



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

Combined notice sheet for Sunday
22nd and Sunday 29th December

Welcome

We are pleased that you are joining us for worship today and we pray that each of us will meet with God. We will be welcoming many visitors to St John's over the next few weeks and we ask you to pray that they will feel God's presence whilst here and that they may join us in the New Year.

Collect – Sunday 22nd December

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Bible Readings – Sunday 22nd December

Isaiah 42: 1-9
John 9: 1-17

Hymns – Sunday 22nd December

631 Tell out my soul
170 Give thanks
418 Lift up your heads to the coming King
910 O Lord whose saving name (sung to the tune of My song is love unknown)
51 Be thou my vision

Collect – Sunday 29th December

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Bible Readings – Sunday 29th December

I Thessalonians 4: 13-18
Mark 13: 1-17

Hymns – Sunday 29th December

508 See Amid the Winter's Snow
454 Majesty x2
673 There is a Redeemer
428 Lord for the Years

MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN

Thank you to all those who are supporting the services and events that are taking place at St John's over the Christmas period, your help is appreciated.
Margaret and I would like to thank everyone for all the Christmas cards we have received and both wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

MIDWEEK FOCUS – ST PAUL'S

Midweek Focus is back on 8th January with Music by Stephen Robbins.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

CHOIR – CAROL SERVICE

The rehearsal today (22nd December) will start promptly at 4pm so I would be grateful if you could arrive by 3:45pm to help set up. There will be a break of about 30/40 minutes between the rehearsal and the Carol Service.
Dress code for the evening will be black and white with a dash of red.

Chris Webb

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday 29th December – "Looking Back and Looking Forward"
Sunday 5th January – "We saw His Star" – All Age Service

Please take a programme of services for Spring 2020 which is based on 'A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy'.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

NESCOT CAFE

NESCOT Café has now finished for this term. We have now said goodbye to the current group of students, and wished them good luck in their new placements.
The Cafe will restart on Friday 10th January with a new group of students. Initially there will only be a basic menu, but within a couple of weeks they will be preparing the full choice of delicious food.

Chris Redrup

ADVANCE NOTICES

Margaret and I will be away in Australia from 9th January, for four Sundays. I am grateful to St Paul's Howell Hill who will be covering the Sunday services.
For the period I am away, the Wednesday services (15th, 22nd and 29th January, and 5th February) will be a reflective service of morning pray and will be led by members of the congregation for approximately 30 minutes, followed by coffee. This is an opportunity for members of the congregation to pray for local, national and international needs.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

GIFT ENVELOPES

Numbered weekly gift envelopes for 2020 are ready for collection from the table by the entrance to the Lady Chapel. If you would like to start giving regularly using your own set of personalised envelopes, please contact the Treasurer, Tim Rogers, on 07801 651 082.

ON THIS WEEK

Monday 23rd – Christingle preparation
Christmas Eve – Crib Service and Christingle – 4pm
Midnight Communion – 11:30pm
Christmas Day – Family Worship at 10am followed by a short Holy Communion service

SUNNYBANK

Thank you for the overwhelming response to the appeal for Christmas presents for the Sunnybank Trust. I appreciate it was a very short time to gather presents but we did really well and were able to collect 88. The Sunnybank Trust were very grateful and extend their thanks to all those involved. Father Christmas gave all these presents out during the Sunnybank Christmas Party.

Maggie Savill

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

I wanted to thank everyone who has helped with the Baby and Toddler group throughout the year. The group is thriving and it wouldn't be possible if it weren't for the volunteers. We are looking for more volunteers to be on the rota to help with the kitchen duties at Baby and Toddler Group so if you'd like to get involved, please speak with Jean Tutton to find out more details of what is involved.

Gin Yershon

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER GOSPEL READING

JOHN 9: 1-17

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We² must work the works of him who sent me² while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER GOSPEL READING

MARK 13: 1-17

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.'

'As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. And the good news² must first be proclaimed to all nations. When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.'

'But when you see the desolating sacrilege set up where it ought not to be (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; someone on the housetop must not go down or enter the house to take anything away; someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days!

Christmas at St John's

Sunday 22nd December - Carol Service - 6pm

Christmas Eve - Crib Service with Christingle – 4pm

Christmas Eve - Midnight Communion – 11:30pm

Christmas Day - Family Service – 10am followed by a short Holy Communion Service at 11am

St John's, Station Approach, Stoneleigh, Surrey, KT19 0QZ

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Items to be included in the next notice sheet should be emailed by 8am next Friday to Kerrie Winter, the Minister's Administrator, at office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk