



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

25th August 2024

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

I hope those of you who came last Sunday have been able to accommodate some more Bible reading into your daily routine! I'd love to hear some feedback over the next couple of weeks. Not this weekend, however, since Anne and I will be away on our annual visit to the Greenbelt Festival at Boughton House near Kettering. Greenbelt is a Christian arts and social justice event that has been going for over 50 years. It's also a wonderful place to relax, to be entertained, inspired and to worship. In my absence, we have invited a young up and coming priest, Rev Ken Hobbs, to lead you through the service and preach the final sermon in our Summer Psalms series. Thanks Ken!

Rev. Geoff Andrew

NO MORNING PRAYER ON MONDAY 26TH AUGUST

Please note that there will be no Morning Prayer on Monday 26th August 2024.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

PRAYER VIGIL

Our next 24-hour prayer vigil will be on Saturday 31st August commencing at 9.00am through to 9am on Sunday 1st September. If you would like to sign-up to one or more of the 60-minute slots, please add your name to the schedule at the front of the church, there are still some slots available.

Steve Simper

DECORATING BACK OF CHURCH

I'd greatly appreciate help during the month of August to decorate the back of the church. 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th August for actual painting. Please email: adrian.coppin@talktalk.net. or WhatsApp Adrian with any dates you could help with painting - book case, walls and ceiling.

WhatsApp 07831 470846

Adrian Coppin

TEMPLE VISIT

The Sri Raja Rajeswary Amman Temple is one of only two Hindu temples in Surrey, and it happens to be in Stoneleigh (Dell Lane). Those of you who heard me preach a couple of weeks ago may remember that I have recently visited the temple and met with the main trustee and some of the volunteers. One or two people mentioned to me after the sermon that they would also like to visit so I have arranged for us to go as a group for a 30 minute tour on Tuesday September 17th at 9.30am. If you are interested in joining us, please sign the sheet in the welcome area. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out in friendship to another faith group and strengthen our community relationships.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

AUGUST SERVICES AND REFRESHMENTS

With much hard work by Adrian Coppin, St John's has received the Faculty to go ahead with the refurbishment of the back of Church. To facilitate this, we will be holding refreshments after the 10am service in the hall, rather than at the back of Church, for the month of August.

Social Committee

MESSAGES FOR CHURCH WARDENS

We are resurrecting the message book for the church wardens. It is a green file on the table by the glass doors. If you notice a bulb gone, a fault with any equipment or any other fabric problem, please note it in the file with your name and date so that we can deal with it promptly. Many thanks.

Adrian and Claire

MECHANICS FOR AFRICA

In August, Ken and Margaret Hobbs are cycling coast to coast on behalf of Zambia Christian charity Mechanics for Africa and are inviting sponsorship. If anyone is interested in supporting them, go to: www.justgiving.com and search for Mechanics for Africa and you will see Ken's fundraiser.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

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

FOODBANK

Hurrah! No urgent items on the list this week so donating must be getting back to normal after people have been on their holidays. Nevertheless, it's a fragile situation and the demand for help is still growing so please continue to remember the Foodbank when you do your own shopping.

This week they've asked for: - Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Cooking Sauces, Dried Noodles (not pot or instant), Long Life Juice, Pulses, Instant Mash, Rice, Instant Coffee, Sugar, Chocolate, Biscuits, Long life Sponge puddings, Adult Toothbrushes, Washing up Liquid, Nappies 5, 6+ & 7, Deodorant (Male & Female), Shower gel, Washing Powder, Shampoo & Conditioner.

Thank you.

The Foodbank Team

SEASON OF MUSIC & COMEDY 2024

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to the Autumn and our 2024 St John's Season of Music, this year with Comedy! More details to follow, but please put the following dates in your diary:

September 21, 7.30pm: Movie Night: Mamma Mia 2 – Here We Go Again, Sing-Along (£5/ticket)

October 26, 7.30pm: Jonathan Veira in concert (£10/ticket)

November 23, 7.30pm: Quiz Night, hosted by comedian Tim Vine (Teams of 6, £10/ticket)

December 13, 6.30pm: Rock Choir (preceded by carols on the lawn) (£5/ticket)

December 21, 5.30pm: Movie Night: It's a Wonderful Life (£5/ticket)

A sign up sheet for each show can be found in the welcome area. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Gideon is a young man who has just joined the St John's congregation. He is currently staying in rather unsuitable accommodation and is looking for a room in a house, for reasonable rent, with access to a kitchen and bathroom. This would likely be for a period of a few months. We would like to help him move quite soon so if you are in a position to assist (or have further questions), could you please contact Chris in the church office. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

THE GOD STORY - NEW SERMON SERIES

On September 1 we will embark on a new sermon series for the Autumn term. 'The God Story' is a compelling and creative retelling of the biblical story recently published by 24-7 Prayer International. The series will not only help us understand the great narrative arc of Scripture, but will help each of us to discover the significance of our own story within it. If you are interested in reading along with the series, the book (by Emerson & Cox) can be found online at all good retailers. **Rev. Geoff Andrew**

Today's Service

Psalm 121 is a song of trust in God's protection. The psalmist looks to the hills, acknowledging that help comes from the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth. In moments of uncertainty or fear, this psalm encourages us to seek His help and rely on His steadfast presence, knowing that He is always watching over us, guiding and keeping us safe in all circumstances.

Collect

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

Psalm 121

Jane Mathews

I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from?

² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will not slumber;

⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD watches over you – the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life;

⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.

Gospel Reading

Mark 4:35-40

³⁵ That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' ³⁶ Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. ³⁷ A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸ Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?' ³⁹ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. ⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'

Intercessor

Ian Hargrave

Music

1. For the beauty of the earth (MP 152)
2. Morning has broken (MP 467)
3. Jesus is Lord (MP 367)
4. During communion: Father, we love you (MP 142)
5. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation (MP 564)