



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 1st March

Welcome

We are pleased that you are joining us for worship today and we pray that each of us will meet with God. Nathan Avery Walden was baptised here yesterday and we welcome him and his family to St John's.

Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Bible Reading

Ephesians 2: 19-22

Hymns

MP 560 Praise my Soul the King of Heaven
MP 99 Come on and Celebrate
MP 825 Faithful one
MP 37 As the Deer
MP 640 The Church's one foundation

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday 8th March – "Transformed Relationships"
Sunday 15th March – "Don't you know there's a war on?"
Sunday 22nd March – Mothering Sunday

Rev. Ken Hobbs

EASTER @ ST JOHN'S

Please take a leaflet from the front of Church which details all the services taking place over Easter. This year there will be a Sunrise Service at 6:30am on Easter Day.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

READING FOR LENT

"A Passion for Christ" Michael Baughen (Pub CWR)
"On Calvary's Hill" Max Lucado (Pub Thomas Nelson)
Available from Eden Publishing or Amazon. You can look at these on the table by the door. The Michael Baughen book is suitable for house group or individual use. The Max Lucado book has 40 daily readings.
On the table at the front of church are copies for the 'CARE Prayer Diary and 'Word for Today'.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

PCC and APCM

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 4th March, any agenda items to Rev. Ken or Lynda White asap.
The APCM will be held on Sunday 19th April after the service.

Rev. Ken Hobbs and Lynda White

CALL KEN!

If you would like to schedule some time with me, please add your name to the 'Call Ken!' poster at the front of Church. Should you not wish to add your telephone number to the poster, please just add your name and email me at minister@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk with your telephone number.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

MUSIC WORKSHOP

Andy Shaw has kindly offered to hold a music workshop at St John's on Saturday 7th March at 10am until 12pm. This is a great opportunity for musicians and/or singers to explore ways forward for enhancing our music ministry at St John's. If you're interested, please put your name on the list at the front of church. All welcome.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

MOTHERING SUNDAY – 22ND MARCH

We will be celebrating Mothering Sunday this year with an All Age Service to which the uniformed organisations have been invited and there is also a baptism. As usual we will be making small simple posies to hand out at the service. We would like to make around 100 and the flower team would welcome some help with these. If you would be interested in helping that weekend, please speak to me for more details.

Lynda White

The HOLY LAND VISIT – MARCH 2021

The parishes of Christchurch Ottershaw, St John's Stoneleigh and St Paul's Howell Hill are combining to take a party of 30-40 pilgrims to the Holy Land. The party will be led by myself and the Rev. Sandra Faccini. Details can be found at the front of church or on the St John's website.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

It will be the World Day of Prayer on Friday 6th March and there will be a service at Stoneleigh Methodist Church at 2pm. The World Day of Prayer movement is led by women, global, and ecumenical. The service is written by a different country each year and is used in over 170 countries on the same day, truly a case of "As o'er each continent and island the dawn leads on another day, the voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strain of praise away". This year the women of Zimbabwe invite us to 'pray together on the theme 'Rise, take up your Mat and Walk'. It is not only for women - all are welcome. Please come and join us.

Sue Pennington and Polly Elder

ON THIS WEEK

Tuesday 3rd –Baby & Toddler Group
Wednesday 4th –PCC Meeting, Midweek Focus at St Paul's
Friday 6th – NESCOT Café, World Prayer Day
Saturday 7th – Andy Shaw's Music Workshop 10am

ST JOHN'S CHURCH CHOIR

We have a recording of St. John's Church choir from 1967 on L.P. Tim has managed to produce, with a friends help, a CD of this recording. If anyone would like a copy of this CD, with the names of everyone singing, we are selling them for £5 each to raise funds for St. John's church. Please talk to Tim or Janis if you are interested.

Janis Forder and Tim Rogers



TRAIDCRAFT NEWS

There will not be a Traidcraft Stall this Sunday – instead we will return on Mothering Sunday – 22nd March. **Why?** Firstly, there will be a lot more people around on the 22nd March, but just as importantly we are attending a Traidcraft "Conference" on Saturday 14th March. We are hoping to pick up copies of the new catalogue for all to see, and hopefully negotiate some bargain buys which we will be able to bring away with us. So if the plan works, it will be a bigger and brighter stall waiting for you in the Parish Centre on the 22nd March.

In the meantime, if anybody has an insatiable craving for Ginger biscuits, or the like, please let us know – and we can probably do a "home delivery" in the next few days.

Veronica Gittins

MIDWEEK FOCUS – ST PAUL'S

This week's Midweek Focus on Wednesday 4th March is a talk by Bill McIlory on 'International Needs'.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

BRING OUT YOUR BOTTLES!

We are hoping to run another successful 'Bottle Tombola' at this year's Spring Fair on 16th May. All contributions would be very gratefully received; whether specially purchased, or resulting from a tidy up of your stock cupboard. How about looking out any suitable unused or spare Christmas Gifts? Here's a chance to donate them to a good cause and help with some fun fundraising. Do speak to Joan Simon if you need more information or your donation collected from your home. Otherwise please bring bottles and place them into the named box at the back of church. Thank you.

Joan Simon

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

We are hoping to have a plant stall at our Spring Fair on the 16th May. Please could anyone who grows plants from seeds put a few more seeds in this year for the church plant sale? It doesn't matter what you grow: vegetables, flowers or shrubs. We would love to have any donations you can bring. If you know any keen gardeners, please ask them if they can help too! Any plants you grow for the church can be brought along on the day before 10.00 or the night before between 6 and 7 p.m. Many thanks in advance.

Claire Cornell



Good Friday Easter Celebration – Please join us!

We would love for you to join us on Good Friday as we mark and celebrate the story of Easter in Epsom Town Centre with a Palm Sunday Parade (including live donkey!), songs, hot cross buns, and the Experience Easter Reflection Space by Spinnaker.

Please help us to share the message of Easter with our community. See event poster for details of the many ways you can get involved.

The Good Friday Easter Celebration is being run by Churches Together in Epsom and Ewell and Spinnaker Epsom and Ewell. For enquiries, please contact: chris.shaw@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk or cathy.ellis@spinnaker.org.uk

Please take a leaflet available at the front of church called 'Good Friday Easter Celebration' for more information.

Prayers

Suggestions to include in our prayers this week - Dear God, we bring you our fears about the spread of the Coronavirus COVID-19. We pray for all who are ill with the disease, those who care for them, all seeking to control its spread and those working to discover an antidote. Amen.

Please pray for these people on our Continuing Prayer List: Peter, Marjorie and Betty Chapman, Roger Blake, Jean Morgan. Please see the Prayer Board in church for recent special requests.

The following are prayers based on the Diary of CARE (Christian Action Research and Education):

A prayer for use at Services and private devotions on Sunday and during the first half of the week.

Healing Lord, we pray for people with mental illness or any mental health challenges, including those with learning difficulties or dementia. We pray for people burdened with distressing emotional issues, and for many who feel driven to self-harm. Amen.

A prayer for use at Services and private devotions on Wednesday and during the second half of the week.

Father God, we pray your blessing upon the work of all who care for those suffering from mental health conditions. For all in our NHS services, all doctors, nurses, therapists, families and personal carers. We pray that there may be adequate funding and training, and that we may all feel tolerance and empathy towards people whose lives are affected in any way by these issues.

Book of Remembrance

This week we remember from our Book of Remembrance
Diana Joy Adele Price

Ephesians 2: 19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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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