Prayer ministry

Prayer requests can now be sent in to the website. These requests go to a prayer team within the church community who are committed to praying to God for situations and for others.

You may be self-isolating and wonder what you can do to help others - praying is the **BEST AND MOST IMPORTANT THING WE CAN DO**

You may like to consider joining the prayer team (whether just during this difficult time or more permanently) and can do so by sending an email to Raymond giving your permission to use your email address for this purpose.

raymond.medhurst@stonedintonhartwell.com

More than 2,000 people watched the live stream from **Christ Church Cathedral** on Sunday 22nd March with +Steven presiding. Watch a recording here. The Diocese are live streaming services every Sunday at 10am and on holy days. www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/



Loving God,

Bless us all, particularly now.

Particularly when we are comforting others
Particularly when we are offering hope
Particularly when people are isolated
Particularly when we feel overwhelmed ourselves
Particularly when we are afraid.

Help us to remember that you are right here, now, in the midst of us

Calling us by name. Amen.

Contact details: Pewsheet <u>pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com</u>

Parish News david@pickupandscott.co.uk

Website webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com

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



Wychert Vale Benefice www.wychertvale.org

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 29th March

Following guidance from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Diocese of Oxford and the Government St John the Baptist Church will be closed for public worship until further notice. Unfortunately we are also now obliged to keep the porch closed as well

HOWEVER WE CAN STILL WORSHIP TOGETHER

Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves has prepared several short video messages to us as well as daily prayers on the website. Here is the link to it

All videos are available at www.stonedintonhartwell.com/welcome-page/

He has also **recorded a communion service for today** and it would be fantastic if we could all log in to it at 10.30am so we worship together even though we are apart. If you cannot make it at 10.30am it is still worth logging in when you can.

Please pass this on to anyone you know who might like to join us

Thankyou Phil

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

By now all homes in Stone should have received the following notice through their letterbox

Stone's Community Response to Coronavirus

A group of volunteers have come together to assist those who are self-isolating in our local community. It seeks to match up local residents with local helpers to provide practical and emotional support. It is called the **Stone**, **Buckinghamshire Community Support Group** and can be found on Facebook.

Such help may include: collecting prescriptions, food shopping, a friendly phone call, dog walking, visits to the doctor, a daily chat through your window, etc.

Are You Self-Isolating?

If you are and think you may need help either now, or in the weeks to come, please phone Naomi or Clive on 01296 747689 and leave a message with your phone number. We will then allocate a volunteer helper to contact you directly and discuss how they can assist you.

Could You Volunteer to Help?

If you are well, have some spare time and would like to support those who are self-isolating please contact Naomi or Clive on 01296 747689 or via the Facebook Group.

Thank you

The Stone, Buckinghamshire Community Support Group is supported by Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council and St John the Baptist Church, Stone.



Thankyou Naomi and Clive and your team of volunteers for getting this organised. It is marvellous to see so many people coming together to care for our community. It is a practical demonstration of the 'belonging' as in our mission statement.



The following testimony has been circulating on the internet. Its authenticity has been checked by **Hope Together**. Hopefully it will encourage you to pray and to be bold, asking God to work through these uncertain times, as so much that people rely on is stripped away.

A testimony by Dr Julian Urban, a 38-year-old doctor in Lombardy

Up until two weeks ago, my colleagues and I were atheists...I always laughed at my parents when they went to church. Nine days ago, a 75-year-old pastor came to us for medical help. He had grave respiratory problems, but he had a Bible with him and it impressed us that he was reading the Bible to the people who were dying and holding their hands.

We were all tired, discouraged doctors, psychologically and physically spent, and so we found that we were listening to him... We realized that we have reached the limits of what man can do. We need God, and we have begun to ask for his help, when we have a few moments free. We cannot believe that we who were fierce atheists are now seeking for interior peace by asking the Lord to help us...

The 75-year old pastor [has now] died. Despite the fact that in the last three weeks we have had over 120 people die in our unit, and we are all exhausted and feel destroyed, he succeeded, despite his own condition and our own difficulties, to bring us a PEACE that we no longer hoped to find.

The testimony was gathered by Gianni Giardinelli and translated by Giuseppe Pellegrino.

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Remember to pray for all the frontline staff who are putting themselves at risk while caring for others, as well as our politicians and leaders who have to make difficult decisions quickly.