



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

20th July 2025 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity

A MESSAGE FROM REV. GEOFF ANDREW

It was a glorious day for a wedding last Saturday and a real delight to marry Alison and Danny – now Mr and Mrs Bush - at St John's with over 130 people in attendance. Congrats to the bride and groom, and thanks to the St John's folk who helped out on the day. It was a truly memorable occasion. I would love to do more weddings, so if you know any suitable candidates, do send them my way! The next big non-Sunday gathering of the church family will be on Saturday July 26 when we have our church Working Party. Thanks to the 20 or so people who have already indicated that they will come to help out. It's not too late to add your name to the list! Finally, I am very pleased to announce that St John's has achieved the Eco Church Bronze Award. This is a significant milestone in our continuing effort to make us a more environmentally-friendly church. Thanks go to Roger Blake and the Eco Team for their great efforts in steering this initiative.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

As some of you know the World Day of Prayer is held on the first Friday in March but since our local committee was disbanded we have not been able to hold a local service. The Methodist congregation has provided us with a slightly modified service in the summer for the last two years. We miss out on the feeling of praying the same prayers all round the world at the same time but it's a good feeling to build on that prayer base a few months later. This year the Methodists have invited us to join them again on Sunday 3rd August at 10.30am in their church. A couple of us have been before and have felt welcome and have enjoyed the service. It would be wonderful to have some more people from St Johns to join us.

Polly Elder

CHURCH BBQ

The annual church BBQ in the Vicarage garden will be held on Sunday August 10th at 12.30pm. Please bring something to drink and a dish or snacks to share, plus food to be grilled. A sign up list is in the usual place on the welcome table in church.

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

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

CRAFT CLUB

Calling all Crafters. The next meeting of Craft Club will be on Monday, 21st July. We meet in the Parish Room from 2pm to 4pm. So bring your crafting and join us for a cuppa, a chat and of course, craft!



FOODBANK

Well, how did you do with last week's challenge to list as many nursery rhymes as possible that mentioned food? We promised another look at how food has crept into our language; many sayings and idioms use food as a metaphor. Here are a few to start you off - Spill the beans, piece of cake, crying over spilt milk....how many more can you recall? Maybe a trip round the supermarket to shop for the Foodbank will give you inspiration! This week please look out for: -

Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauce, Dried Pasta in Sauce, Noodles, Instant Coffee, Ketchup/Mayonnaise, Long life Sponge puddings, Custard, Chocolate, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Biscuits, Hair conditioner, Toilet rolls, Washing powder/ tablets, Washing up Liquid, because **these are urgently needed**.

Also: Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Sweetcorn, Tinned Tomatoes, Microwave Rice, Squash, Porridge, Jam/Honey/Marmalade/Chocolate Spread, Sugar (500gr), Rice Pudding, Savoury Biscuits, Deodorant (Male/Female), Adult toothpaste, Tampons, Nappies size 5 **because stocks of these items are running low**. 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

GRASSMARKET REUSABLE BAMBOO CUP £4

I am placing an order for these Environmentally friendly reusable Bamboo Cups – 12oz liquid content. Rubber Holder ensuring its comfortable to hold. Dishwasher safe. If you would like to purchase one please put your name on the sign-up sheet at the front of Church.
Roger Blake

Eco Church News

First, as most of you probably already know, I am very pleased to announce that we finally achieved our Eco Church Bronze Award!



Many thanks to everyone who helped get us there!

St John's has a small but active Eco Church group but could do with more people to join us! In particular we could with more people to help us with our plans to improve the church grounds. I am really grateful to all those who have already helped with the bulb planting last autumn and the creation of the wildflower area but we do have much more planned.

LISTEN TO BIRDSONG

Stop and listen. Can you hear birdsong? Most birdsong ceases by the autumn, but the robin is one species that continues to sing its melodies throughout the year. Pray for A Rocha UK's Partners in Action who are taking practical action to boost local populations of vulnerable species. For more information about our Target 25 project, visit: arochoa.org.uk/whatwe-do/target-25/

Sunday's Services

Last week, I talked about Jesus comparing the Kingdom of God to treasure and a fine pearl. I encouraged us to think about how we could kindle or rekindle a passion for God's Kingdom and devote more time to the things of God. This week, I want to focus on a different kind of response. Where do we invest the treasures that have been given to us? Living generously is a hallmark of mature discipleship. We will be talking about the new church plan and how each of us can contribute to the growth of St John's for the benefit of ourselves personally, our church family, and our friends and neighbours in the community.

Readings

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Pearl Mayhew

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Matthew 6:19-24

¹⁹ 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²² 'The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴ 'No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

Collect

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Music 9.30am

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation (MP 564)
2. Take my life, and let it be (MP 624)
3. When I survey the wondrous cross (MP 755)
4. *During communion:* O Lord, hear my prayer (MP 908)
5. In Christ Alone (MP 1072)

Music 11.00am

1. Here I am to worship
2. Good good father
3. Thank you for saving me
4. In Christ alone