



# St John's, Stoneleigh

## Weekly Newsletter

### 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

This weekend feels like the beginning of the closing act of the calendar year. First of all, the clocks go back on Saturday night/Sunday morning (don't forget!). And secondly, we mark the season of Allhallowstide (Oct 31- Nov 2: All Hallow's E'en, All Saints Day and All Souls Day) with our annual Remembering Loved Ones service at 3pm on Sunday. Although this is an emotional time for many people as we commemorate those who have died, it is also a time when as Christians we look to the victory of the resurrected Jesus and the 'sure and certain hope' of the life to come. I must apologise in advance that this weekend's services will not be Zoomed as our tech team will be absent. I do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us in church for both the morning and afternoon services. Finally, those of you reading this on Saturday morning, it's not too late to join us on Saturday evening for the Jonathan Veira concert! It starts at 7.30pm so do come along for what is sure to be a great event.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

#### BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS

Please remember to put your clocks back an hour on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

#### ZOOM

Apologies that this week's Sunday services will not be Zoomed as our tech team will be absent.

*Rev. Geoff Andrew*

#### MIDWEEK SERVICES

We don't often mention them, but a worship service takes place in the chapel every Monday and Wednesday morning at 9.30am. On Monday we hold Morning Prayer, a short service (20 mins or so) that follows the Church of England's cycle of daily prayer. This service is Zoomed so you can join in from home – just let me know and I can send you the link. On Wednesdays we celebrate Holy Communion with the 'old language' of the Book of Common Prayer. This lasts about 40 minutes. Please feel free to come even if only on an occasional basis. It's a wonderful way to start the day.

*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. 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

#### CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

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, 15<sup>th</sup> 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*

#### 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:

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*

## UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

Hello to our friends at St John's Church

The people of Ukraine are now going into their third winter under bombardment. We are so grateful to everyone who has been donating items for them since February 2022. We have now received a list of items needed for Christmas. Anything donated before the end of November will be delivered to the people of Ukraine who cannot leave the country or to the refugees in Poland. We know there are many calls on your time and money and we are so grateful for everything received. If you can please donate:

Chocolate tubs: e.g. Celebration, Heroes, Quality Street, Biscuit selection boxes, Assorted roast nuts, seeds etc., Hot Chocolate, instant coffee, tea bags, Sugar, Soup packets, Tins of fruit and vegetables, Custard, Long life baked goods, Childrens' Toys (new only).

Please put them in the box marked Ukraine at the front of church.

I also take cheques made payable to Shelly Wieczorek or you can donate money on line at the "White Eagle Club Ukraine Appeal" on Facebook, Instagram or X.

Thank you again. **Shelly Wierzorek, Coordinator, White Eagle Ukraine Appeal**

## FOODBANK

Play the 'spot it and get it' game- read the list and see if your supermarket has some of the items which are needed most desperately. Some supermarkets rarely stock long life sponge puddings, 500g bags of sugar are also not available everywhere. Every contribution helps and the Foodbank is most grateful for our support.

This week they have **NO**:-chocolate or sweet treats, Long life sponge puddings, 500g bags of sugar.

They also need:- Rice (Microwave), Cooking Sauces, Noodles, Packet soup, Tinned meat, Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise, Long Life Milk, Instant Coffee, Powdered Milk, Squash, Custard, Jam/Honey/Chocolate Spread, Crisps, Cereal bars, Deodorant (Male and Female)< Shampoo & Condiitoner, Tampons, Nappies 6+, Toilet Rolls, Washing Powder, Washing up Liquid

If you prefer to give a cash donation please put it in an envelope marked 'Foodbank' and hand the envelope to a welcomer. Thank you.  
**The Foodbank Team**

## Today's Services

Christmas has come early! Don't worry, we'll revisit it again in a couple of months, but it just so happens that this week, The God Story moves out of the Old Testament and into the New with the birth of Jesus. Maybe it's a little incongruous to be focused on the Incarnation whilst the leaves are still on the trees, but perhaps stripped of the usual Christmas trappings the astonishing truth of 'Emmanuel' may strike home with a new resonance. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." I don't think there's ever a wrong time to ponder anew on the revelation of God's masterplan for the world.

## Readings

### Isaiah 42:1-4

42 'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. 2 He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. 3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; 4 he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.'

### John 1: 1-18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, 'This is the one I spoke about when I said, "He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.") 16 Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in the closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

## Collect

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying you will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Intercessor

**Chris Redrup**

## Music 9.30am

1. O Come O Come Emmanuel (MP 493)
2. Love divine, all loves excelling (MP 449)
3. There is a Redeemer (MP 673)
4. During Communion: What a friend we have in Jesus (MP 746)
5. In Christ Alone (MP 1072)

## Music 11am

1. In Christ Alone
2. King of Kings
3. Worthy of it All
4. Goodness of God

## Book of Remembrance

Adrian Michael Eagle  
Kath Jones  
Mavis Redrup