

MAY 1 - 7

LISTENING



- SUN 1 } **INTERNATIONAL DAWN CHORUS DAY**
Awesome Creator, may the dawn recital of songbirds – especially vibrant at this time of year – fill our hearts with wonder and joy! We pray for many more people who hear it to acknowledge You as the Maker of all life and beauty, and give You honour and praise. In Christ's name. Amen.
- MON 2 } God our refuge, please enable those working at GCHQ and other 'listening' agencies to identify, analyse and disrupt threats to our national security. We pray for a wise balance between our freedoms and our safety always to be maintained. In Your mercy. Amen.
- TUES 3 } Loving Lord, we ask for good opportunities for children to communicate freely with those who care for them; to express fears, sadness, bad experiences and also their joys and hopes. Please especially grant this for those in particular need of being heard. For Jesus' sake. Amen.
- WED 4 } **START OF DEAF AWARENESS WEEK, MAY 4-9**
Lord, may this week be a success as individuals and organisations raise awareness of the isolation that deaf people can experience, encourage positive aspects of living with deafness, and promote British Sign Language, currently used by 250,000 people. In Jesus' name. Amen.
- THURS 5 } Holy Spirit please teach us to listen intently as we pray and read Your Word privately and with others; that Your living and powerful truth, like a sharp two-edged sword, may penetrate our innermost thoughts and intentions. Help us to love and obey You more each day. Amen.
- FRI 6 } **God our Counsellor, we thank You for the skills, dedication and empathy of those who listen to people in a professional capacity,** such as counsellors, therapists, Christian ministers, mental health practitioners, social workers and police officers. Please help them by Your grace. Amen.
- SAT 7 } Father, may each of us become increasingly aware of how we can bless others by listening attentively with an open mind to hear what they are really saying. May we be willing to respond with few words, wisdom and appropriate action with the help of Your Spirit. Amen.

'Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.' REVELATION 3:20 (NKJV)

The first service one owes to others ... consists in listening to them. Just as love of God begins in listening to His Word, so the beginning of love for the brethren is learning to listen to them. It is God's love for us that He not only gives us His Word but lends us His ear. So, it is His work that we do for our brother when we learn to listen to him.' (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)



Wychert Vale Benefice
www.wyval.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 1st May

10:30am

Family Service with Baptism

Leaders: Canon Phil Groves

This week

Tuesday 3 rd May	10:00 – 12:00	Café In The Park
Saturday 7 th May	10:00 – 12:00	Café In The Park
Sunday 8 th May	10:30	Holy Communion
	18:00	Evensong, SPP Dinton

Prayer for Refugees

Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your
Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

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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 for and email it in.

All reports will be available shortly.

Facilities Wish List

Thank you to everyone who has responded so generously to our Wish List. We have been able to buy all the essential items and a lot of the extras to make our kitchenette look good for when we can eventually use it.

If you have pledged but not paid yet then please try and make your payment as soon as possible either to Sue or by putting your pledge money into the donations box on the board in the porch but don't forget to highlight that you have paid on the list. If you still want to make a pledge please have a look at the list in the porch, it's not too late!

Thank you.

Sue

Facilities Party

On Saturday 14th May we are having a celebration for the long-awaited facilities. This will be an afternoon tea and so I am asking if you could make cakes for this event. If made in advance they could be frozen if necessary.

I know a lot of you already make cakes for Café in The Park and don't want to detract from this but if you could make an extra for the celebration that would be fantastic.

Once again your help and support is so much appreciated and there is a list in the porch so you can let us know what your speciality is.

Sue

Can You Help Us To Be A Welcoming Church?

When people come to a church for the first time, what they usually notice most is not the quality of the sermon or the music, but the quality of the welcome they receive. For us to be a welcoming church, we need more people who can help with important tasks such as setting up for services, clearing away after services, and particularly making people feel welcome as they arrive. The Welcome Team is open to people of all ages, including children (when supervised by a parent), as none of the tasks are difficult. Even if you are only able to help once every few weeks, we would really appreciate your help. You would need to be available to arrive about 30 minutes before the service starts and to stay for a few minutes after the service. The welcome team will be led by one of the duty wardens (Richard Smith, Raymond Medhurst, Sue Birrell) and we will provide you with any training needed. In addition, we also need more help with some of the things which happen during services, such as reading from the Bible and operating the sound system. We would love to hear from you if you can help with any of these things. Please contact Richard Smith (07584 246268) or any member of the leadership team.

Christian Aid Week 2022

Sunday 15th May	2 pm – 5 pm	Plant Sale	Mayerin, Churchway
Thursday 19th May	2.30 pm – 4.30 pm	Cream Teas	Methodist Chapel
Saturday 21st May	10 am – 2 pm	Collect Ploughman's Lunch Bags From the Methodist Chapel	
Sunday 22nd May	12 noon	Austerity Lunch	Methodist Chapel

We desperately need volunteers to help deliver the big red donation envelopes – as many or few as you can manage would be a massive help. This year there is no return trip to collect them!

Please contact Sue Spinks: 748369

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