



St John's, Stoneleigh Weekly Newsletter

3rd January 2021

Collect

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen

Music

Praise My soul the King of Heaven (MP 560)
Father God I wonder (MP 128)
As with gladness men of old (MP 39)
Lord for the years your love has kept and guided (MP 428)

Reading

Matthew 2: 1-12

A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS A HAPPY NEW YEAR !

Welcome to our Epiphany service at St John's and at home. I trust you had a very happy Christmas in spite of everything! It was good to see you in the church and on screen over the Christmas period and my thanks go to the whole team who made our celebrations possible.

We look ahead to this New Year with hope and anticipation as more and more of us are vaccinated and the virus recedes. Although we are currently under Tier 4 communal worship is allowed and the church building is one of the few safe indoor public places where we can be together.

Today is a service for everyone and as we think about the story of the Wise Men we welcome our own "Visitors from the East". Sally and Yagya Singh with daughter Vera are with us from Katmandu in Nepal. Sally grew up in Cheam and with husband Yagya they are engaged in mission and development work in the earthquake ravaged villages of Nepal and have many years experience in combatting the trafficking of girls into India. They work for an international interdenominational mission agency INTERSERVE and their NGO project is called Bridges Nepal.
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

SPRING PROGRAMME CARD

These are available in church but will also be emailed to you. We will be looking at two extraordinary Old Testament Characters under the general title of "Light in the Darkness" The stories of Joseph and Joshua.
Rev. Ken Hobbs

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

All lives services in church are now being streamed via stoneleigh.tv rather than Zoom. Any problems, please let us know.

Tim Rogers

THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

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

Rev. Ken Hobbs

NEW SCREENS

The new video system is up and running and already enhancing our services. It's not too late if you would still like to make a donation towards the cost of the new system. Please contact the Treasurer, Tim Rogers, for details of how to make such a gift.
Tim Rogers

UPCOMING SERVICES

A couple of dates for your diary.....On the 10th January we have Rev. Michael Dunk joining us from St Paul's Howell Hill and on the 7th February we have the Right Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford joining us.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

Maureen Lahiff's book about her son

Some of you will remember Maureen Lahiff and her son, Michael, who had Down's Syndrome. Maureen has just published a book about her son entitled "Michael, A Transforming Presence". It costs £8.99 including postage and packing. However, if several people wanted the book, the books could be sent in one parcel and the cost would be less. I have read the book and found it very moving and informative. I would be happy to lend my copy to anyone if it can be done in a Covid safe way.

Further information from Sue Pennington 02083934356 or suepennington@uwclub.net

Sue Pennington

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

Office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk www.stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk 020 8786 7048

Items to be included in the next notice sheet should be emailed by 12pm on Wednesday to Kerrie Winter, the Minister's Administrator, at office@stjohnsstoneleigh.org.uk

Worship at Home/Church

Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. (Isaiah 60.1)

Hymn Praise My soul the King of Heaven (MP 560)

Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, wise men from the East worshipped and adored you; they brought you gifts- gold, frankincense and myrrh. We too have seen your glory, but we have often turned away.

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

We too have gifts but we have not fully used them or offered them to you.

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

We too have acclaimed you as King, but we have not served you with all our strength.

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

We too have acknowledged you as God, but we have not desired holiness.

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

We too have welcomed you as Saviour, but we have failed to tell others of your grace.

Lord in your mercy, **forgive us and help us.**

Make our trust more certain; make our love more real; make our worship more acceptable; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Bridges Nepal Interview with Sally and Yagya

Song Sally and Yagya

Bible Reading Matthew 2 1-12 Maggie Savill

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men² from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,² and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah² was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd² my people Israel." '

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men² and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,² until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped,² they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid

him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Praise Father God I wonder (MP 128)

Video "Herod and the Wise Men"(Friends and heroes))

Prayers Margaret Hobbs

We pray for the needs of the world, our community and ourselves

**Eternal God, who by the shining of a star led the wise men to the worship of your son:
Guide by his light the nations of the world, that the whole world may behold your glory;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come, your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
Now and for ever. Amen.**

Hymn As with gladness men of old (MP 39)

The Address

Hymn Lord for the years your love has kept and guided (MP 428)

The Blessing

Talk Outline-

1. They saw the star - EVIDENCE
2. They asked the question - ENQUIRY
3. They found the child - ENCOUNTER
4. They paid the price - EXPENSE
5. They returned home - EVERYDAY

Book of Remembrance:

Marjorie Kauffman, Pamela Cromarty,
Olive Daisy Clements, Dora Blake

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