# Update on keeping everyone safe at our services

Churches are now expected to decide for themselves what their covid risks are and to apply appropriate regulations. At SJB we want everyone to feel safe in our services so we have decided to keep our existing requirements which are:

- -Every one aged 12 and over will be asked to wear a mask in church
- -Make use of the hand sanitiser which is available as you enter the church
- -Doors may be left open so please wrap up to keep warm
- -Please keep your masks on for singing (yes it is difficult but safer)
- -We advise that everyone takes a LFT test before attending any of our services, and we ask that you stay at home if you have a positive result.

If you are in doubt as to whether you should attend, please keep yourself safe. We have services on our <u>YouTube</u> channel and we will look forward to seeing you again another time.

# Looking ahead

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	7:30pm	Choir practice at the Chapel
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:30am	Choir practice at the Chapel
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00am -12:00 noon	CAFÉ IN THE PARK
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:30am	ALL AGE FAMILY SERVICE

# Marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

This year to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the country has a special bank holiday weekend. The Spring Bank Holiday (originally on Monday May 30) will be moved to Thursday June 2 and an additional bank holiday will be held on Friday June 3. So that means we have a four day bank holiday weekend! The Parish Council are organising a village fete on Friday June 3 and we as the church will take part in this. We are also planning our

own church celebrations because Sunday June 5 is Pentecost - so it will be a wonderful weekend of community celebration all round! Details will become available nearer the time when they are being finalised but we already know we will need helpers - please mark the date(s) on your calendar now.



# Parish of Stone, Dinton and Hartwell

COXFORD DIOCESE OF

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 30th January

# 11:00am COVENANT SERVICE at the CHAPEL

Today we will be joining our Methodist friends for worship and Holy Communion at their Covenant Service. There is no service in SJB today.

It will be led by Revd Keith Edwards and our church choir will be singing during the service.

Please remember to wear a face covering and wrap up warm as windows will be open for ventilation.





Heavenly Father

We thank you for the faithful witness of our brothers and sisters in the chapel. We are pleased to come together with them in worship today. We pray that together we will continue to serve our local community in the name of your dear son Jesus Christ. Amen

#### Luke 4:21-30

4:21 Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

4:22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

4:23 He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

4:24 And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

4:25 But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

4:26 yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

4:27 There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

4:28 When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.

4:29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.

4:30 But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Spend a little time picturing this dramatic scene: how the mood of Jesus' audience shifted and became so ugly. Do we always find the words of Jesus 'gracious' when we first hear them - or do we desert him when he asks something demanding of us? St Luke is warning us early on that Jesus' ministry can involve a great deal of pain, and at times we will find his message to us very uncomfortable. Are we prepared to be challenged by Him? Are we willing to be changed by Him?

#### Lent course



During Lent this year as a Benefice we will be engaging with the national 'Living in Love and Faith' (LLF) material and exploring issues of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

Details regarding when and where courses are running can be found on the website. There will be a group in Stone at the Methodist Chapel led by Cassa, Richard Smith, and David Pickup. It will run on five Thursday evenings starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7:30pm.

There is an <u>online</u> group being run by Phil Groves on Friday afternoons 1:30-3:00pm starting on  $4^{th}$  March.

Meeting ID: 884 2947 3076 Passcode: 107287

### Cafe in the Park





Our next Saturday Café will be on 5th February and extra pairs of helping hands are always welcome – tel no. 01296 747689 (Clive and Naomi).

Café in the Park provides a friendly venue to meet up with friends, or just come on your own and meet new people. This is a relaxed and friendly event that takes place the first Saturday of each month. There is no charge for refreshments but donations are welcome.

A proposal to run a weekly cafe on a Tuesday morning is now being considered. To find out more, or if you would be available to help please talk to Naomi or Phil.

## **Holiday Club**

As the Thame Lighthouse holiday club for children has now closed, Churches Together in Haddenham have decided to put on a holiday club of their own this year 22-25th August 9.30-1.00pm in Haddenham Junior School. If you feel you might be able to support this event, please look out for sign up details next week.

Cassa

# **Bucks Historic Churches Annual Report**

You may be interested in the annual report from Bucks Historic Churches, a charity which many of our churches have benefitted from:

https://bucks-historic-churches.org

#### Confirmation

Steve Hanscomb - a member of Cuddington Church - is to be confirmed on Sunday evening by the Bishop of Buckingham at Long Crendon Church due to Covid regulations. Do pray for Steve and for his wife Lauren, and children Peter, and Lucy.

Phil



#### Dear Lord

We pray for Steve and his family and all who are being confirmed this weekend.

Send down your Spirit to touch the hearts of them all,

So that their faith in you will continue to grow day by day.

Give them joy in their hearts and a hunger for your word,

and look kindly on them as they listen for your voice in the years ahead

Amen