

### Café in the Park

The weather forecast did not look good, but what do they know? We had a super time at CAFÉ IN THE PARK yesterday with plenty of sunshine. We also had a lot of visitors to welcome and serve – both regulars and first timers.

A big THANKYOU to everyone who helped, especially to our three new younger team members:

**MASON TATE IZZY**

We would not have coped without you so well done, and please come again!

**Our next Café is Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September 10:00am – 12:00 noon**



*Loving Heavenly Father*

*We pray for all who are going through anxious or difficult times at the moment. The sick, the frail and the vulnerable and those who are worried about the health or well-being of a loved one.*

*We pray for those who are undergoing hospital treatment, or preparing for it uncertain of what the future holds.*

*We pray for those struggling with mental health issues and for their families who are struggling to understand and know how to support them.*

*We pray for those who are alone, not knowing who to talk to and feeling wary about seeking help.*

*Lord, in your mercy      **Hear our prayers***

### Coins and old gold and silver broken jewellery.



Last year we raised over £358 for the church from donations of foreign and obsolete coins and broken jewellery. So far in 2021 we have raised another £210. The jewellery is mainly broken chains and the coins are left over from foreign holidays (remember those?).

If you have any broken jewellery or obsolete foreign or English coins and banknotes please send them in. Every little helps!      David Pickup   tel: 748170

**Please submit notices by 7:00pm each Friday [pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com](mailto:pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com)**

**Further details about our church [www.stonedintonhartwell.com](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com)**

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



Wychert Vale Benefice  
[www.wychertvale.org](http://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 8th August

**10:30am MORNING WORSHIP**      *Revd. Nigel Featherston*

**6:00pm PARISH EVENSONG (SPP Dinton)**      *David Pickup*

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
Amen

Dear Friends,

This week's [YouTube service](#) is the third reflection on John 6. Jesus has fed the 5,000 and they have come back for more, but he refuses to give them physical food offering the Bread of Life. Many leave him, but his closest followers stay because he has the Words of Eternal Life.

Phil Groves

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice

Phone 01296 748 390

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## John 6:35, 41-51

6:35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

6:41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

6:42 They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"

6:43 Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves."

6:44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day.

6:45 It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.

6:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.

6:47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.

6:48 I am the bread of life.

6:49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

6:50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

6:51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Have you ever thought what it would have been like to be in the crowd seeing and hearing Jesus first hand? To have witnessed miracles and heard his teaching before anyone else? Surely it would be much easier to believe in him than it is for us in the distant modern age?

Well no, not necessarily.

Last week we heard how the crowds followed Jesus to the other side of the lake, clamouring for a sign from him. Despite his own need for some rest and relaxation he did not turn them away.

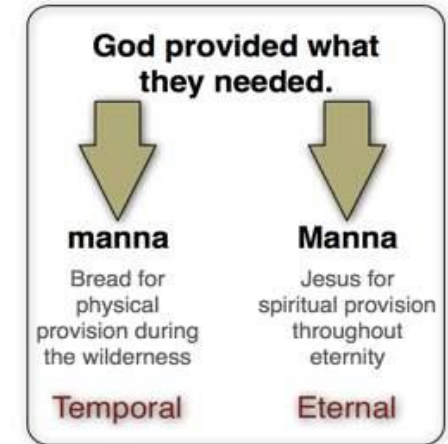
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Yet only a few verses later they have started to grumble. They complained when he said 'I am the bread that came down from heaven', because they already knew him to be the son of Joseph and Mary. Knowing his background and his human parents seems to highlight their ignorance of their Father in heaven, and they cannot get beyond what they think they already know.

Jesus says in verse 44 'no one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me.....' That is as true for us today as it was for the people in the crowd back then.

In the final verse of the reading Jesus adds an important word to his claim to be bread from heaven. This time he says he is the **living** bread that came down from heaven. By talking about **living** bread Jesus makes it clear he is not simply referring back to the manna from heaven that sustained their ancestors in the past. Now he is pointing them to his Father and what he will do for them in the future. Before the gospel story is complete Jesus will literally give up his body for the life of the world.

We have the advantage of having read ahead to the last page, so we can understand what Jesus is referring to!



Lord Jesus Christ,

You are the Bread of life. You alone can satisfy the hunger in my heart. May I always find in you, the true Bread from heaven, the source of life and nourishment I need to sustain me through whatever each new day brings, and on the road ahead. Amen

Services for the rest of August:

Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	-	9:00am	Matins (Prayer Book service)
		10:30am	Morning Worship
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	10:30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	-	10:30am	Morning Worship

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