Dates for your diary

Sunday 29th 10.00am Joint Benefice Holy Communion

At St. Nicholas church CUDDINGTON (note – there is no service in SJB)

11.00am Morning Service at the Chapel

Saturday 4th 10.00am -12.00 noon Café in the Park

Our chance to get together again after The Christmas and New Year break.

Helpers and cakes will be needed as usual.



Holy God, just as we are we come to you, and we ask for your kingdom to come in our hearts, in our homes, and in our community; increase our faith and our love for you, so that we may become the lights in the darkness that you have called us to be.

AMEN

You can now donate to the church by your mobile phone. Just text **CHURCH** (amount) to **70470** to donate from £1 to £20 (e.g. CHURCH 8 to donate £8). The donation plus a standard rate message fee will be debited to your mobile account.

Contact details: Pewsheet pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com

Parish News <u>david@pickupandscott.co.uk</u>

Website <u>webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com</u>

Please send anything for inclusion in the pewsheet by 7pm on a Friday

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



DIOCESE OF OXFORD

Parish of Stone, Dinton and Hartwell

Churches of: St. John Baptist, STONE; Ss Peter & Paul, DINTON; Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin, HARTWELL www.stonedintonhartwell.com

St. John the Baptist STONE

Sunday 22nd December - 4th Sunday of Advent

9:00am **MATINS**

Leader: David Pickup

10:30am HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Canon Phil Groves

Readings: Isaiah 7.10-16 (page 692) Matthew 1.18-end (page 965)

4:00pm CAROL SERVICE with choir Nine lessons and carols

Leader: Canon Phil Groves

Christmas Eve

4:00pm CRIB SERVICE for all the family

11:30pm MIDNIGHT HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Canon Phil Groves

Christmas Day

10:00am FAMILY COMMUNION at SPP DINTON

Leader: Revd. Nigel Featherston

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Please stay for refreshments after the service today. Our coffee cup collection this month is for the free Christmas Day lunch at St. Mary's church in Aylesbury. This offers a meal and friendship to anyone who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. Take a look at our **Christmas tree in the porch** to see how much we have raised so far.

In January we will start a new collection for another worthwhile cause. Details will follow in the next pewsheet which will be 5th January.

Christmas is not an easy time for everyone. Family arguments, money worries or loneliness can leave some of us in despair.

St Mary's Church in Aylesbury will be open daily 10am-12noon from Boxing Day to New Year's Day (Sunday 29th December 8.45-9.45am). Pop in for a warm welcome, a listening ear, and a cup of tea.



Children's group in Stone Church

As the number of children at our services has increased we would like to start a Children's Group on **9**th **February 2020**. This would take place for part of the service and will use the Scripture Union materials as a basis.

Our children can learn and enjoy church and parents can benefit from the 'adult service' without distraction.

Would you like to help teach our children? Please talk to Naomi Corbould on 01296 747689 or email treasurer@stonedintonhartwell.com

#Follow the Star daily Christmas reflections

Did you know you can sign up to receive daily reflections by email from Christmas Day to Epiphany from the Church of England? Each day includes a short Bible passage, a simple prayer and an action on which to reflect.

To sign up: https://www.churchofengland.org/followthestar

Crib Service

Our Crib Service will again be at 4.00pm on Christmas Eve. It is suitable for ALL AGES so please bring as many relatives, friends and neighbours as you can. We will follow our familiar format with readings, carols, and dressing up. The children will put together the Crib Scene under the altar and Mary and Joseph will arrive with the final host family on our Advent Posada. Although the service starts at 4.00pm you will need to come before then to be sure of a seat, and if you would like to take

part please get here at 3.30pm so we have time to sort out costumes. If you already have your own angel or shepherd costume please come ready dressed! This service is for all the family and is a good way to switch off from the Christmas rush and focus on the wonder of God coming into the world as a baby.



Prison Ministry

The Governor of HMP Grendon & Springhill has sent a **letter of thanks** to everyone who generously contributed to the Christmas presents for children at the HMP Springhill and HMP Grendon Family Day. Do take a look at her letter on the board at the back of the church.



Thankyou to our choir who have lifted our worship throughout the year and most recently on Advent Sunday and at our Carol Service. Special thanks to Chris Ashbridge who leads them and puts in many hours of preparation behind the scenes. If you would like to join the choir please speak to Chris.

Thankyou also from the Parish Council to those who braved the bad weather on Wednesday evening and sang <u>carols by the Christmas tree</u> at the Village Hall. Hot drinks and food were served afterwards and a collection taken for Aylesbury Street Angels.

Benefice Office Christmas closure details

The Benefice office in Haddenham is usually open 10.00am – 12noon each week day so please note that it will be closed from 12 pm on Tuesday 24thDecember and reopen on Monday 30th December, but be closed again for New Years Day.

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