



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 15th November

Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Music

Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord (MP 631)
A New Commandment I give unto you (MP1)
Song - Brother Sister let me serve you let me be as Christ to you (Sarah Tutton)
Worthy O Worthy are you Lord (MP 782)
Make me a channel of your peace (MP 456)

Readings

Acts 2, v42-47 and Acts 4 v32-35
John 10 v11-18

A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS

On Nov 1st over 70 of us were able to gather in church and at home to give thanks for the lives of loved ones who have gone before. Days later we heard of the closure again of churches for public worship for 4 Sundays. It was good to be able to stream our Remembrance Service last Sunday to everyone at home and my thanks go to the production team in the church building who made this possible.

Today and for the next two Sundays we will have to do the same and we hope to resume public worship on Sunday Dec 6th with Geoff Andrew as our guest preacher.

We are looking forward to Christmas and planning ahead in so far as we can. You will see some details in this newsletter about what we hope to do and how you can be involved.

Thank you again for all your support, understanding and encouragement.

God bless you

Ken

PASTORAL VISITING

I am allowed to visit you in your home if we observe COVID safeguards as part of my "work" which cannot be done remotely. Talk to me about this if you feel you would like a safe visit!

Rev. Ken Hobbs

AUTUMN SERIES AT ST JOHN'S

22nd November – Pressures in Church Growth - **Zoom only**

29th November – ADVENT SUNDAY - **Zoom only**

6th December – Priorities in Church Growth

Rev. Ken Hobbs

NEXT PCC MEETING

The next PCC meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st December.

Sue Pennington

KEEPING IN TOUCH AND PRAYERS

The WhatsApp group, Facebook and website will continue to be updated so please keep in touch. Any prayer requests for the prayer board can still be submitted to Jean Tutton.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

SUNDAY SERVICES

To join the Sunday 10am service via Zoom, you will need to follow this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96558696378>

For those joining manually the code you need is 9655 8696378.

To join using the telephone, please dial 020 3051 2874. You will be asked to enter the meeting ID followed by # (hash). Key in: 96558696378#. You will be asked for a personal ID, just press # again and you will be connected to the Service.

John Simon

THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

Thursday morning coffee via Zoom at 10:30am is still taking place. For the Zoom link, please email the office.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

We are hoping to put on a Christmas celebration on Sunday Dec 20th at 4pm and again at 6 pm. We need singers to lead from the front (suitably spaced).

More details to follow but please let Chris Webb, Sarah Tutton and Tim Rogers know so that we can begin to plan. You may know singers from other groups in Stoneleigh who might like to join us. These identical celebrations will need to be booked using either an individual ticket or a "household" ticket.

We are also exploring the possibility of creating a "virtual choir" whereby you record your singing at home and this is then combined with everyone else to provide a lead for the "congregational" carols.

These celebrations will be open to all ages and include take away Christingles and Christmas goodie bags.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

You'll be aware that Rev. Ken is hopeful a Christmas service will take place on the 20th December, so we are making plans! If you would like to attend one of the services, either at 4pm or 6pm, you will need to book a ticket. These will be issued on a first come first served basis. Tickets available are for individuals and households. Please email the office (office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk) or call and leave a message

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

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on 020 8786 7048 and let me know type of ticket you would like and for which service. If you are booking a household ticket, please let me know how many will be attending from your household. Any questions, please speak with Rev. Ken.

Kerrie Winter

CHRISTMAS CARD DISTRIBUTION

St John's will be sending a Christmas card and letter to all households in the Parish and your help is needed to deliver them. If you're able to help make deliveries, please email or call the office. Many thanks.

Kerrie Winter

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

I am pleased to say that over the next few months, I have arranged for some guest speakers to join our services. Dates for your diary:

6th December – Geoff Andrew

13th December – Andy Shaw

20th December – Rev. Peter Harwood

7th February – Bishop of Guildford The Right Revd Andrew

Rev. Ken Hobbs

LOCAL CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

Oasis in Wallington offers a wide range of Christian resources.

<https://www.oasiswallington.com/>

The Oasis Christian Bookshop, 39 Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 0LH. Telephone: (020) 8773 1428

Rev. Ken Hobbs

NEW SCREENS

Work to install video screens in church will start on November 17th and is expected to take three weeks. During that time the church will only be open for private prayer on Mondays. The church will be open on November 16, 23 and 30.

John Simon

FOODBANK

The donations from Harvest Festivals in the last week have been so overwhelming that the volunteers have asked for no general items this week please. Instead they have launched their Christmas Appeal.

Christmas Boxes. Each client will receive a box in the lead up to the festivities. The box will contain seasonal food, a voucher for fresh meat, an energy top up voucher, gifts for each member of the family. The gifts will be wrapped for the adults but unwrapped for the children as this will enable the parents to be involved in organising their own Christmas.

To ensure that they are not overwhelmed with too many presents etc etc, the presents for children element has been specifically allocated to various schools in our locality.

Please make sure your donations are sealed, **do not contain alcohol and are still in date at Christmas.** No reverse advent boxes please, as they pack all of clients' boxes individually. Cut off date is 11 December to give the Centre time to sort and pack your donations.

This is the list of items which they are hoping we will be able to donate:-

Boxes of biscuits, Tubs/boxes of chocolates, Small/medium Christmas puddings (*alcohol-free*), Mince pies (*alcohol free*), Yule logs/chocolate swiss rolls, Savoury snacks (twiglets, cheeselets, crisps), Mixed fruit and nuts, Small boxes of shortbread, Sweets/biscuits for our older/single clients, Gravy granules, Hot chocolate, Custard, Schloer/other non-alcoholic fizz, Christmas napkins, Disposable table cloths, New tea towels, Wrapping paper, Gift tags, Sellotape

And finally, I'm bound to pass on a request that only items purchased in that supermarket should be put in their collection bin. The church is open for private prayer and the box is accessible for donations please.

oh - this is typical me! A second finally! Please remember to include the Foodbank and its volunteers in your prayers, just now they are really appreciating our care and support.

Polly Elder

Worship at Home/Church

Theme Pastoral Care in Church Growth

Greeting p5

Hymn Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord (MP 631)

Confession p7

Hymn A New Commandment I give unto you (MP1)

Collect for the Day

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

1st Reading Acts 2, v42-47 and Acts 4 v32-35 read by Tim Rogers

Acts 2: 42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 4: 32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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Gospel Reading John 10 v11-18 read by Tim Rogers

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

Book of Remembrance:
Leonard Alexander Sharpe

Sermon

Song Brother Sister let me serve you let me be as Christ to you (Sarah)

Creed p13

Prayers p15 Ian Hargrave

Peace p17

Hymn Worthy O Worthy are you Lord (MP 782)

Communion Prayer p33

Lords Prayer p 18

Prayer of Humble Access p20

Distribution of Bread to the production team in church (music may be played) (do feel free to share at home)

Prayer after Communion p22

Hymn Make me a channel of your peace (MP 456)

Blessing p23

Talk Outline

The Membership of the Early Church

7 things they did together

- They worshipped together
- They prayed together
- They broke bread together
- They served together
- They shared together
- They gave together
- They learned together

Behind this picture of their corporate life –

- they valued apostolic teaching;
- their fellowship was central
- they had a new attitude to money and possessions
- Jesus was the focus of their lives

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