



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

15th June 2025 – Trinity Sunday

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was great to see so many people in church last week for the climax of the Easter season, Pentecost. As I said in my sermon, God wants to give us so much more of himself than we are currently experiencing, and he does this through the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We are currently finalising the new Church Development Plan and will be saying more about it next month. However, one of the key areas of focus will be providing more discipleship opportunities enabling us to grow closer to God. Although we are all on personal faith journeys, Jesus has established the church so that we can encourage and support each other as we seek to become more Christ-like and introduce others into the community of faith. This week is Trinity Sunday. The Trinity is a hard concept to grasp – how can we truly understand the nature of God? – but through lived experience we can know what it is to be in relationship with a God who is himself relationship and who delights to draw us into the eternal family.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

ZOOM

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


Tim Rogers

'WE BELIEVE' CREED BOOKLETS

This year marks the 1700-year anniversary of the Council of Nicaea which met in the year 325AD to discuss matters of Christian doctrine. The most significant outcome of this meeting was the formulation of one of the foundational statements of Christian belief, the Nicene Creed, which we still use in our churches today. To commemorate this anniversary, the Church has produced a booklet of 24 daily reflections covering each line of the Creed. We have purchased a limited supply of these booklets for St John's and they are available at the welcome desk for a suggested donation of £3.

Rev Geoff Andrew

CRAFT CLUB

The next meeting of the Craft Club will be on Monday, 16th June. We meet in the Parish Room from 2pm to 4pm. So please bring your crafting and join us. 

SUMMER FAIR – JULY 5th – 12 – 4PM

Our annual fair is fast approaching, and we are looking for volunteers to help set up, man the stalls, provide cakes and prizes for the raffle and Tombola. Please sign up to assist in whatever way you can. The sign-up sheet is at the front of church.

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

Each week we face a question - do we need a bit of waffle ahead of the Foodbank wishlist? Surely people just need the list and can then get on with putting their donations in the box at the church door. We are all human though and it's easy to say 'oh I must do that' with every good intention.....but life continues the minute we put the Church notice sheet down and it's possible to forget. So what is the point of the waffle? Just a simple friendly reminder to say don't forget the Foodbank please - it still needs our support.

This week they **urgently** need:- Sweetcorn, Cooking Sauces, Pastes Sauces, Microwave Rice, Powdered Milk, Instant Coffee, Long Life Juice, Custard, Deodorant (Male and Female), Adult Toothbrushes.

To Maintain stocks they also need:- Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned fruit, Tinned Meat, Long Life Milk, Nondairy milk, Squash, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Porridge, Jam, Honey, Marmalade, Peanut Butter, Chocolate Spread, Sugar (500gr), Long life Sponge puddings, Rice Pudding, Savoury Biscuits, Biscuits, Cereal Bars, Children's Toothpaste age 0-2 & 6+, Shampoo & Conditioner, Tampons.

The Foodbank Team

HONEY AND BAMBOO ZERO WASTE SHOP EWELL

If you have any plastics that can be topped up with hand soap, shower gel, washing up liquid, hand sanitizer, detergent, fabric conditioner. Toilet cleaner etc, please take them to Honey and Bamboo in Ewell Village. They also do olive oil top ups, flour, all curry ingredients, fresh eggs, dried pastas. It is a treasure trove of items which are environmentally friendly.! Please support them if you can!

Claire Cornell

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 Wieczorek 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**

ECO CHURCH NEWS

"St John's has a small but active Eco Church group but could do with *more* people to join us! We could do so much more with more helpers! I am so grateful to all those who helped with the bulb planting and creation of the wildflower area but we do have much more planned. Our next meeting will be in the vicarage on Tuesday June 10th at 19:30. Please do let me know if you are able to help in any way. In particular we need to increase our contacts with the local community and increase our campaigning (at all of local, national, and global levels) on issues of environmental concern.

Please note that there are still copies of 'Jesus Died to Save The Planet' available in Church. **Roger Blake**

Sunday's Services

When I was preparing for this weekend, the following observation from a fellow clergy person made me smile: *"I often wonder why we can't all just accept God with a childlike sense of awe and wonder; accepting the mystery as a mystery, without needing to pin down and pigeonhole God, getting him neatly into a box and keeping him there. I long for this childlike acceptance of mystery never more so than when I have to preach on Trinity Sunday!"* Nowhere in Scripture will you find any attempt to define the Holy Trinity, yet evidence of our Triune God is everywhere; from Jesus baptism to his final words to his disciples (The Great Commission) *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."* Rather than tying ourselves in knots with definitions, our efforts can be more usefully deployed in understanding how the Trinity enriches our understanding of God's love and the role of Father, Son and Holy Spirit in our salvation story.

Readings

Romans 5:1-5

Pearl Mayhew

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' ¹⁵ Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.' Then John consented. ¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'

Collect

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Music 9.30am

1. Holy, holy, holy (MP 237)
2. For the beauty of the earth (MP 152)
3. Tell out my soul (MP 631)
4. *During communion:* O Lord, hear my prayer (MP 908)
5. To God be the Glory (MP 708)

Music 11.00am

1. Consuming fire
2. Good Good Father
3. Heart of Worship
4. The Lord's My Shepherd (I Will Trust)

Book of Remembrance

Brian Willson Tripcony