

An Invitation

As you may know, Bishop Steven (our Diocesan Bishop) will be in our deanery for the day on 15 June. We have been giving out an invitation for all the people in our churches to join Bishop Steven at 7.30pm at St. Mary’s Church Princess Risborough for a short act of worship followed by some input and reflection from Bishop Steven; followed by questions and responses, finishing around 9.00 pm.

Benefice Vision Meeting

On Wednesday 1st of June representatives from our churches will be meeting to look at models for the organisational structures for our benefice and the ministry provision. We will be looking for structures which will best support the local ministry and mission of churches which was something identified as a priority in the benefice profile. Our meeting will be facilitated by Rev. David Williams (Aylesbury Co-Area Dean). Please pray for wisdom and God’s guidance.

Cassa



Christian Aid update

Chris Beattie’s **PLANT SALE** raised a welcome **£366.00** on a very wet Sunday afternoon and Chris has donated a further £70.00 from a previous sale.

The **CREAM TEAS @ Chapel** – a new venture –raised **£125.00 + £36.00** from the raffle and we all enjoyed a very friendly, chatty afternoon.

The **Takeaway PLOUGHMAN’S LUNCH BAGS** raised an amazing **£188.50 + £24.25** from Gift Aid thanks to many very generous over-payments (including one lady who called back for 2 more bags as she had so enjoyed the first one!)

Still to come – the Austerity lunch after the service at the chapel today, and the total from the envelope collections. You can still drop off your donations in a Christian Aid envelope at the chapel.

Christian Aid week is drawing to a close now .If you would like to make a donation and do not have an envelope you can do so online at:
www.donate.christianaid.org.uk/

Please submit news items for the pewsheets by 7pm on a Friday. Thankyou.

email: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com

website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com

Associate Rector: Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves tel no: 01296 748 390
email: drphilgroves@gmail.com

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



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 29th May

11:00am MORNING WORSHIP with our
Methodist friends at the chapel
Led by David Pickup

The service is followed by an austerity lunch in support of Christian Aid
Please note there is NO MORNING SERVICE in SJB Stone today

6:00pm PRAYING TOGETHER in the church
as part of ‘Thy Kingdom Come’
Led by Revd Phil Groves and Revd Harriet Orridge

Tuesday 31st	10:00am – 12:00noon	CAFÉ IN THE PARK
	8:00pm	PRAYING TOGETHER at 7 Badgers Rise ** Note change of venue **
	8:00pm	CHOIR PRACTICE in the church
Friday 3rd	2:30pm	VILLAGE FETE – free children’s activity stall run by volunteers from the church
Saturday 4 th	10:00am – 12:00noon	CAFÉ IN THE PARK
Sunday 5 th	10:30am	PENTECOST COMMUNION with choir and activity for children

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Toilet (and tap) twinning

After the service last Sunday it was revealed that our toilet facilities have been twinned with MOZAMBIQUE and our tap has been twinned with NEPAL. Congratulations to Gwen Pearce and George Lamb who had guessed these two countries.

Known as the “Land of Smiles,” **Mozambique** is located on the south eastern coast of Africa. Although it is rich in natural resources it remains one of Africa’s poorest countries. After gaining independence from Portugal in 1975, Mozambique suffered through a sixteen-year civil war that shattered the economy and claimed millions of lives. Even today there is lingering violence meaning that recovery has been slow and difficult. An estimated 65% live in poverty, and 21% are unemployed. Mozambique is approximately 46% Christian and the church is growing as years of suffering have led to many looking for spiritual answers. The ‘Throne of weapons’ in the British Museum was made from discarded weapons used in Mozambique. You may remember Revd Phil Groves telling us about this in one of our services.

Eight of the world's ten highest mountains can be found in **Nepal** including Everest. Nepal's Sherpa guides of the Himalayas and the Gurkha military regiments are peoples recognised internationally for their skill and bravery. However, isolation and a long-ruling monarchy have contributed to Nepal being one of the poorest and most underdeveloped countries in the world. It is estimated that 25% to 40% of the Nepalese people live below the poverty line. Most people live and work as subsistence farmers. As the world's last remaining Hindu kingdom, over 80% of the Nepalese people are Hindu. Buddhists comprise around ten percent of the population. Religious freedom is legal under Nepalese law, but restrictions are imposed on non-Hindu groups. Christian believers are at risk of fines and even imprisonment for proselytising.



Heavenly Father we thank you that the new toilet and kitchen are now in place at long last! Thankyou for the faithfulness of the many people who have worked hard on this project over many years.

We pray that you will now guide us in ways to welcome our community into your church.

We remember too that many communities around the world do not have these basic facilities and they live in poverty.

We pray especially for the people of Mozambique and Nepal with whom we have been twinned and ask that ways will be found for clean water and hygienic facilities to be available to them.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen

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Thy Kingdom Come

We have now entered the period between Ascension Day and Pentecost when the national Church encourages us to pray ‘Thy Kingdom Come’. Here in Stone we are coming together for two evenings of prayer led by Revds Phil Groves and Harriet Orridge.



These evenings are for anyone who wishes to deepen their prayer life and to enrich our church community’s communication with God. They will include times of prayer, as well as a consideration of what we are doing when we pray and thoughts on how we can build up our communal prayer as a community.

We will specifically consider how we lead intercessions in church and we hope that we can restore our pool of people who lead intercessions on a Sunday morning from some of those who attend.

Sunday 29th May 6.00pm - in the church

Tuesday 31st May 8.00pm - at 7 Badgers Rise

At the end of the period on 5th June we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday with Holy Communion and the choir and a children’s activity too. There is also a benefice Pentecost praise service hosted at St. Mary’s Haddenham at 6pm.

Great prayer resources for individuals can be accessed here:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/2021-resources>

There are also paper copies of these available from the benefice office, SJB in Stone and SM in Haddenham. Please contact Cassa or Phil if you would like a booklet for children or a prayer journal.

Stone Jubilee fete

We will be having a table with a FREE children’s activity at the Stone Village Fete on Friday. This is another great opportunity to take the church out into the wider community and build new connections so do come and see us and join in the fun from 2:30pm onwards.



Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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