

**Dates for your diary .....**

Sun. 19<sup>th</sup> 11.00am *Covenant Service and Holy Communion at the Chapel traditionally the week of prayer for Christian Unity (note – there is no service in SJB)*

Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm *SJB Church Committee meeting*

Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00am – 4.00pm *Bookfest Café Day at the Chapel all proceeds to the Alzheimers Society BOOKS - RAFFLE - TEA and COFFEE donations of raffle prizes and books most welcome Sue Spinks 748369 / [royandsue1@btinternet.com](mailto:royandsue1@btinternet.com)*

Maintaining our church building

At Stone church we very often need expert help and advice to maintain the church fabric and grounds. Would YOU be willing to help or advise at times? If so please contact us to offer your gift of knowledge or time to the church. We look after the stonework, ironmongery, wood work, grounds and trees, walks and paths, painting, general repairs and upkeep of all public areas within and around the church. Please contact [sjbfabric@stonedintonhartwell.com](mailto:sjbfabric@stonedintonhartwell.com) or call 01296 338163 and leave a message and we will get back to you. Thankyou.

*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](mailto:pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com)  
Parish News [david@pickupandscott.co.uk](mailto:david@pickupandscott.co.uk)  
Website [webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com](mailto:webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com)

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

*BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE*



Wychert Vale Benefice  
[www.wychertvale.org](http://www.wychertvale.org)



# 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](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com)

## St. John the Baptist STONE

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
Epiphany Sunday



*Wise Men STILL seek Him*

10:30am **ALL AGE FAMILY SERVICE**  
Leader: Canon Phil Groves

**Next week: The Baptism of Christ**

10:30am **HOLY COMMUNION**  
Leaders: Revd. Sue Smith  
Richard Smith

6:00pm **EVENSONG at SPP DINTON**

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Please stay for refreshments after the service today. Our coffee cup collection this month is in memory of Iain Westgate who was born in Stone and grew up here. As a child he sang in the church choir and his mother Janet is still a regular member of the choir today. Sadly, two years ago at the age of 35 Iain lost his fight against cancer. Iain was a very talented piper who played with the RAF Halton Pipe Band, and one year was even the lone piper at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Some of you will remember him playing his bagpipes here in church! Iain was keen to raise funds for cancer care and research so a world renowned piper is giving a recital in memory of Iain to raise funds for Milton Keynes Cancer Hospital. We want to donate to this worthy cause as well.

#### 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<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:treasurer@stonedintonhartwell.com)

#### A New Year message from the Archbishop of Canterbury

*The Archbishop of Canterbury has urged people to make personal connections with others in 2020 to create a new unity in a divided society. In his New Year message, Justin Welby said:*

**“Let’s go for a heroic new year’s resolution. Let’s resolve to reconnect. To reach out to just one person we don’t know, or from whom we have drifted apart. Pick one person. Pick up the phone. Send them a text. Meet them for a cup of tea. Make that connection. Let’s begin cementing our unity one brick at a time. It could be someone you know. It could be someone you’ve always wanted to connect with but never have. It could be someone you really disagree with”.**

**“When we hear someone described as a good Samaritan, we think about that person taking the time to help another. But it’s a story told by Jesus about someone taking the risk of reaching out to another who was very different to them. Yes, the person needed help – but they also needed connection. Jesus took the risk of connecting with people who were separated from him”.**

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#### 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. Revd. Sue Smith would also like to thank everyone who donated socks as Christmas gifts for the men attending church on Christmas Day in the prison. Sue will be leading our worship here in SJB next week.



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 to everyone who made the church look so special for Christmas, and to everyone who read, sang, controlled the sound, handed out books, or put on costumes for our Christmas Services.

#### Church Finances: A Big Thank you

The PCC and churchwardens thank everyone for their financial support over the last year. The parish is now able to meet its immediate liabilities including the Parish Share which is what we pay to the Diocese. We have also managed to buy new hymnbooks and pew bibles and the church is investing in children's work at both ends of the parish.

Although the finances are much improved from last year we continue to rely on your generosity. We encourage you to support the work of the church in the parish by the Parish Giving Scheme and donations in kind or money.

We are using new ways to give such as text giving and contactless payment which are proving very popular in the increasingly cashless society. The parish is now using 100% “green” energy from renewable sources and we have been able to make some savings.

If you would like to increase your financial support or you are new to the church please phone Alan Atkinson 07970 599012. Thank you again.

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