



# St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was wonderful to see so many people in church for Harvest Sunday last weekend. Thanks for your generous contributions to the Foodbank, and thanks to those who participated in our lunch after the service (and especially the team who set up and cleared away). I hope you all took a poppy away with you to nurture over the winter! If you didn't, we have a few left at the back of church. Those little plant pots are a reminder for us to take some small steps in changing our lifestyle habits to something more sustainable. I hope too we can make progress towards our Eco Church Bronze Award. Remember that God honours even our smallest offerings made in faith and multiplies them abundantly!

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## REMEMBERING LOVED ONES: SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER, 3.00pm

You are all invited to join us at our special service to remember those we have loved who have passed away. There will be the opportunity to light a candle in memoriam. In addition we will be reading out the names of those we want to remember during the service. If there is a name(s) you would like to be included please add them to the list on the table at the front of church or email me, if possible by **Sunday 20th October**.

We will be providing refreshments in the hall after the service. If you could help with this please speak to me.

*Jean Tutton*

[jean.tutton@ntlworld.com](mailto:jean.tutton@ntlworld.com)/020 8393 3687

## ZOOM

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

*Tim Rogers*

## BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We are very sad that Gin Yershon, our group leader, has left us to take on a full time role elsewhere. I want to say a huge 'thank you' to Gin for everything she has contributed to the St John's Toddler group for the past seven years. I am pleased to say that her role is being taken up by Toni Garratt. Toni is a friend of one of our Toddler group mums and she has previous experience with other playgroups. We thank God that the group has been thriving in recent years and we look forward to Toni, together with Jan, helping us continue serving the youngest ones in our community.

*Rev Geoff Andrew*

## BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE CUP

As part of our drive to be more environmentally friendly, we want to encourage members of the church family to bring their own coffee mug to church so we can cup down on disposable cups. See if you can remember to do so this Sunday!

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

## Christmas Carol Service

Forgive me for talking about Christmas when we are only just into October and the schools have just returned after their summer holidays. However, I am keen that I get ahead of myself as we go into the autumn term.

This year's Carol Service will take place on Sunday, 15th December at 6.30pm and as in previous years we look forward to putting together a Christmas Choir. We welcome people of all ages and abilities.

We will need to start rehearsing for the service from the first week in November. The dates for choir practice are as follows:

- Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm – 9pm
- Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm – 9pm
- Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm – 9pm
- Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm – 9pm
- Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm – 9pm
- Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm – 9pm
- Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 4pm – 6pm

I really do hope that as many of you can join us again this year as part of our Christmas festivities here at St. John's and please share this with your family and friends too. If you are planning to be part of our Christmas Choir and haven't already contacted me, could you please email me at [chris.webb@epicc.org.uk](mailto:chris.webb@epicc.org.uk)

*Chris Webb*

## STEWARDSHIP

It is not too late to consider your financial giving to St John's. Please watch this video for full details of our current situation: [www.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk/stewardship](http://www.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk/stewardship).

You will have all received a letter and response form last week so thank you for your careful and prayerful approach to this subject. If you have any questions, contact Tim Rogers, our Treasurer at

[treasurer@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk). Thank you.

*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](http://whiteeagleappeal.org) or bring cheques payable to Shelly Wieczorek. If you want to give cash, please mark your envelope "Ukraine".

**Shelly, Ukrainian Refugee**

## 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:

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**

## FOODBANK

Thank you all for your generosity at our Harvest Festival. Sadly it's still an ongoing job so there is another 'wishlist' below. Never doubt that your gifts are not welcome - the Foodbank has promised to rejoice with us when its services are no longer needed.

This week they need the following: Tinned items - Fish/ Meat/ Spaghetti, /Fruit, Microwave Rice, Pasta Sauces

Pulses, Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise, Long Life Milk, Tea (bags), Instant Coffee, Custard, Chocolate/Sweet treats, Cereal bars, Sugar (500gr), Long life Sponge puddings, Squash, Jam/Honey/Peanut Butter, Deodorant (Male & Female), Shampoo & Conditioner, Adult toothbrushes, Shower Gel, Sanitary Towels, Nappies 6+, Washing powder, Washing up liquid.

Strong shopper bags and bags for life.

Many thanks .

**The Foodbank Team**

## Today's Services

After last week's break for Harvest we return once again to The God Story. At the end of the last session we saw how Moses led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt and through the wilderness for 40 years. This week, we take a fast walk through about 800 years of Israel's rise & fall, from entering the Promised Land to the halcyon years of David and Solomon and the decline that followed. Throughout the story, we see how the success or failure of Israel and its leaders depended upon their faithfulness or rejection of God. With a particular focus on David, we gain an insight into the kind of characteristics and behaviours that please God. How can we maintain our focus on our faith in God through Christ?

The 9.30am service this week includes Prayers for Healing.

## Readings

### 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Lynne Coppin**

16 The LORD said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.' <sup>2</sup> But Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.' The LORD said, 'Take a heifer with you and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the LORD."' <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice,

and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.' <sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, 'Do you come in peace?' <sup>5</sup> Samuel replied, 'Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.' Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. <sup>6</sup> When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD.' <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.' <sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, 'The LORD has not chosen this one either.' <sup>9</sup> Jesse then made Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, 'Nor has the LORD chosen this one.' <sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, 'The LORD has not chosen these.' <sup>11</sup> So he asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' 'There is still the youngest,' Jesse answered. 'He is tending the sheep.' Samuel said, 'Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.' <sup>12</sup> So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, 'Rise and anoint him; this is the one.' <sup>13</sup> So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

## Luke 6:43-45

<sup>43</sup> 'No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. <sup>44</sup> Each tree is recognised by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn-bushes, or grapes from briars. <sup>45</sup> A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

## Collect

God, our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives, that we may see your goodness in the land of the living, and looking on your beauty may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Intercessor

**Chris Redrup**

## Music 9.30am

1. Praise My Soul the King of Heaven (MP 560)
2. Now thank we all our God (MP486)
3. Father we love you (MP 142)
4. *During Communion:* Breathe on me, breath of God (MP 67)
5. Thy hand, O God, has guided (MP 705)

## Music 11am

1. Amazing Grace (my Chains are Gone)
2. Light of the World (Here I am)
3. Jesus Paid it All
4. 10,000 Reasons

## Book of Remembrance

Charles Bracewell Senior  
Iris Watkin