



# St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

## 29th June 2025 – Second Sunday after Trinity

### A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was such a joy to celebrate Jeonghee Kim's baptism last week and to hear her wonderful testimony. God is good! It was also our Patronal Festival and so we were especially pleased to have a guest appearance from John the Baptist himself (aka Adrian)! I have to say he was looking his age. Talking of Adrian, our talented churchwarden has crafted a most wonderful bird table in the guise of a model of our church. This will be the star prize in the raffle we're holding at the Summer Fair on Saturday July 5. The Fair will be held from 12 noon to 4pm. Please come along and support, and if you can contribute prizes for the tombola and/or the raffle, they would be most appreciated. We also need as many folk as possible to help us set up, take down, and manage the various stalls during the event. Please send an email to the church office if you can help ([office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk)). May I also repeat my plea for assistance with the Parish Centre. If anyone has a couple of spare hours per week to handle our bookings and enquiries, please let me know. We also need a person who can oversee the centre management for us. These are voluntary positions and they play an important role in supporting our community activities.

**Rev. Geoff Andrew**

### ZOOM

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

**Tim Rogers**

### CHURCH WORKING DAY – SATURDAY JULY 26

From time to time, the church needs a good tidy up – cleaning, polishing, patching and painting. We have a list of jobs that need doing inside and outside the building, we just need some people to do them! So we're planning to gather a working party on Saturday July 26 from 10am until 4pm. You can attend for some or all of that time. A full list of work that needs doing will be made available in the next couple of weeks, but in the meantime, please sign up and let us know you can come, and what hours you are available. You will of course have some choice in the tasks you do, especially if you have physical limitations. Thank you!

**Fabric Committee**

### SUMMER FAIR – JULY 5<sup>th</sup> – 12 – 4<sup>PM</sup>

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.

**Social Committee**

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month between 7.30pm and 8.30pm in the church office (downstairs in the parish centre)

**Steve Simper, Will Porter**

### FOODBANK

Soon we shall be hearing more about our church development plan and our targets towards growing discipleship. As we said last week, the early church more or less invented Foodbanks as they recognised the need to care and share for their community. It is particularly wonderful to note our local Foodbank's connection with churches, many of the volunteers have a strong faith, we are not the only church with a Foodbank drop off point, the clients are often aware of the fact that the churches care and the fact that we hold the Foodbank, its work, volunteers and clients in prayer is much appreciated. It is a vital part of our role in growing discipleship.

This week they **urgently** need: - **Tinned** Fruit, Sweetcorn, Cooking Sauces, Pasta sauce, Microwave Rice, Instant coffee/tea, Custard, Chocolate, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Biscuits, Deodorant (Male &Female), Tampons/Sanitary Towels, Toilet Rolls.

They also need: - Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Meat, Dried Pasta in Sauce, Noodles, Ketchup/Mayonnaise, Porridge, Jam/Honey/Marmalade/Chocolate Spread, Sugar(500gr), Long life Sponge puddings, Savoury Biscuits.

Thank you.

**The Foodbank Team**

### UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL

Thanks for your support for Ukraine over the years While the world is looking the other way, Russia has increased its bombing of the Ukrainian people. Please could you support us by donating: Bandages, plasters, pain killers, sanitising products, sanitary pads, nappies, batteries, baby food, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shower gel, handwash and soaps, deodorant and hand cream. Please put any items in the box by the glass doors or hand any cheques made payable to Shelly Wierzorek to Claire Cornell Thanks you everyone.

**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. 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.

One thing coming up is the **Climate Coalition Rally** at Westminster on the 9th July. We are hoping to participate in this and currently have two, maybe three, people attending from St. John's. The plan is for anyone attending to link up with others from the Diocese and at some point speak to our MP. Anyone else who might be interested please speak to me during coffee on Sunday.

A reminder: There is a lot of good and interesting information about Eco Church themes at the back of church so please do take another look. This includes introductory leaflets and magazines from A Rocha UK and Green Christian. One of my favourites is the A Rocha UK Prayer Walk Guide from which the following short reflection is taken:

### **SIT**

Find a spot to sit down.  
As you look around at God's  
creation, what can you see? What  
can you hear? Use this space to  
pray for our leaders, both locally and  
nationally, as they make decisions  
that affect the natural world. Pray for  
wisdom and discernment. Pray that  
they will recognise the urgent need  
to protect and restore nature and  
to put policies in place that  
will safeguard and renew  
nature in the UK.

**Roger Blake**

### **Sunday's Services**

We conclude our 'Saints and Celebrations' sermon series today with two titans of the New Testament: Peter and Paul. What was similar in their ministries and where did they differ? What can we learn from them to further our own walk with Jesus?

### **Readings**

**Galatians 1:11-24, 2:1-2, 6-8**

**Janis Forder**

<sup>11</sup>I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. <sup>12</sup>I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. <sup>13</sup>For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. <sup>14</sup>I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. <sup>15</sup>But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>16</sup>to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being. <sup>17</sup>I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus. <sup>18</sup>Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. <sup>19</sup>I saw none of the other apostles – only James, the Lord's brother. <sup>20</sup>I assure you before God that what I am writing to you is no lie. <sup>21</sup>Then I went to Syria and Cilicia. <sup>22</sup>I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea

that are in Christ. <sup>23</sup>They only heard the report: 'The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.' <sup>24</sup>And they praised God because of me.

**2** Then after fourteen years, I went up again to Jerusalem, this time with Barnabas. I took Titus along also. <sup>2</sup>I went in response to a revelation and, meeting privately with those esteemed as leaders, I presented to them the gospel that I preach among the Gentiles. I wanted to be sure I was not running and had not been running my race in vain.

<sup>6</sup>As for those who were held in high esteem – whatever they were makes no difference to me; God does not show favouritism – they added nothing to my message. <sup>7</sup>On the contrary, they recognised that I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised. <sup>8</sup>For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles.

### **Matthew 16:13-19**

<sup>3</sup>When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' <sup>14</sup>They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup>'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

### **Collect**

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails; deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Music 9.30am**

1. To God be the glory (MP 708)
2. The Lord's my shepherd (MP 660)
3. What a friend we have in Jesus (MP 746)
4. *During Communion:* Abba Father (MP 3)
5. For all the Saints (MP 148)

### **Music 11.00am**

1. Amazing Grace (my chains are gone)
2. Oceans
3. No Longer Slaves
4. Shout to the Lord

### **From Our Book of Remembrance**

Alastair James Duthie  
Ian Herbert Duthie