This year's APCM is on 1<sup>st</sup> July and 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/



Look upon us, O Lord,
and let all the darkness of our souls
vanish before the beams of your brightness.
Fill us with holy love,
and open to us the treasures of your wisdom.
All our desire is known to you,
therefore perfect what you have begun,
and what your Spirit has awakened us to ask in prayer.
We seek your face,
turn your face to us and show us your glory.
Then shall our longing be satisfied,
and our peace shall be perfect. (St Augustine of Hippo)

#### 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

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 <a href="www.stonedintonhartwell.com">www.stonedintonhartwell.com</a>

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



# Wychert Vale Benefice

COXFORD

# 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 23rd May

# 10:30am Pentecost Service



This will be held outdoors (weather permitting) Leaders: Revd Cassa Messervy and David Pickup

Today we will be welcoming our new rector to worship with us in person for the first time and to preach on this special Sunday in our church calendar.

You can download the service sheet from the website here

## From Cassa our new rector - Cup of tea and a chat?

It has been lovely to start to get to know people in these first few weeks of my time in the benefice. Please do invite me over to your house for a cup of tea and a chat at some point over the next couple of months so that I can get to know you all and be able to hear your stories and those of our churches. My phone number is 01844 292416 or email <a href="mailto:cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org">cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org</a>

#### This week.....

Mon.24<sup>th</sup> May - 11:00am + 8:00pm Benefice study course online Tues. 25<sup>th</sup> May - 7:30pm Finance committee meeting online Weds.26<sup>th</sup> May - 8:00pm SJB committee meeting online

Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> May - 10:30am Morning Worship

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

#### Acts 2.1-8

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were fill with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

### An Excerpt from the Pentecost reflection of Dr Rowan Williams in 2008.......

Pentecost is the moment when the friends of Jesus discover they can communicate with all sorts of people they never thought they would be speaking to. They can go out and make sense to this great crowd of pilgrims assembling from every nation in Jerusalem. They can actually build bridges with strangers. It is at this moment that the earliest Christians really begin to understand that what they have to say about Jesus can be communicated in principle to absolutely anyone, to every human being, to the ends of the earth. So Pentecost is the moment when the promise and the command given at the end of St Matthew's gospel becomes a reality 'go and make disciples to the ends of the earth. Make disciples of all nations'.

And so at Pentecost the Holy Spirit comes down on the church to build bridges with strangers. It is a reminder that when we think about the Holy Spirit in the Christian church we are always thinking about the way God makes connections. It is the Holy Spirit that connects us with Jesus, and through Jesus to God the Father. It is the Holy Spirit that brings communion and relationship between Christian believers. It is the Holy Spirit that gives us the words we speak to God in prayer. It is the Holy Spirit that helps us to communicate effectively, Christianly, with one another. The Holy Spirit gives us the words to share good news with one another, and even to take that good news into environments that are strange and unfamiliar to us.



Come Holy Spirit and renew your work in us today. Amen

Phil shares his excitement for the coming of the Holy Spirit in our online Pentecost service. It can be accessed here

#### **Phil Groves**

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice

Phone 01296 748

#### **Benefice Study Group**

It's not too late to join the zoom study group, which started two weeks ago. 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 information contact <u>cassa.messervy@wychertvale.org</u> or ring 01844 292416.

### **5 Minute Videos from Bishop Steven**

A group of people from our benefice have enjoyed meeting to reflect on and discuss Bishop Steven's book 'Comfortable Words: A Call to Restoration'. We have looked at the first two chapters of the book which focus on God's comfort for those suffering and the renewal of our strength through 'waiting on the Lord'. I know not everyone has the time to read the book but I thought I would point you to the five minute videos created by Bishop Steven to accompany the book which I think are very useful for us all to reflect on. You can access them here:

https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/comfortable-words/

# **Thy Kingdom Come**

Today is the last day of the special season of prayer known as Thy Kingdom Come. Richard Smith prepared some daily prayers for us to use throughout TKC. They have been shared on our Facebook Page together with the reflections from the daily prayer journal:



https://www.facebook.com/WychertValeBenefice

Thankyou Richard!



Let us pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel. We remember especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies. We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness. Lord hear us.