

APRIL 17 – 23

RURAL COMMUNITIES



SUN 17 EASTER SUNDAY

'Deep peace of the empty tomb. Deep peace of the morning garden. The eye of the Risen Christ be upon us in waking and sleeping. The Risen Christ beside us. The Risen Christ within us. The God of life go with us. This day and always. Amen.' (Celtic Easter prayer)

MON 18

O God, we pray about the effects of recent reductions in rural healthcare facilities, post offices, transport links and other vital services. Grant wisdom to central and local governments so that local communities and their enterprises can be helped to flourish. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

TUES 19

Lord of the harvest, please bring help to farmers worldwide whose livelihoods are threatened by climate change, poverty and conflict. Grant them success in growing crops and raising livestock both to feed themselves and to sell at fair prices. In Christ's name. Amen.

WED 20

O God, we remember the post-Brexit and post-Covid shortage of agricultural and food processing workers, especially at peak times of the year. We pray that the UK authorities will ensure that gangmasters and other employers provide proper conditions and wages. In Your mercy. Amen.

'And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of His Spirit who lives in you.' ROMANS 8:11 (NIV)

THURS 21

Almighty God, we long for spiritual revival and renewal to sweep through our land, especially in rural communities where many churches are struggling. Please raise up more faith-filled Christians to pray, share the gospel, respond to needs and lead churches. In Jesus' name. Amen.

FRI 22

Lord, thank You for the Nature Recovery Network's vision to expand, improve and connect 'wildlife-rich' places throughout Britain. May their efforts lead to great improvements in air and water quality and safeguard plants, trees and wildlife species that are under threat. Amen.

SAT 23

God of all beauty, we praise You for our wonderfully varied countryside: mountains, hills, valleys, coastlines, rivers, lakes, forests, meadows, heaths and wetlands. We pray that increasing numbers of adults and children will come to enjoy these responsibly. In Jesus' name. Amen.

About two-thirds of the UK landmass is classed as rural, with over 12 million people living in villages, scattered housing and the smaller country towns. Rural populations are older on average with almost a quarter aged over 65, and very few inhabitants belong to minority ethnic groups. There is growing pressure on health, transport and other community services. 15



Wychert Vale Benefice
www.wyv.org.uk

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 17th April Easter Sunday

10:30am Holy Communion with Choir
Rev Harriet Orridge

Alleluia, Christ is Risen,
He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia

This week

Tuesday 12 th April	10:00 – 12:00	Café In The Park
Sunday 24 th April	10:30	Morning Worship

Today's service will be live-streamed online and can be found at:

www.stonedintonhartwell.com/easter-live-2022/

Our Palm Sunday Service with Bishop Alan can be found at

www.stonedintonhartwell.com/palm-sunday-live-2022/ if you missed the service.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2022

This year's APCM is on **17th May at 8:00pm** at St Peter and St Paul, Dinton

The APCM is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where we review what has happened in the past year and we look to the next year with the election of Churchwardens and PCC members.

If you want to attend the APCM, or vote at the APCM, you will need to be on the electoral roll. You can enrol on the electoral roll online at:

www.stonedintonhartwell.com/apcm/

If you are already on the roll but want to come off, please let us know.

If you would like to apply for the roll of Church Warden or to be on the PCC, please fill out the forms in the porch and place in the black letterbox or fill out a downloadable form and email it in.

All reports will be available shortly.

Prayer

God of our salvation,
you have restored us to life,
you have brought us back again into your love
by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ.
Continue to heal us,
as we go to live and work
in the power of your Spirit,
to your praise and glory. Amen

Logs

The tree work at the church has now been completed and there are some logs available in the churchyard. If you would like to take some for your own use then you are welcome but if you can give a donation to the church it would be appreciated. Please leave the area tidy.

Facilities Wish List

There are lots of things needed in the kitchen to make sure we can use our facilities to the full and we are asking for your help again. In the porch you will find a list of some of these things and if you would like to pledge a donation for something specific please tick it off on the list and put your donation in the box on the board. Make sure you highlight when you have paid so we don't come calling again. Thank you to those who have already been so generous.

Facilities Party

As a Church we had a vision to: Build, Belong and Believe, with Christ as our Cornerstone

We set out to Build facilities so our church building can be a place where we Belong together as we deepen our Belief in Christ. The vision is now a reality and something to be celebrated.

Some have seen every part of the journey, others are no longer living near us. Some have just joined the journey, but most importantly there will be generations who will join us in the future. This is our celebration.

We believe that these facilities will make it possible for future generations to belong to the community of Christ and believe in him.

Come and celebrate with us as our Facilities are completed.

We would love you to join us for a celebration afternoon tea and cakes between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 14th May at St John the Baptist Church, Church Way, Stone, Aylesbury HP17 8RG.

RSVP to s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com

Benefice Holiday

The benefice office will be closed for the week after Easter and Cassa will be taking a post-Easter break.

For funerals or urgent pastoral matters please contact Harriet or Phil.

Thank You

Our huge thanks to everyone in our churches who will have worked so hard in preparing and participating in our Easter services, in particular those who have cleaned and decorated the Church.

O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are abolished. Christ is risen and the demons are cast down. Christ is risen and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen and life is freed. Christ is risen and the tomb is emptied of the dead: for Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

St. John Chrysostom: Easter Homily