



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

27th April 2025 - Second Sunday of Easter

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was wonderful to have such a full church for our Easter celebration last Sunday. God is good! Thanks to everyone who participated in our worship throughout Holy Week. A recent Bible Society report has found that church attendance is in growth mode again, especially among young adults. You can download the (free) report here: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/research/quiet-revival>. The transformational power of the risen Christ comes afresh to every generation, and we should be encouraged that the gospel message is resonating with more and more people who are disillusioned with what our culture has to offer. This weekend, I'm delighted that we will be joined by the local Scout group for our St George's Day celebration. Expect flag waving and a rousing rendition of Jerusalem! It is one 10am service. (For those who wish to receive Communion, a short act of worship will be held in the chapel at 9.20am). The Scouts will be hosting refreshments in the hall afterwards, and the APCM will follow immediately at 11.45am.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

COMMUNION ON SUNDAY AT 9.20AM

The main service this Sunday at 10am is not a Communion service. However, for those who wish to receive, there will be a short act of Communion at 9.20am in the chapel.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

ZOOM

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

Tim Rogers

APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place this Sunday at 11.45am. If you are on the (new) electoral roll, you are entitled to attend and to vote on church business which will include the election of church wardens and summary reports from representatives of all aspects of church life. Please come along if you can.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

SCOUT FUNDRAISING

The Scouts will be playing an active role in Sunday's service, including hosting refreshments in the hall afterwards. If you are coming to the service, please remember to bring some cash so we can support their fundraising efforts. They also take card payments.

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

CRAFT CLUB

As our normal week is Easter Monday, we will be meeting for Craft Group on Monday 28th April from 2.00pm to 4.00pm instead. We look forward to seeing you then.

Chris Redrup 020 8330 3646

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

We have received the following email from the Foodbank 'We want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who has donated to our foodbank and pantries over the Easter period. Your kindness enables us to support around 4,500 unique people in our community who are either at risk of or experiencing hardship. We work to ensure that anyone in financial crisis has met their immediate needs met and provide advice, information, practical and emotional support to help people to move forward and have hope for the future.'

This week they **urgently** need: Tinned Fruit, Deodorant (Male/Female), Shower Gel, Shampoo & Conditioner.

To maintain stocks, they also need: Breakfast Cereal, Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish,

Noodles, Instant Coffee, Squash, Long Life Juice, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Brown Sauce, Jam, Chocolate Spread, Crisps, Sugar (500gr), Long life Sponge puddings, Savoury Biscuits, Biscuits, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Adult Toothpaste, Adult Toothbrushes, Sanitary Towels, Toilet Rolls, Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder. 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 Wiczorek, 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 Service

In amongst the flag waving and patriotic symbolism of St George's Day, we do well to remember that George was a Roman soldier who was martyred in the early 4th century for refusing to renounce his faith in Christ. Standing up for what's right always carries a risk, yet Jesus requires us to take up our crosses and follow him, regardless of the cost. The spiritual fight is real, but we do not go into the fray unarmed. The armour of God is available to us all.

Reading

Ephesians 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done

everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Music

1. Fight the Good Fight with all Thy Might (MP 143)
 2. The Lord's My Shepherd (I Will Trust)
 3. Jerusalem
- The National Anthem
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