



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

6th April 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

The evenings are now lighter, the flowers and blossom are in full bloom and even the sun has made several welcome appearances. It finally feels like Spring! I hope and pray that this Lenten season has been a time of refreshment for you, and that you have been enjoying the Lentwise course. Easter is almost upon us, and I would like to encourage you to plan ahead and maybe join one of the Easter services in Passion Week (for dates and times, see below). If you have never been to the Maundy Thursday Fellowship Meal, come along and try it. We sit at tables together on the chancel (at the front of church). The food served is only symbolic (have dinner before you come!), but there are elements of the Jewish Passover meal with its themes of liberation and rescue, and we finish with Communion, the stripping of the altar (in preparation for Good Friday) and then leave in silence. It is a very moving act of worship. A sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Desk or send an email to Chris in the office. I want to also remind you that the new magazines are now ready for delivery and are laid out by road at the back of church. Please do one or two roads so that our neighbours can join in everything we have planned this Spring and Summer.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

EASTER SERVICE TIMES

PALM SUNDAY – Sunday 13th April at 10am

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

ELECTORAL ROLL

Please could those who want to be on the Electoral Roll fill in and return their forms by 6th April. This is because the names have to be available for everyone to see, if they wish, at least 14 days before the APCM. The rules are that after this no new names can be added until after the APCM. The rules also say that only those on the Electoral Roll can attend the APCM.

Sue Pennington

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

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

NO CAFÉ ON THURSDAY 10TH APRIL 2025

Please note that there will be no Café on Thursday 10th April due to staff shortages.

Café Team

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've heard a lot in the news recently about 'Awful April' with rising water, energy and council tax bills.

"It's not right that somebody comes to the Foodbank, it's not right that somebody survives by getting food from us. We want people to live with hope and optimism for the future."

Jonathan Lees, M D & founder of the Good Company, Surrey shared his thoughts on BBC Surrey this week. To listen to the conversation type linktr.ee/good_company_surrey into search engine and then click on the Radio Interviews page.

This week they urgently need: - Instant coffee, Squash, Chocolate Spread, Crisps, Custard, Tinned Fruit, Long Life Sponge Puddings, Biscuits, Deodorant (male and female), Shampoo and Conditioner, Sanitary Towels, washing up Liquid, Washing Powder.

They also need:- Breakfast Cereal, Cooking Sauces, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat, Tea bags, Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce, Sugar (500gr), Savoury Biscuits, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Shower Gel, Adult Toothpaste.

Thank you for all your donations.

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**

 **Escape. Reflect. Recharge.** 

Join Us for a Church Retreat!

 **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

On this fourth Sunday in Lent, the focus of our Lentwise series is Jesus, the Living Water, based on the wonderful story of Jesus and the woman at the well. Water, of course, is a staple of life, giving us refreshment and making us clean. Jesus' teaching draws uses water as a metaphor for a deep and eternal spiritual refreshment and cleansing, something that only he can offer. Your Lenten 'Spiritual Essentials' box currently contains a compass (direction), a cereal bar (nourishment), a light (wisdom and insight) and an umbrella (shelter). Come along on Sunday for the final item!

Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says – he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ¹⁸ 'Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. ²⁰ The wild animals honour me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, ²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

John 4:5-26

⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹ 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?' ¹³ Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' ¹⁵ The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.' ¹⁶ He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' ¹⁷ 'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' ¹⁹ 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹ 'Woman,' Jesus replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' ²⁵ The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' ²⁶ Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.'

Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessor

Ken Mussell

Music 9.30am

1. O praise ye the Lord (MP 518)
2. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation (MP 564)
3. As the Deer (MP 37)
4. *During communion:* Father we love you (MP 142)
5. Great is thy faithfulness (MP 200)

Music 11am

1. Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)
2. King of Kings
3. Jesus Paid it All
4. Shout to the Lord

From our Book of Remembrance

Audrey Elizabeth Aldridge
Mary Rhona Manley
Vera Francis Lucy Pinn