

### SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

19th	9:00am	MATINS	David Pickup
	10:30am	MORNING WORSHIP	Richard Smith/ David Pickup
26th	10:30am	HARVEST COMMUNION	Revd Harriet Orridge
	6:00pm	EVENSONG at HARTWELL	Revd Cassa Messervy/ David Pickup



### Choir practice

Practices are in the church this Tuesday at 7:30pm and on Saturday morning at 10:30am. We are preparing for Harvest on 26<sup>th</sup> September. It is not too late to join in. There is no audition and you do **not** need to be able to read music.

Chris Ashbridge tel: 748777

### Could you volunteer to help us? If so you will be able to:

- Work on a specified area of the churchyard in your own time
- Use your own equipment or ours depending on how you feel
- Be part of a team who care and are appreciated
- Help with conservation and encouragement of wildlife
- Enjoy doing something your church and community need



If you can help then please call Ivor and have a chat tel: 747671



We still have a lot of things to do to keep the fabric of the church and churchyard safe, to provide the much-needed facilities and kitchen, and keep it all looking good for the

whole community. As we come out of the past 1½ years, many people are still buying online. If you are continuing to buy online, you could help us!

We are registered on the Giving Machine and if you shop via the Giving Machine, we will receive a donation at no cost to you. Most popular shops such as Tesco, Waitrose, Amazon etc are on the Giving Machine.

Visit [www.stonedintonhartwell.com/parish-giving/](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com/parish-giving/) for more information and to sign up. Please remember "Every little helps".

Church website with further details of events [www.stonedintonhartwell.com](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com)

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



Wychert Vale Benefice  
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 12<sup>th</sup> September

**10:30am HOLY COMMUNION**

*Led by Revd Phil Groves*

**6:00pm PARISH EVENSONG**

*At SPP Dinton*

Dear All,

Here is the You tube service link for

today <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKepaPtn4Xw>

All good wishes,

**Cassa**

Reverend Cassa Messervy

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.



*God of all creation, your goodness and glory shine forth through everything you have made. Through the light of faith, help us to see this world, our common home, not as a resource to dominate and exploit, but as a gift to be cherished by all generations. Prompted by your Spirit, we ask this in the name of Jesus, through whom all creation was made. Amen.*

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### James 3:1-12

*<sup>1</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup> Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.*

James is talking about the fact that when we speak we can either bless and encourage someone, or we can criticise them. We should however speak to others in the same way we speak to God. After all, what we say is a reflection of what is going on deep inside us. He then uses three metaphors to illustrate how powerful the tongue is:

1. A rider can control the strength, speed, and direction of a horse with a very small tool – the bit in its mouth. By controlling the bit the rider controls the whole body of the horse.
2. A rudder is also a small tool controlling a big vessel. The captain who can keep control of a ship's rudder in a storm can emerge intact and on course.
3. Unlike the bit and the rudder though, the flame is uncontrolled and uncontrollable, and what it sets in motion is not purposeful but destructive.

We should always be mindful of the effect our words can have on others, and think carefully before we speak, especially if we have the authority of a teacher.



*Dear Lord, we all have times when we say things we know we should not have said. Help us to consider more carefully the effect our words may have on others before we speak them, and to seek forgiveness when we get it wrong. Teach us to speak in ways that bring encouragement to others, and praises to you. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen*

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*Our rector writes .....*

### **Benefice Study Group**

You are warmly invited to join the benefice study group for the autumn term study of Pete Greig's new book 'How to Pray'

<https://www.eden.co.uk/how-to-pray-a-simple-guide-for-normal-people-pete-greig/>

We will have a daytime and evening group as before but meeting bi-weekly rather than every week. The start dates and times are:

- Daytime group: Mon 13th September 4-5pm, every two weeks until Mon 6th December (not meeting 25th Oct).
- Evening group: Mon 20th September 8-9pm, every two weeks until Mon 13th December.

The group will meet on Zoom as before. Please let me know if you would like to attend ([cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org](mailto:cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org)). CM

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### **Afghanistan**

The crisis in Afghanistan is unfolding rapidly; on the news there have been horrifying images of Afghans desperately trying to get on planes out of the country. One of the things we see throughout the Bible is the movement of people from one part of the world to another. God's people are encouraged to welcome and care for those who are displaced or far from home.



*Dear Lord,*

*We lift before you all who are fleeing persecution and war, knowing your love for them and your power to heal and comfort.*

*In this changing world, help all people to recognise your image in each person and to remember each is precious in your sight.*

*Guide those in authority to make decisions about migration that honour each person's humanity.*

*Help us to offer welcome to new neighbours, seeing you in the person we greet.*

*Break down the barriers of hostility that keep us apart and diminish our humanity.*

*We ask these things trusting in your infinite love. Amen*

*(extracts taken from the Diocese of Oxford News)*

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