This years APCM is fast approaching.

For more information and to view all the relevant files, please visit our website.

The electoral roll revision is now also open.

For more information: www.stonedintonhartwell.com/apcm/

### SJB prayer meetings

We are called to serve God and to seek him in all we do including maintaining his church building. In light of this and as part of 'Thy Kingdom Come' we are calling the Church to gather for half an hour of prayer from 7pm each day this week Monday  $17^{th}$  – Friday  $21^{st}$  May. We will meet outside the Church and pray for each area of the building that needs work, and also to give thanks for things that have been done. The leadership team look forward to seeing you outside the Church.

#### Café in the Park

With restrictions now easing we can at long last open up the Café again. Please join us at the Pavilion in the recreation ground on



Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June 10:00am – 12noon

Offers of help are always welcome Clive & Naomi tel no: 01296 747689

The Takeaway Ploughmans Lunch raised an amazing £276 yesterday for Christian Aid. A total of 47 lunches was sold. Thankyou everyone for your support!! Sue & Roy Spinks



Notices for the weekly pewsheet should be submitted by 7pm on Fridays. Please email them to <a href="mailto:pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com">pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com</a>
You can also find information about what is going on by checking out our

website <u>www.stonedintonhartwell.com</u>

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

## Wychert Vale Benderwww.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 16th May

9:00am Matins led by David Pickup

10:30am Christian Aid Service



Led by Revd Sue Smith and Richard Smith

You can download the service and hymn sheet from the website here

Dear Friends,

Here is the link for this Sunday's You tube service led by me and on the theme of Thy Kingdom Come <a href="https://youtu.be/7Jr3bM0H8FM">https://youtu.be/7Jr3bM0H8FM</a>

Reverend Cassa Messervy Rector of the Wychert Vale Benefice

https://www.wychertvale.org

This week.....prayers outside the church at 7pm each day

Mon.17 $^{\text{th}}$  May - 11:00am Benefice study course online

8:00pm Benefice study course online

Sun. 23<sup>rd</sup> May - 10:30am PENTECOST Service outdoors

led by Revd Cassa Messervy and David Pickup

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

### John 17:6-19 Jesus prays for His disciples

6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by[c] that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

You are in our thoughts and prayers.....

This phrase is often heard when someone has experienced a bereavement or some other traumatic event. It trips off the tongue easily, but rather than simply being an expression of sympathy, how can we really mean it and put it into practice so that we are genuinely supporting the person who is experiencing loss and loneliness?

This passage from John's Gospel gives us an example to follow and is part of a prayer of Jesus to his Father. The occasion is the Last Supper and Jesus is with the disciples in the upper room on the night before his crucifixion. He has already explained that he is about to go somewhere they cannot follow until later on (John 14:1-6), and that they will desert him and scatter in the short term. The disciples are about to have the person to whom they have committed their lives and futures taken from them and they still don't fully understand what Jesus has been teaching them. How will they cope?

The disciples were very much in Jesus' thoughts and prayers as these verses from John 17 show. As the disciples listen in, Jesus reminds his Father of their commitment and faithfulness (v7-9). He asks the Father to strengthen, protect them and keep them united (v10-11). He prays that they will be filled with joy (v 13). He recognises that the disciples will face opposition in the future, and rather than asking that they will be shielded from it, he prays that they will be strengthened to face it – that they will be "in the world, but not of the world" (v15-18).

Jesus' prayer for his disciples was not a one-off. In Paul's letter to the Romans, he tells us that Jesus continues to intercede with the Father for us, and that no power or event can separate us from his love (Romans 8:34-35). We are truly in his thoughts and prayers.

### **Benefice Study Group**

It's not too late to join the benefice zoom study group, which started last week. There are two sessions on Mondays 11-12pm and 8-9pm. Just buy the book 'Comfortable Words: a call to restoration' by Steven Croft and join us on the zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84867611087?pwd=elgvcm5FRnNZWERVR29naXpiV1duZz09
Meeting ID: 848 6761 1087 Passcode: 161212
For more information contact <a href="mailto:cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org">cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org</a> or ring 01844

### **Thy Kingdom Come**

Each year we are encouraged by our Archbishops to pray with millions of other Christians from around the world 'thy kingdom come' for ten days of prayer from Ascension (13<sup>th</sup> May) to Pentecost (23<sup>rd</sup> May). This year we will be focussing on praying for aspects of the pandemic and looking to



God's promised future for our world. Richard Smith has prepared some daily prayers for us to use throughout TKC. They are being shared on our Facebook Page together with the reflections from the daily prayer journal:

https://www.facebook.com/WychertValeBenefice



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Gracious Lord, we pray for our government and its advisers and all those who have carried extra burdens of leadership during the pandemic. We pray that you will give them wisdom and that they will act with integrity at all times. We pray for the leadership teams of our churches as they plan for a safe return to services and other church activities. Amen