



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 23rd February

Welcome

We are pleased that you are joining us for worship today and we pray that each of us will meet with God.

Collect

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Bible Readings

Ephesians 5: 1:21
John 8: 12-19

Hymns

MP 1039 Colours of day
MP 613 Spirit of the Living God
MP 664 The Spirit Lives
MP 167 Give me oil in my lamp

MIDWEEK FOCUS – ST PAUL'S

This weeks Midweek Focus on Wednesday 26th is Holy Communion.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday 1st March – All Age Worship "Fellow Travellers"
Sunday 8th March – "Transformed Relationships"
Sunday 15th March – "Don't you know there's a war on?"

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

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

OPENING CHURCH

We are looking for someone to open the church on the mornings of 5th and 17th March. If you can help, please get in touch with one of the Church Wardens.

Janis Forder and Ken Mussell

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

On February 26th, there will be a Holy Communion service at 7:30pm. This will give us the opportunity to have a reflective start to the season.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

CULTURE OF INVITATION

Training on the Culture of Invitation with Michael Harvey will be taking place at St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham on 24th March 2020. There are daytime and evening sessions. If you are interested, please contact the office for further information.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

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

HEALING SERVICES

St Martin's Church, Epsom are holding a Healing Service today. The service will be at 6:30pm. Come to experience the presence and the compassion of God.

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

ON THIS WEEK

Tuesday 24th – Baby & Toddler Group
Ash Wednesday 26th – Evening Holy Communion service 7:30pm
Friday 28th – NESCOL Café

DAY ON PRAYER at St. Mary's Chessington – Rev'd Scott Edwards

On Saturday 25th April in St Mary's Church Centre, there will be a day on prayer in its many forms including use of praying as we walk a labyrinth. This will be led by guest speaker, Martin Garsed, who is an Anglican Spiritual Director, Counsellor and experienced labyrinth guide.

The day will last from about 10.00 am until around 4.00pm. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day but please bring a packed lunch. A small donation of £5 to cover costs gratefully received. Everyone is welcome to join for what will be an interesting and fruitful day.

Please contact Jane Gates - 07585840457 - for more information or to let us know if you are coming.

Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to our Diocese from 18-20 March

There are some key events taking place, all of which are free to attend and some require booking in advance.

An evening with Justin Welby - Thursday 19 March 7.30pm at the Lakeside Complex near Camberley.

To book visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-justin-welby-tickets-85951512287>

An evening for young people - Wednesday 18th March 6:30pm at Christ Church, Woking

To book visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-justin-welby-for-young-people-tickets-88675509837>

Archbishop on Guildford High Street - Wednesday 18 March at 4.15pm at the bottom of Guildford High Street. No booking required.

For more information about these events and other events that are taking place, please go to

<https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/archbishop-of-canterbury-march-2020>



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.

Hope into Action: Epsom 'Evening for Investors'

We are delighted to report that Hope into Action: Epsom is now an official franchise of Hope into Action: UK. We are now able to take further concrete steps towards opening our first Epsom-based house for homeless and vulnerably housed people. To find out more about the progress of our Hope into Action project and the ways in which you can get

involved, please come to our 'Evening for Investors' on March 4, 8pm at Epsom Methodist Church. This event will have a particular emphasis on investing financially into the purchase of a house - we will get into the detail of how that works for the investor and how it helps to support the project. We are very pleased that Hope into Action's Regional Advisor, Nigel Goodenough, will be joining us. Nigel has opened two houses in Mid-Sussex with two more due to open very shortly. He brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise.

For more details, please contact Chris Shaw on chris.shaw@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk
We do hope you will be able to join us.

Book of Remembrance

This week we remember from our Book of Remembrance
Rex Norton Milner and Ronald James Mussell

Ephesians 5: 1-21

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us² and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But fornication and impurity of any kind, or greed, must not even be mentioned among you, as is proper among saints. Entirely out of place is obscene, silly, and vulgar talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving. Be sure of this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be associated with them. For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

'Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.'

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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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