

Choir practice

Choir practices for Pentecost (28th May) will start on **Tuesday 2nd May** at 7:30pm in the church. Chris Ashbridge would welcome enquiries from anyone who would like to sing in the choir. There is no audition – you just need to enjoy singing! 01296 748777



More thankyous

Many thanks to our wonderful team of flower ladies who made the church look really splendid (again) on Easter Sunday.

Thankyou too to those who clean and care for our church building, and those who labour in the churchyard as well.

If you would like to help with any of these important tasks please speak to Raymond our churchwarden.

Have you been to see the beautiful Easter Garden that the children set out under the altar on Good Friday?

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 20:00 St Peter and St Paul, Dinton

If you wish to attend the APCM, or vote at the APCM, you need to be on the electoral roll. The Electoral Roll application is now open. Please telephone Dee James if you would like to be added, taken off, or for any further information. Or you can speak with one of our church wardens. The deadline for receiving completed application forms is 25th April 2023.
Dee James: 01296 747671 or 07773270023

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Easter sermons

You can read them here as well as his Holy Week lectures and his Ecumenical Easter letter <https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/news/news-and-statements>

Pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com
Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com
Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com 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 16th April

9:00am **MATINS (Prayer Book Service)**

Led by: David Pickup

10:30am **FAMILY WORSHIP**

Led by: David Pickup



EXPLORERS will meet in the vestry during the 10:30am service. If you could be a helper sometimes Naomi would love to hear from you - tel no: 01296 747689



*Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. Amen*



Money raised from refreshments at the end of today's service will be given to the work of The Leprosy Mission (TLM). Next week will be the last Sunday when our coffee cup donations go to the Leprosy Mission. In May we move on to another good cause.

THIS WEEK

Mon 17th 10:30am **Socially Crafty** - in the church (see notice)
Tues 18th 11:00am **Café in the Park** - in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sun 23rd 10:30am **FAMILY COMMUNION** - led by Revd Phil Groves

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John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to his disciples

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

²⁸ Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!'

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

"Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"



Saint Thomas is famous for what he said at the beginning. "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." I imagine we would all have sympathy with that. Why should we believe something extraordinary unless we have evidence? He goes further than that. Thomas not only wants evidence but he wants to experience it, to feel for himself the wounds.

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A week later he sees Jesus who knows Thomas' questions, and answers each one. Thomas perhaps sheepishly said to him, "My Lord and my God!" What he says is important not only because his doubt has vanished but because it is a vivid statement of belief. Thomas believes in a risen Lord and God. It is the boldest statement of Jesus divinity.

The challenge for **us** is to decide who **we** think Jesus is. Most people believe there was a person called Jesus. There is plenty of evidence of that. But who is He? If He is God and Lord how does that affect us? How do we respond to Him?

Coronation of King Charles III

As we celebrate the hope of the resurrection we also remember before God the life of service to which our King has been called. And we pray that King Charles – and all of us - may find strength, confidence, and encouragement in the promises of Easter.



Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite; have mercy upon the whole church; and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant Charles, our King and Governor, that he (knowing whose minister he is) may above all things seek thy honour and glory: and that we and all his subjects (duly considering whose authority he hath) may faithfully serve, honour, and humbly obey him, in thee, and for thee, according to thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(taken from the Church of England book of daily prayers for the coronation)



SOCIALLY CRAFTY

Monday 17th April (tomorrow)
10:30am – 12:30pm in the church



Come and make Coronation decorations for the church or just enjoy the chat and good company



Make friends ~ Drink Coffee ~ Eat Cake ~ Do Crafts if you want

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

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