

SOCIALLY CRAFTY Monday 17th July 10:30am – 12:30pm in the church Make friends ~ Drink Coffee ~ Eat Cake ~ Do Crafts

We will be discussing things we can make to sell on the stall on 25th November. We will also be continuing with our knitting tips, making cushions, crocheting happy worms and making bracelets too – everyone is welcome!

Coffee Cup news

Our coffee cup collection today is for the Aylesbury Town Centre Chaplaincy. It is run by the local Christian community to help serve the needs of the town. It is an independent charitable trust and has volunteer day time chaplains and night time Street Angels drawn from churches across the town and surrounding area. https://www.aylesburytownchaplaincy.co.uk

In August and September our coffee cup collection will go towards another good cause - 'Dogs For Good'. One of our church families benefits greatly from an assistance dog provided by them. Look out for further details in future weeks.

Dates for your diary

As we are heading in to the summer now and many of us will be going away it would be a good idea to get these dates in to you diaries:

Sat 19th August /Sat 16th September – churchyard gardening Mon 17th July /Mon 21st August – Socially Crafty Sat 5th August/Sat 2nd September – Café in the Park Sunday 3rd September – outdoor Evensong by Hartwell Church

Sunday 1st October – Harvest Thanksgiving

Saturday 25th November – Christmas Coffee and Gift Fair run by the 'Socially Crafty' group who meet in the church on the **third Monday of each month.**

Pathways magazine

The summer edition of Pathways magazine is now available in the church porch. This is the free magazine from the Oxford Diocese with plenty of interesting articles. Do help yourself to a copy or take one to a neighbour who cannot collect it for themselves

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	(Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-1pr	n)



St. John the Baptist STONE Sunday 16th July

9:00am

MATINS (Prayer Book service) Led by: David Pickup

10:30am

FAMILY WORSHIP

Led by: David Pickup Readings: Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65 Romans 8:1-11



EXPLORERS will meet in the vestry during this service

By popular demand the Explorers group will continue to meet through August instead of taking a summer break. More adult helpers are always welcome. Please contact Naomi if you would like more details 01296 747689.

THIS WEEK

Mon	17 th	10:30am	Socially Crafty – in the church
Tues	18 th	11:00am	Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sun	23 rd	10:30am	FAMILY COMMUNION with Explorers
			Led by: Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves
		11:35am	Extraordinary APCM meeting – in the church

HELP NEEDED on Tuesdays at Café in the Park. If you would like to join the team of jolly volunteers please speak to Naomi 01296 747689

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

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The gospel reading for the seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The parable of the sower

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.'

¹⁸ 'Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.'



Our spiritual roots are not seen by anybody else because they are within our secret life with God. It includes our prayers, our thoughts, and our giving. It is necessary to develop deep, strong and healthy roots in our relationship with God so that we can withstand the snares and temptations of the world around us. It is easy to become distracted by the busyness of life.

Jesus also warns that the worries of life can (like thorns) choke our faith in Him. So we need to start each day with Him, and keep your eyes fixed on Him. Of course a large part of our day will require our concentration on our work, or other important matters. It is helpful therefore to set aside short breaks when you return to Him as your focus, and just enjoy being with Him.



Creator God, our anxious eyes look ahead and see rising prices, striking workers and energy shortages. In the midst of our worries help us find security in your unceasing love for us. We ask for protection for the weakest, courage for the vulnerable, and hope for the frightened. Do not let our worst fears come to pass, but flood the hearts of those who make decisions with generosity, compassion and justice. And so may your children be glad to be alive and turn to you with grateful praise. Amen.

Prayer by Peter Graystone, Diocese of Southwark. He is also the author of a number of books. Postcards featuring this prayer and information about resources for coping with the cost of living crisis are available from our own diocese: oxford.anglican.org/cost-of-living-crisis

Extraordinary APCM meeting

The PCC would like to give notice of an extraordinary APCM meeting to be held at St John the Baptist on Sunday 23rd, at 11:35 following on from the 10:30 Holy Communion Service.

In May, the Parish held its APCM meeting where the calendar year of 2022 was reviewed. One of the legal requirements of the APCM is for the congregation to accept the finance report. Due to extenuating circumstances, we were not able to do this and so we reviewed the draft accounts.

This past week, we have received the final accounts back from the auditors and the PCC has approved them. We therefore will present the final account to you and ask for your approval.

This extraordinary meeting is only for the approval of the 2022 accounts so will be very short. About 5 minutes. You are entitled to vote if you are on the electoral roll.

We appreciate this is short notice, but we need to meet a deadline of submitting the approved accounts to the Diocese of Oxford, Week Commencing 24th July. You do not need to send apologies if you cannot make this meeting as it is an extension of the APCM held in May, However, if you have any objections to the accounts, please submit them in writing by 17:00 on Saturday 22nd July to:

PCC-Secretary@stonedintonhartwell.com

A prayer in worrying times