



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter 13th April 2025 – Palm Sunday

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

The Lenten season is reaching its climax as Palm Sunday this weekend leads us into Holy Week and the dramatic events of Easter. I want to extend my thanks to all those who have led or participated in our Lentwise course in the past few weeks (including last weekend's prayer vigil, which was beautiful as usual). We have walked this journey together and so it seems appropriate that this Sunday will be an all-together service at 10am. In fact, all the remaining Sunday services in April will be at 10am (Easter Sunday and St George's Day celebration to follow). The styles of worship at 9.30am and 11am are quite different and it's sometimes difficult to produce a 'hybrid' service. But I have to say I love it when we all get together as one congregation, one family. May this coming Holy Week be a time of unity and purpose as we follow Jesus into Jerusalem, to the cross and beyond.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

EASTER SERVICE TIMES

MAUNDY THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL – Thursday 17th

April at 7.30pm – Sign-up Sheet at front of Church

GOOD FRIDAY - Friday 18th April at 2.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY – Sunday 20th April at 10am

Please note that on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday it will be one service at 10am

ZOOM

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

Tim Rogers

ADRIAN DUTHIE'S FUNERAL

The service is at St John's on Wednesday April 16 at 3pm. Everyone welcome.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

HOT CROSS BUNS

We shall, as usual, be giving out Hot Cross Buns to commuters on Maundy Thursday, April 17th from 6.15 am until about 8.30am. I know that lots of people find it hard to get up so early but we would be grateful for help with buttering and giving out the buns. If you are able to help please sign the list which is on welcome the table at the front of Church.

Sue Pennington

POLLY ELDER'S SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Polly would love you to join her for her special birthday, ie fizz and cake, after the 10am service. Tea and coffee as usual.

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

After 10 years of living in a beautiful house in Stoneleigh Park Road my landlady has sadly decided to sell the house. I currently rent from a wonderful Christian family, but due to a change in their personal circumstances they have no option but

to sell the property. So, I need to move and I'm currently looking for a 2/3 bed property to rent in the Stoneleigh, Worcester Park, Ewell or Epsom area. I have a little West Highland terrier dog called Poppy who would also be joining me. So, if my St. John's family hear of, or know of, any places that are available to rent would they please let me know. Many thanks and blessings.

Chris Webb

GREEN CHRISTIAN

The Eco Church Team has signed up St John's to be a Church Member of Green Christian. Since 1982 Green Christian has been helping members to understand and relate our responsibilities to our Faith. They offer insights into ecology and the environment to Christian people and churches. There are magazines and leaflets on the Eco table at the back of church.

Roger Blake

PRAYER GROUPS – DAYTIME & EVENING

Please join us every 4th Thursday in the month between 3.30pm and 4.30pm in the chapel for a time of worshipful prayer.

Or every 2nd Thursday in the month between 7.30pm and 8.30pm in the church office (downstairs in the parish centre)

Steve Simper, Will Porter

FOODBANK

There is a new newsletter from the Good Company Surrey which makes interesting reading. A copy of it is on the noticeboard at the back of the church. Do think about following their Facebook page. This week there has been a very informative item on how they use donations.

They are receiving fewer donations of food in total than usual. They have 44 crates of food less, compared to the same period last month.....current financial struggles are beginning to bite, so all your contributions are very gratefully received. The Foodbank Team

This week they **Urgently need**: Squash, Long-life Juice, Tinned Fruit, Long life Sponge puddings, Sanitary Towels, Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder

They also need: Breakfast Cereal, Cooking Sauces, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Noodles, Microwave Rice, Instant Coffee, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Brown Sauce, honey, Jam, Marmalade, Crisps, Sugar (500gr), Custard, Rice Puddings, Savoury Biscuits, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Deodorant (Male & Female), Shower Gell, Shampoo and Conditioners. Thank you.

The Foodbank Team

UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

The White Eagle Club are continuing to support the people of Ukraine and the refugees in Poland who are affected by the Russian invasion. Thank you to everyone at St John's Church who are supporting us. We are still collecting the following:


Plasters, bandages, Pasta, rice, baby food, nappies and wipes, batteries, detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, hand wash and soaps, deodorant, sanitary pads, hand wipes, hand sanitizer, hand cream. Please put them in the box marked Ukraine at the front of the church. I also take cheques made payable to Shelly Wiczorek or you can donate money online at the "White Eagle Club Ukraine Appeal" on Facebook, Instagram or X.

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

JOIN US FOR A CHURCH RETREAT!

 **Escape. Reflect. Recharge.** 

 **Date:** Saturday, 17th May 2025

 **Location:** Wychcroft House, Bletchingley

Step away from the everyday and join us for a day of faith, friendship, and fresh countryside air at Wychcroft House! Whether you're seeking spiritual renewal, meaningful conversations, or just an excuse to eat cake in a peaceful setting—this retreat is for you. To book your place, complete the booking form by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code.

[Church Retreat Booking Form](#)



There will be paper copies in the church but completing it electronically will help immensely.

Sunday's Services

"Go into the village... you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, 'The Lord needs it.' In the well-known account of Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, the donkey itself is often overlooked. But this humble animal was no random or spontaneous choice by Jesus. Jesus knew exactly what he needed and where it could be found. And what a task the donkey was given! It was thrust into the spotlight but attracted none of the glory as Jesus received the adulation of the crowds. It's a lovely picture of humble service that we can all aspire to.

Readings

Psalm 118:19-29

Janis Forder

¹⁹Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. ²⁰This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. ²¹I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. ²²The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; ²³the LORD has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes. ²⁴The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad. ²⁵LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! ²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. ²⁷The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine on us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you. ²⁹Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures for ever.

Luke 19:28-40

²⁸After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰'Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" say, "The Lord needs it.'" ³²Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' ³⁴They replied, 'The Lord needs it.' ³⁵They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ³⁸'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!' 'Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples!' ⁴⁰'I tell you,' he replied, 'if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.'

Collect

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.

Music

1. Christ Triumphant (MP 77)
2. Ride on, ride on in majesty! (MP 580) vs 1,2,4,5
3. Hosanna (Praise is Rising)
4. *During communion:* As the Deer
5. All glory laud and honour (MP 9)

From our Book of Remembrance

Jean Morgan

Rita Ramsay

Thomas George Rhind-Tutt

Muriel Unwin Rhind-Tutt