



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter Second Sunday of Easter 7th April 2024

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was really encouraging to see so many people in church last Sunday for our Easter service. If you were unable to join us in person, I do hope you managed to celebrate wherever you were. I am grateful also for the support and congratulations offered to me on the announcement of my appointment as Vicar of Stoneleigh. After three years as Curate, I feel honoured to be able to continue the journey we are on at St John's over the coming years. God is moving in our community and I'm excited to see what he has in store for us all. Anne and I are grateful for your prayers and good wishes. The licensing service will take place in July – further details to follow.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

IMPORTANT **CHANGES TO SERVICES ON APRIL 14 and 28**

Please note that on two Sundays this month there will be just one Sunday service:

April 14, there is one service at 11am which will be a combined service with our friends at All Nations Korean church. Lunch will be provided afterwards – please sign up on the list at the front of church.

April 28, there will be one service at 10am, celebrating St George's Day and including the participation of the boys of 2nd Stoneleigh Scout group. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place in the Parish Centre after the service at 11.45am. All members of St John's church family are encouraged to attend this review of the year with updates from different areas of church life.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

MIDWEEK SERVICES CANCELLED

Please note that I will be on vacation next week and so there will be no Morning Prayer on Monday or Communion on Wednesday. Normal services will be resumed the following week.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

ZOOM

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

Tim Rogers

NEW START DATE FOR START COURSE – WEDS MAY 1

The Start Course is for anyone who wants to explore Christianity, or Christians who would value a refresher on the basics of our faith. It takes place over six informal discussion sessions on a Wednesday evening, commencing May 1st, from 7.30-9pm. Many of the St John's church family have participated already so do ask around (or me directly) if you would like to know more. This is also a great opportunity to invite someone you know who is curious or asking questions about faith or just life in general.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

MUSICIANS WANTED

We are looking to add to our worship team for the 11am service. No experience of public worship is necessary. If you play an instrument and would like to get involved, please let me know. We especially need a drummer! *Rev. Geoff Andrew*

CONFIRMATION SERVICE ON APRIL 28

I am delighted to say that two members of St John's church family – Graham Derbyshire and John Dicey – will be confirmed on April 28, 6.30pm at All Saints Church, West Ewell. This is a deanery-wide event and Bishop Andrew will be presiding. Please do pray for Graham and John as they prepare for this event and do come along on the evening if you can to support them.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

CHURCH RETREAT – SATURDAY 13TH JULY 2024

We've told you WHEN, now we can tell you WHERE.

Wychcroft
Southwark Diocesan
Resource & Retreat Venue
Wychcroft South Park Lane
Redhill, RH1 4NE



WHY, WHAT and WHO is coming soon...

CHURCH 'WHO'S WHO'

With us having two well-established congregations now, it is not always easy to match a face with a name. So we plan to produce a church 'Who's Who' booklet with names and photographs so we can get to know each other better. This is only for the use of church members and will not go further afield. John Martin has kindly agreed to lead the project and he will be approaching you sometime in the next few weeks to ask if he can take your photograph and a few details. I encourage everyone to participate. Thank you.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

ELECTORAL ROLL AND APCM

As required by the Diocese there is a copy of the Electoral Roll at the back of the Church. If anyone not on the Register would like to join please see either Sue Pennington or Chris McInnes and fill out a form before the APCM on 28th April 2024 at 11.40am.

Sue Pennington

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

Please help the people of Ukraine as the war goes into a third year.

The White Eagle Club Ukraine Appeal thanks St John's church for your unwavering support and solidarity in our mission to support the people of Ukraine affected by this cruel war. St

John's church has been collecting many items from our urgent list eg - food, first aid, clothes and monetary donations to purchase specific life saving medical equipment. Please continue to bring your items to the church and we will promise to continue to deliver them to the people in need.

The church community has been nothing short of amazing and we thank you once again for your ongoing kindness.

You can also donate on line at whiteeagleappeal.org or bring cheques payable to Shelly Wiczorek. If you want to give cash, please mark your envelope "Ukraine".

Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee Contact

PRAYER GROUP

Prayer helps us grow closer to God, becoming more aware of His constant presence with us. Experiencing God right here and right now leads to awe, which strengthens our faith and encourages us to trust God in deeper ways. Ultimately, prayer leads us to worship.

Please join us every 3rd Thursday between 3.30 and 4.30 in the chapel for a time of worshipful prayer.

Steve Simper

FOODBANK

Thank you to everyone who donated over Easter - we hope you also enjoyed some chocolate eggs yourselves.

This week the Foodbank urgently needs:- Squash, Rice pudding

They also need:- Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Meat, Male and Female Deodorant, Shampoo, Washing up Liquid, Washing Powder/Pods, Nappies size 2 and size 4

The Foodbank Team

THE ARK

"THE ARK welcomes you to our informal fellowship gathering "Shabbat "n" That" at 13 The Stanfords, East Street, Epsom, KT17 1JE (Jane's flat) on **Saturday 27 April**. Open House/Drop-in from 10.30 am until around 6pm for sharing, learning, discussion and creativity. Refreshments available. For further information contact Jane Mathews (01372) 741966, Graham M. Waller (01372) 741569. Please let us know if you are interested in coming along as we have limited space!

Graham and Jane

Today's Services

Of all the post-resurrection accounts in the gospels, many people's personal favourite is Jesus' encounter with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. As a drama, it has everything: sorrow, confusion, realisation, sudden recognition, revelation and excited response. In many ways, it acts as a model for how people respond to Jesus today and is therefore instructive as a guide to sharing our faith with others. Let's pray that as we study this story together 'our hearts will burn within us'.

Readings

Psalm 119:97-104

⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long. ⁹⁸Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. ⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. ¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. ¹⁰²I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. ¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Luke 24:13-35

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' ¹⁹He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. ²²Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²³Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²⁴and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁵Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' ²⁶Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁷Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' ²⁸Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Collect

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father.

Intercessor

Ken Mussell

Music at 9.30am

1. Christ Triumphant (MP 77)
2. All glory laud and honour (MP 9)
3. Ride on, ride on in majesty! (MP 580) vs 1,2,4,5
4. *During communion:* As the Deer (MP 37)
5. Make way, make way (MP 457)

Music at 11.00am

1. Happy Day
2. Goodness of God
3. As the Deer
4. Oceans

Book of Remembrance
Audrey Elizabeth Aldridge
Mary Rhona Manley
Jean Morgan
Vera Francis Lucy Pinn