

Hope for 2021

Do you have things you have done that could be shared with others to show the brighter side of lockdown ?

Keep sending us photos of your craft work to brighten up our website and bring **HOPE FOR 2021** and remember to log in to see what others have been busy doing.

Send your photos to webmaster@stonedintonhartwell.com



Fairtrade Easter Eggs

This year Fairtrade Easter Eggs complete with attractive booklets telling the Easter story are available ONLY through Fairtrade suppliers - supermarkets have 'chickened out' of selling them. [No pun intended!]

The milk choc and white choc ones are £4.50, dark chock £5.50, a Fun Pack which is 6 hollow milk choc eggs in a traditional style egg carton is £5



Please contact Sue Spinks if you would like to place an order.

Tel No: 01296 748369 email: royandsue1@btinternet.com

Orders should be with Sue before **5th March** please.

LENT STUDY GROUPS with Phil

Thursdays <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88235669326>

8:00pm Being Christian

9:00pm A fresh look at Philippians

Fridays <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88978010315>

2:00pm Being Christian

3:00pm A fresh look at Philippians

Each session lasts no more than 45 minutes. See Phil's 'Living Lent in Lockdown' notice for further details

NEXT WEEK

Mon 8th 7:30pm SJB Fabric committee

Weds 10th 8:00pm PCC meeting



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

St. John the Baptist STONE Sunday 28th February

Our church building is now closed for in person worship until there is a significant change in the circumstances.

However, you are welcome to join us online for a zoom service every Sunday at 10:30.

Login by using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88617212701?pwd=UHpnS1hXRIAvRHFLS0RTaTg1ZXpGdz09>

You can also phone in on these numbers: 020 3901 7895 or 0131 460 1196 (You do not need to set a participant ID)

Meeting ID: 886 1721 2701

Passcode: Service

Water Aid



For several years our Methodist friends have collected for Water Aid during Lent and they invite us to join them in doing so this year as well.

One of the many things we have been urged to do during the pandemic is to **WASH OUR HANDS** and for us this is an easy thing to do. This is not so for the many millions in the world who, like us are facing Covid, but without the blessing of clean water.

Please help by saving your loose change in a jar. We will collect it in when we come out of lockdown. Thankyou

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

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Mark 8:31-38

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life^l will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."



Up until this point there had been a certain amount of glamour for the disciples in following Jesus. They had witnessed miracle after miracle, received amazing teaching, and Jesus was like a superhero. It was cool to be in his gang. Suddenly that all changed. Like others in Israel Peter was expecting the Messiah to be a mighty leader who would overthrow Roman rule and occupation. What a let down! This would no longer be the cool gang to be in.

Now Jesus is saying that if Peter truly wants to follow Him it will be painful and costly, and Peter cannot have it all on his own terms. Jesus was calling Peter to reflect on whether he truly wanted to follow Christ, or just to follow his own idea of Christ. So it is for us. We cannot have God on our own terms. We cannot create a cosy religion to practice just on Sundays.

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We are frequently challenged to differentiate between what is of God, and what is of our own ego. Sometimes we can even fool ourselves about which is which. This Lent we are called into a period of self-reflection – what does it mean for us to die to self? what does it mean for us to lay down our comfortable images of Christ and the church and to make room for the living Christ and the gospel ?

Dear Friends

This week's [YouTube Service](#) focuses on 'Your Kingdom Come' as we continue to look at the key elements of the Lord's Prayer.

You can also [join me for Study](#) either on Thursday evenings or Friday afternoons. Details are in this document '[Living Lent in Lockdown](#)'.

Phil Groves

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice

Phone 01296 748 390

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Friday 5th March

Sadly this year due to the pandemic restrictions we cannot come together for our united ecumenical service at the Chapel. The Christian women of **Vanuatu** had already started preparing the service. Where is Vanuatu? It is an archipelago of 80 beautiful tropical islands over 1100 miles east of Australia. However, they are prone to earthquakes and have active volcanoes, one of which erupted in 2017 and 2018. The islands have also been struck by recent cyclones and are in a state of emergency due to Covid-19. Here is their prayer:



Everlasting God

We ask You to help us stand for peace in our families and our nation. We commit our leaders and people into Your wise hands. Help us to stand against the forces of injustice present in our nation and in the world. We pray that we may live in unity, love and peace with all. Bind us together Lord in love and peace and joy. Amen

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