

This annual event raises money for Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. It involves a lot of volunteers who seek sponsorship to cycle, walk, or ride their horse around as many participating churches in the county as they can manage. This year it is all happening on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September and SJB will again be one of the listed venues that can be visited. The big difference this year is that we can now offer a proper welcome to visitors because we have toilet facilities!

We will be opening the church for visitors 10:00am - 4:00pm but we need volunteers to be present in the church and offer a welcome. If you could spare an hour or two to do this please let Raymond know.

Raymond.medhurst@stonedintonhartwell.com

#### A message from Chris Ashbridge



Chris wants to say a big thankyou to everyone for the box of fruit she was given recently when she was undergoing medical treatment. As it was also her birthday a few days later it came in handy when her family came to visit.

(Chris, we hope you are able to be with us in church again soon)

Thankyou to Naomi who put the contents together for us.

#### Dates to save – details to follow

8th Sept – Alpha course starts in Haddenham 10th Sept – Ride and Stride raising funds for Bucks Historic Churches 18th Sept – Annual outdoor Evensong at Hartwell Church 24th Sept – Village prayer walk 2nd Oct – Harvest Festival 4th Dec 4pm – Deanery Confirmation service

Wychert Vale Benefice Office: St. Mary's Centre, Haddenham, Bucks HP17 8AH tel: 01844 291108 office@haddenhamstmarys.org

(The office is open from 10:00-13:00)

pewsheet: <u>pewsheet@stonedintonhartwell.com</u> content by 9:00am Friday please website: <u>www.stonedintonhartwell.com</u>





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 14<sup>th</sup> August

10:30am

## MORNING WORSHIP

Leader: Revd Nigel Featherston Readings: Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2 Luke 12:49 - 56

### 6:00pm EVENSONG at SPP DINTON Leader: David Pickup

Tuesday 16th	10:00am – 12:00noon	CAFÉ IN THE PARK
Sunday 21st	9:00am	MATINS (Prayer Book Service)
	10:30am	FAMILY WORSHIP

#### Re-Starting the Children's Group at SJB

We want to make every service accessible to families and so we are looking to re-start the children's group during some of the Sunday services in September 2022.

Each week we need a leader and a helper - both Safeguarding trained and DBS checked. **Could you offer to help on one Sunday a month?** Please speak to Naomi Corbould On 01296 747689 or email naominz@hotmail.co.uk.



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

#### Lambeth Conference



Last week I attended the Lambeth Conference – the regular meeting of Anglican Bishops from around the world. The purpose is to meet, to understand one another, and to pray with one another. They meet to expand their vision of God who is God of the whole world.

I was there representing the Anglican Peace and Justice Network and we exist to link ordinary Anglicans, laity, clergy, and bishops, who are working for reconciliation in a world of war, climate crisis, and injustice.

We arranged for Alice Mogwe – President of the International Federation on Human Rights – to speak and you can read her powerful testimony <u>here</u>.

The bishops issued a Call and asked our network to work with The Reconciliation team at Lambeth Palace to build up Anglicans working locally for peace and reconciliation in places where war and injustice have become endemic. These are places like South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and Brazil. We also support American Bishops seeking gun control.

A peace building initiative in the Eastern Congo is one example of what we may be able to do. The region has been the centre of horrendous violence for many years. The Anglican Diocese of Boga helps home internal refugees fleeing conflict. Women come who have been raped as an act of war and children come who have lost fathers. Food is found, shelter offered, and education provided, but the core issues remain. These are local rivalries between militias and a global context where control of mining assets means these militias are funded and equipped by rival neighbouring nations.

The local bishop has no training, but he has stepped out of safety to build relationships with local commanders of rival forces and plead with the government for peace efforts. He is looking for partnerships and we have put him in touch with those in South Sudan who are doing similar work so they can compare notes and pray for one another. We may be able to find some funding for training and to give support so he can have transport to reach dangerous places.

In order to expand this work, we will need to have support from the Anglican Communion Office – someone paid to organise things with our advice. To get this we need a mandate from the Anglican Consultative Council which is a meeting of bishops, clergy, and laity – the difference being that they represent their dioceses and can pass resolutions that expect to be acted on. The next meeting is in Ghana in February. We can then get funding form grant making bodies.

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What we do has made a difference. We had bishops at the Lambeth Conference who spoke about how our work had transformed conflict in their society. We can do more. Please pray for bishops returning to conflict areas of our world.

Canon Phil Groves

#### Heavenly Father



We pray for the nations of the world where there is ongoing conflict, violence and injustice. Many never reach the headline news but the human suffering is all too real.

We pray too for all those agencies who are working hard to bring about reconciliation and peace.

We especially pray that your Holy Spirit will be at work in the hearts and minds of the bishops who are returning to conflict areas of our world, and give them courage to stand firm in the name of Christ. Amen

> Keynote address by Archbishop of Canterbury: https://www.<u>youtube</u>.com/watch?v=WNF9Vns4\_es

#### Luke 12:49-56 Not Peace but Division

49 "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! 50 But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! 51 Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. 52 From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. 53 They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

This may seem like a strange reading to follow on from the work of reconciliation and peace in the previous article! Jesus is making it clear that being his disciple means that all our relationships must become secondary to following him. Those who choose to put him above all else may find their devotion to Christ risks division within and even separation from their own families. Every loyalty and every love in our lives must be less than our love for Jesus. Jesus' words mean discipleship involves making hard choices.



God of love, you have called us as believers to go into the world and make disciples of every nation, even though at times that may cause division in our own family relationships.

We ask that you give us the courage and boldness to share the Good News of your love with those we meet, at work, at home and in our communities. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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