



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 2nd June 2024

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

This weekend our sermon series on the book of James reaches its penultimate episode, entitled 'The Rewards of Perseverance'. Also on Sunday we will be celebrating the Golden Wedding anniversary of Adrian (our church warden) and Lynn Coppin. I've often marvelled at how God serves up the perfect sermon theme for the occasion! Congratulations to Adrian and Lynn. Our reward for their perseverance will be bubbly and cake after the first service, so do join in the celebrations after the 9.30am....and come early for the 11am!

Rev. Geoff Andrew

LYNNE AND ADRIAN'S GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Lynne and Adrian would love for you to join them in a glass of Prosecco and cake to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary after the 9.30am service this Sunday, June 2nd.

SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Service arrangements for the next few weeks will be a little 'changeable'. This is partly due to my absence prior to my induction as vicar and partly due to holidays. Apologies in advance for the potential confusion, but please mark your calendars and keep an eye on this newsletter for updates:

- Sunday June 9th: services at 9.30am and 11am. Theme: Walk the Talk (James). Rev Geoff
- Sunday June 16th: services at 9.30am and 11am. Theme: Father's Day. Rev Geoff
- Sunday June 23rd: one service at 10am. Theme: St John's 85th Birthday. Rev Geoff
- *Rev Geoff away from June 24th until July 11th: no Monday Prayer on June 24th, July 1st, 8th and no Communion on Wednesday June 26th, July 3rd, 10th*
- Sunday June 30th: one service at 10am. Theme: Mission Sunday. Rev Rosemary Donovan
- Sunday July 7th: one service at 10am. Theme: TBD. Rev David Packham
- Thursday July 11th: one service at 7.30pm. Theme: Rev Geoff service of Induction. Bishop Andrew
- Sunday July 14th: services at 9.30am and 11am. Theme: Disability Sunday. Rev Geoff
- *Rev Geoff away from July 18th until July 25th: no Monday Prayer on July 22nd and no Communion on Wednesday July 24th*
- Sunday July 21st: services at 9.30am and 11am. Theme: Summer Psalms. Rev Rosemary Donovan
- Sunday July 28th: services at 9.30am and 11am (inc baptism). Theme: Summer Psalms. Rev Geoff
- All Sundays in August; one service at 10am. Theme: Summer Psalms. Rev Geoff (Aug 25th Rev Ken Hobbs)

Rev. Geoff Andrew

ZOOM

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

CHURCH RETREAT



You are warmly invited to our Church Retreat on Saturday, 13th July at the serene location of Wychcroft. This is an opportunity for us to come together to deepen our prayer life and to discern God's will for each of us, our church family and our community.

Please take a leaflet from the front of the church and book your place today.

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

The people of Ukraine urgently need : baby formula (all ages), wet wipes, nappies (all sizes), long life baby food, baby toiletries, adult toiletries (shaving gel, soap, shower gel) sanitary items, long life food, bandages, plasters and painkillers.

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

Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee Contact

FOODBANK

The week's fly by don't they. Thursdays and the need for an item for the notice sheet just appear on the horizon all of a sudden. It's the same with shopping - one minute you think that you have it all done and then there's a need for an urgent item. Usual answer is to pop to a shop on the way home or whatever. Sadly that is not always an option if your resources are very stretched and have to be carefully balanced. If you can help with one of the following items for the Foodbank it would be most appreciated by those trying to keep stocks up to help those who are finding life a bit difficult just now.

Jars of cooking sauce, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned pulses, Longlife Sponge puddings, Custard, Tinned Meat (Hot dogs, Meatballs, Ham, stew etc), Packet soup, Chocolate spread, Small treats for children (ie Freddos), Powdered Milk, Hair conditioner, Shaving Foam, Female Deodorant, Tampons, Washing up liquid, Washing powder, Baby shampoo / Baby wash. Thank you.

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 29 June**. Open House/Drop-in from 10.30 am until around 6.00 pm for sharing, learning, discussion and creativity. Refreshments available. For further information contact Jane Mathews (01372 741966) or Graham Waller (01372 741659). Please let us know if you are interested in coming along as we have limited space!
Graham and Jane

HELP WITH REFRESHMENTS FOR TOOLS WITH A MISSION

We will be providing refreshments for volunteers from 10am to 4pm. Chris McInnes will be setting up for the 10am start but would be grateful if people could help with an hour (or two) to help during the day. If anyone could make a cake/biscuits that would be wonderful. There is a sign up sheet at the front of Church. Thank you.
Social Committee

TOOLS WITH A MISSION

As you know we collect tools for charity once every 3 years and this year our tool collection will be on Saturday, 8th June from 10 - 4 p.m. If you are able to come along and bring donations or help on the day for as much or as little time as you can, your help will be greatly appreciated.

Also, we need many helpers at 10 a.m. on 10th June to load all the tools on to the TWAM lorry when it arrives as the hall is booked later in the day on Monday and we need to get it clear, swept and clean. Many thanks.
Claire Cornell

SUMMER FAIR – JULY 6th 2024

Our annual fair is fast approaching and we are looking for volunteers to help set up, man the stalls, provide cakes and prizes for the raffle. Please sign up to assist in whatever way you can. The sign up sheet is at the front of church.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

RESOURCES SUNDAY

Don't forget that Rosalie has put some sample Bible Reading Fellowship notes at the back of church. Do have a look at them.

Why do I love them? They introduce sections or themes from the Bible in an interesting and easy to understand way, a page for each day. They include the Bible text so they are easy to pack and take away with you so no need to skip your reading or search hotel rooms for a Gideon Bible to keep on track. The small booklets fit neatly in my handbag or rucksack. I've read and shared them in hospital waiting rooms and on buses. Some mind blowing moments have stayed with me forever - just ask me why Palm Sunday could be renamed!

Do you use any other form or format to help you with your Bible Study? Please talk to us about them so we can put a good exhibition together for Resources Sunday in August.

Polly Elder and Will Porter

BIBLE READING RESOURCES

I use Sacred Space. You go on line type in Sacred Space and then Daily Prayers Archive and the dates for the week come up with that day in bold. It is, I think, Ignatian. I use it most days and find it really helpful as it has prayers as well as a Bible passage to read and some things in the passage to think about.

Sue Pennington

Today's Services

Having warned the rich that their easy and selfish lifestyle is temporary (last week's theme), James now encourages the suffering church to be patient and to persevere. Their condition is also temporary because the Lord will save them. He cites the example of the prophets and God's mercy towards them. Where do we draw our strength from in tough times? How can we be encouraged and by whom?

Collect

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

Readings

James 5:7-11

Maggie Savill

⁷ Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Matthew 13:18-23

¹⁸ 'Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

Intercessor

Chris Redrup

Music for 9.30am

1. O God, Our Help in Ages Past
2. He who would valiant be
3. Just as I am, without one plea
4. *During communion:* Let us break bread together
5. Thy hand, O God, has guided

Music for 11am

1. King of Kings
2. What a Beautiful Name
3. Worthy of it All
4. O Praise the Name