

LENT STUDY GROUP

We are welcoming everyone to join us at 8pm on Monday evenings for our Bible studies on the disciple Peter. Our third session tomorrow will be led by Richard Smith. You do not need to have come to the first two to come to this one. We finish promptly at 9pm.

Where - Vicarage Farmhouse, Church Way - the home of Clare and Terry (*thankyou*)

Contacts - David Pickup david@pickupandscott.co.uk 07831 586017

Terry Cooper terrycooper@gmail.com 07968 368524

Phil is also leading a group in Cuddington Church 12noon Fridays, and recording sessions on YouTube and a podcast for people to use at home.

SOCIALLY CRAFTY

Monday 20th March

10:30am – 12:30pm

The third Monday of each month, except on Bank Holidays. Everyone is welcome to join in the craft project. The good news is that no special skills are needed, and you can always bring something else to do, or just sit and chat if you prefer.

Make friends ~ Drink Coffee ~ Eat Cake ~ Do Crafts

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



CHURCHYARD GARDENING PARTY

Saturday 18th March

10:00am – 1:00 pm

(and every third Saturday until November)

We would like to tidy the graves, clear the bank along Bishopstone Road, plant some flowers and make some bird and insect homes in the bushes. If you can help then please just come along or contact Sue Birrell on tel no: 01296 338163 or email: s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com



Pastoral Care

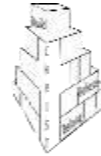
If you know of anyone in the parish who has a pastoral need or would like to receive communion at home please contact Revd Harriet Orridge to arrange a visit harriet.wychert@gmail.com or contact the benefice office on 01844 291108.

Pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com

Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com

Revd Canon Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com tel no: 01296 748390

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 12th March

10:30am FAMILY COMMUNION

Led by Revd Canon Phil Groves

Gospel reading: Matthew 16:13-28



EXPLORERS will meet during the service today

We are looking for more adult helpers – could one of them be you? for more information please contact Naomi 01296 747689



During March and April, any money raised from coffee and biscuits at the end of services will be given to the work of The Leprosy Mission (TLM).

3:00pm EVENSONG with choir at SPP Dinton

Led by Revd Nigel Featherston

THIS WEEK

Mon 13th	8:00pm	Lent Study Group at Vicarage Farmhouse
	7:30pm	SJB Fabric Committee online
Tues 14th	11:00am	Café in the Park in the Jubilee Pavilion
	7:30pm	Choir practice at the chapel
Thurs 16th	8:00pm	Lent Taizé at St Mary's Haddenham
Fri 17th	2:00pm	Funeral service for Joan Shurvell
Sat 18th	10:00am	Churchyard gardening
Sun 19th	9:00am	MATINS (Prayer Book Service)
	10:30am	MOTHERING SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP

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Matthew 16:13-28

Peter declares that Jesus is the Messiah

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?'

14 They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

15 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?'

16 Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

17 Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Jesus predicts his death

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

28 'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Think about people you have never met who you nevertheless hold strong opinions about. There are many people in the public eye who are loved by some and hated by others. They divide opinion, they are 'Marmite people'. Yet what is said about them is rarely the same as who they actually are. Only a close companion can truly know a person.

By the time Jesus asked 'who do people say the Son of Man is?' Simon Peter and his companions had been with Jesus for a couple of years. At this point Simon Peter identifies him as the Messiah and Jesus recognises that God has revealed this truth to

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him. So, Jesus gives Simon Peter a new name – Peter – meaning 'rock' as he will be the foundation on which he will build his church, and he will give him the keys of the kingdom of heaven too. Top marks so far Peter!

Then Peter immediately makes a mess of things. Jesus explains what must happen to him as the Messiah when he goes to Jerusalem. He knows he is a 'Marmite person' because he has many supporters but he also has many who are against him. Peter says that Jesus must not suffer and die in Jerusalem, so now he has suddenly become the spokesman for Satan (who would want to stop Jesus completing his mission).

Jesus explains that following him is not easy, it is not the comfortable path to take. It means denying ourselves and taking up our own cross. Jesus does not take away Peter's role as foundation of the church but he still has a lot to learn. In the next Lent sessions we will see more examples of Peter failing because he is looking for an easier way.

This reflection is based on a talk given on You Tube by Revd Canon Phil Groves. You can see the full version here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qa6qPyTMSxM>



Dear Lord Jesus, I know that following you will not always be easy. I understand it will take commitment and perseverance and at times I may fail. I ask now for your help in taking up my cross to follow you even when it is hard because the kingdom of God is worth it. Amen.

Traditional Language Services

There are a number of traditional language services across the benefice for those who like to worship in a more formal, structured way. You would be warmly welcomed at any of these services:

2nd and 4th Sundays 9.15am –

Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Kingsey

3rd Sundays 11am –

Holy Communion and traditional hymns at St. Michael and All Angels, Aston Sandford

3rd Sundays 9am –

Book of Common Prayer (said) Matins Service at St. John the Baptist, Stone

2nd Sundays 3pm (6pm from April) –

Evensong with choir at St. Peter and St. Paul, Dinton

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Save these Dates

Maundy Thursday benefice service – 6th April 7:30pm hosted at St. Nicholas, Kingsey

Good Friday – 7th April 10:00am Walk of Witness **10:30am** Easter Garden service

Easter Sunday - 9th April – service details to follow

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