home made or shop bought will all be gratefully received. Please bring your own drinks. Thank you.

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.

If you wish to give money to Ukraine, please either write a cheque made payable to Shelly Weiczorek or put cash in an envelope marked Ukraine. We can then buy chest drains and other medical equipment that is not easy to buy in shops.

Thanks for all 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

PLEASE DO NOT FEED OUR WORKING DOGS IN CHURCH

Freeman and Nugget are our working dogs, it has come to notice that the dogs have recently been fed 'treats'. Even the odd half of a biscuit can have a very detrimental effect on these wonderful dogs. The refreshment team always have an approved doggie treat available.

PEOPLE PICTURED IN POETRY

Gill Sathyamoorthy's third poetry book 'People Pictured in Poetry' is now available and has sections on the Queen, Topical Issues, Biblical Figures, Family Matters, Grandchildren's Poems, Depression and Faith, Aylesford and Gill's Life and Faith. The cost is £9. Gill will have copies of her book in Church this Sunday to be viewed/purchased.

NO HOLY COMMUNION AT 9.30AM ON WEDNESDAY 21ST JUNE 2023

Please note there will be no Service of Holy Communion on Wednesday, June 21 as I will be away on a Diocesan conference from Tuesday to Thursday. *Rev Geoff Andrew*

CRAFT CLUB

Veronica Gittins The next meeting of Craft Club will take place this coming Monday, 19th June. We meet in the Parish Room

from 10am - 12noon. All are welcome, so bring your crafting and see you there!

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 the 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

I have been so busy relaying news of the increased numbers being supported by the Foodbank that I haven't had time to pass on some of the rest of the news in the Spring Newsletter. I'll pin a printout of the letter on the noticeboards at the back of church during the week. Do take a few minutes to appreciate the projects covered by The Good Company in addition to the Foodbank. A particularly interesting initiative has been the launch of the Energy Support Scheme.

Meanwhile the shelves need restocking as usual so please will you try to add one or two of these items to the box: Tinned spaghetti, Rice pudding, Coffee, Dried noodles, Longlife sponge puddings, Longlife juice, Powdered milk, Mayonnaise, Savoury biscuits, Chocolate / crisps, Shaving gel/foam, Washing powder.

I understand that they'd still appreciate bags for Life too. Please note that they do not need these items at the moment:- dog food, cat food, tea bags, tinned fish, tinned soup Thank you everyone.

Polly Elder

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 to book your place.

Today's Services

Mission Sunday

Wherever in the world God places us, we are called to make a difference and demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to those around us. Jesus famously described this in the Sermon on the Mount as being like salt and light. It has been a challenge to all Christians through the ages...how can we live as salt and light in a dark world?

Readings

Psalm 37:1-9

Janis Forder

¹ Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; ² for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. ³ Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: ⁶ he will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun. ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. ⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret – it leads only to evil. ⁹ For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

Matthew 5:13-20

Rev. Geoff Andrew

¹³ 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ 'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practises and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Collect

Father, Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessor

Anne Andrew

Music 9.30am

1. At the name of Jesus (MP 41) vs 1,2,5,6
2. The Lord's my shepherd (MP 660)
3. Seek ye first (MP 590)
4. *During Communion: A song from the Singhs*
5. Praise My soul the King of Heaven (MP 560)

Music 11am

1. What a beautiful name
2. Sing to the King
3. Waymaker