

Dates for your diary (details to follow)

Thur 30 th November	SJB committee meeting
Sat 2 nd December	Café in the Park
Sun 3 rd December	Advent Sunday with choir - Posada begins
Sun 10 th December	Christingle Service
Sun 17 th December	Carol Service
Sun 24 th December	Crib Service
Sun 24 th December	Midnight Holy Communion

Coffee Cup news




The Harvest Service Collections at SJB and SPP together with the SJB Coffee Cup Collections during October came to a grand total of **£472.50**. This has been sent to The **Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse** so they can continue providing food to struggling people and families in Aylesbury. A big thank you to everyone.

Our Coffee Cup Collections in SJB this month will be sent to the **Community Christmas Lunch** project that offers a free Christmas Day meal to those who are in need. It is held in St Mary's Church in Aylesbury on Christmas Day. Further details of this good cause can be seen here <https://www.freechristmasdinner.com>

Benefice news


Good News! - We are delighted to announce that we have a new benefice administrator, her name is Jan Lemos. Jan started her induction this week and will have a handover with Chloe on Monday.



Network Name:
SJB Congregation

Password:
StJohnBaptist

We now accept
online donations.
You can donate at:



www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate

Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com 01296 748390
Benefice office: office@wychertvale.org 01844 291108
Pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com
Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.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 19th November

9:00 MATINS (Prayer Book Service)
Led by David Pickup

10:30 FAMILY WORSHIP
Led by David Pickup and Richard Smith
Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matt 25:14-30



EXPLORERS will meet during the service



Lord God

We give you thanks for all your gifts to us – for daily food - for health - for each breath we take - for freedom to choose - and for the gifts of your word, your power, and your love.

Our hearts are truly overwhelmed, O God, when we consider all that you are, and how you have entrusted so much to us.

May we be worthy of that trust - may we be a people who are unafraid to live as fully and as richly as you want us to live. Amen

THIS WEEK

Mon	20 th	10:30am	Socially Crafty – in the church
Tues	21 st	11:00am	Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
		7:30pm	Choir practice – Methodist chapel
Sat	25 th	10:30am	Christmas Coffee & Gifts – in the church until 12:30
Sun	26 th	10:30am	FAMILY COMMUNION - Revd Nigel Featherston

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Matthew 25:14-30
The Parable of the Bags of Gold

14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

22 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

28 "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

This parable reminds us to be faithful and use our God given gifts and potential. It includes a warning that if we do not use our gifts we lose them. Give some thought today to how you can develop your own talents and abilities, and put them to use to help others as well as yourselves. Sometimes others can recognise what our particular talents are better than we can. So we need to be encouraging one another, as well as remembering to give thanks to God for the gifts he has given us.

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CHRISTMAS COFFEE AND CRAFTS

St John the Baptist Church

Saturday 25th November 10:30 – 12:30



Socially Crafty have been busy making gifts for your family and friends, decorations for your tree, table decorations, and more. There will also be a cake stall and tombola. Come along and see and have a coffee and chat.

Everyone is welcome – and bring your friends and neighbours too!



Socks for prisoners

Once again we are supporting the work of the prison chaplaincy at HMP Grendon and Springhill as they give a pair of socks to each resident who attends the Christmas Day service.

A big thank-you to those who have already contributed socks as a Christmas present for the men in prison. Further gifts of socks would still be welcome – in particular, good quality mens' socks which can be worn with normal shoes or trainers of average and large sizes. These may not be the most exciting presents for your nearest and dearest, but they are always appreciated in the prison setting!

Posada 2023

Advent is a special time in the church calendar when we prepare for the coming of Jesus. Despite the hustle and bustle that is going on around us in the outside world it is a period for us in the church to reflect and wait.

Our annual Posada begins in two weeks' time on Advent Sunday, and it helps us as a church community to reflect and prepare for Jesus together. During the Posada our figures of Mary and Joseph stay with a different host household each night before moving on. As well as receiving Mary and Joseph at a pre-arranged time participants take them on to the next host, also at a pre-arranged time. We are ministering to one another by spending a few minutes together at the handover. It may be someone you know, but it might not be. That can be part of the fun of it. The handover procedure involves some simple prayers that are already written down for you to say together.



The Posada is open to all ages – young and old – and it offers an opportunity to include those who are no longer able to come to church on a regular basis. If you would like to take part or would like more information before deciding, please contact Jenny Pickup.
jennifer_1_pickup@hotmail.com tel no: 01296 748170

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