#### **Prayer ministry**

Prayer requests can be sent into the website. These will go to a prayer team within the church community who are committed to praying to God for situations and for others. You may wonder what you can do to help others - praying is the BEST AND MOST IMPORTANT THING WE CAN DO. If you have a prayer request or would like to be part of the prayer team please contact Raymond who is one of our churchwardens raymond.medhurst@stonedintonhartwell.com

#### **Parish Church & Community News**

We are pleased to report there is a full print run of the June magazine. A colour digital version will also be available. Enquiries can be sent to magazine@stonedintonhartwell.com.



We are also organising a **Parish Virtual Garden Show**. A chance to show off your horticultural achievements! This year has been a unique opportunity to spend more time in the garden and we are planning a virtual summer flower and produce show. This is a chance to celebrate and share all our local gardens. Full details will be given in the July edition of the Parish magazine. We will be inviting you to submit

photographs, either on line or by post, of flowers, fruit/vegetables, plants grown by children, or general views of your garden.

There will be a display of photographs in the October magazine. There will be certificates for winners

PRIVATE PRAYER – The church porch is now open daily for private prayer and meditation. Users will need to bring their own Bible and Prayer Book if required as following guidelines all printed material has been withdrawn at this time. The church will be open 9.30-11.30 Sunday mornings, starting TODAY  $21^{\rm st}$  June.

details: Pewsheet pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com

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

Website webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



### Wychert Vale Benefice

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 21st JUNE

Dear Friends

Our Communion Service this week comes from Dinton Church and is here.

The service sheet is attached or on the Wychert Vale and Stone websites.

The opening is led by Revd Sue Smith who is a member of the community in Stone and a Prison Chaplain. Her husband Richard leads the prayers.

The service continues with our theme of the basics of the Christian life and we consider the everyday implications of Turning to Christ.

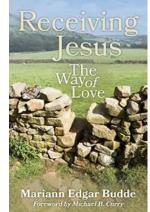
The book we are following is available here.

Phil loves your feedback. Several of you have contacted him with appreciation for the weekly services. If you have suggestions, he is very pleased to hear from you.

Email him on <a href="mailto:phil.groves@wychertvale.org">phil.groves@wychertvale.org</a>

#### Phil Groves

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice Phone 01296 748 390



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#### Let's meet!

At Café in the Park a few of us wanted to 'meet' to talk about faith so let's meet on **Thursday evenings 9pm for 45 minutes**.

Phil has set up a Zoom Meeting for Thursdays beginning this week on June 25

Over this period of lockdown, we have had to re-examine all that is important. We have rediscovered the value of family, friends, freedom, and our health. As Christians we have had the opportunity to discover what is important to us.

Phil is using the little book by Bishop Mariann Budde for Sundays. You can see it on our front page. But don't worry if you have not read it – Phil will give a quick over view of chapter 1 – Turning. Come with your stories and questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89668529350?pwd=NTI0TE0rbFVJYWdKM0xSQkdM VHRmQT09

Meeting ID: 896 6852 9350 Password: 792250

#### Father's Day

Father's Day can hold many emotions for both men and women - those who had a loving father that passed away, those who never knew their dad, those expectantly waiting to become a dad soon, those who remember their Father with fear or still experience that today, and countless other situations surrounding the father-child relationship.

God can use this special day to draw us closer to Himself - the one true Father who remains faithful and full of unconditional love.

God of all Wisdom, we pray for our leaders: the World Health Organisation, national governments, and local leaders too - heads of schools, hospitals and

other institutions. Since you have positioned these people in public service for this hour, we ask you to grant them wisdom beyond their own wisdom to contain this virus, faith beyond their own faith to fight this fear, and strength beyond their own strength to sustain vital institutions through this time of turmoil. God of all Wisdom and

Counsel, you are powerful and merciful this is our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen

#### **Wychert Vale Benefice vacancy**

Please remember that Sue Birrell - our Church representative on the interviewing panel for the above vacancy - needs our answers to these questions asap. This is to give her an update on what we may have learned while our church has been closed for services. Please send replies to:

email: S.Birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com

Tel: 01296 338163

Post: 7, Jakeman Way Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8FT

**Q1**. What have you learnt during this pandemic about:

- a) needs of your own church life eg social aspect, access to the word?
- b) how the church has managed and what has worked/not worked so well?
- Q2. What do you think God is inviting us as a Benefice to do going forward?
- **Q3**. Are there any changes that need to be put in the Benefice Profile following this experience?

#### St John the Baptist

On June 24<sup>th</sup> each year we remember the birthday of St. John the Baptist. In the Gospel of Luke, certain verses imply that John the Baptist was born six months earlier than Jesus. Since it has become 'tradition that Jesus was born on December 25th, Midsummer day being six months before was taken to be the feast day of St. John the Baptist.



John the Baptist was a relative of Jesus. He preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, and preparation for the coming of the Messiah. Before starting his ministry Jesus came to John for baptism in the Jordan.

John was imprisoned by Herod for denouncing Herod's incestuous marriage to Herodias in violation of Old Testament Law. After Herodias's daughter Salome danced for Herod, he granted her a favour. Herodias told her to ask for the head of John the Baptist, which was then brought to her on a plate.

Our church building in Stone is dedicated to St John the Baptist.

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