

Coffee Cup news

Our coffee cup collection today is our last one for the Aylesbury Town Centre Chaplaincy. The Street Angels will be out in Aylesbury town centre the night of Thursday 17th August, when A level results have come out. Many young 18 year olds who are not used to drinking will do so to celebrate or commiserate with one another. The Street Angels will be there for those who are lost, sick, or vulnerable.

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. Further details will be given in future editions of this newsheet.

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 5th August/Sat 2nd September – Café in the Park

Weds 9th August – SJB committee meeting

Sat 19th August /Sat 16th September – churchyard gardening

Tues 22nd August – choir practice resumes

Mon 21st August – Socially Crafty

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.**

Coins and old gold and silver broken jewellery.

Some of you will be going away on foreign holidays again soon. In recent years we have been able to raise funds for the church from donations of foreign and obsolete coins and broken jewellery. The jewellery is mainly broken chains and the coins are left over from foreign holidays.



So if you have any broken jewellery or obsolete foreign or English coins and banknotes please send them in. Every little helps! David Pickup tel: 748170

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 Benefice office (Chloe): office@wychertvale.org 01844 291108
 (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-1pm)

SJB WiFi: SJB Congregation

Password: StJohnBaptist

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 23rd July

10:30am

FAMILY COMMUNION

Led by: Revd Canon Phil Groves



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.

11:35am

Extraordinary APCM meeting – in the church

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. You do not need to send apologies if you cannot make this meeting as it is an extension of the finance report. Due to extenuating circumstances, we were not able to do this at the APCM meeting held in May.

THIS WEEK

Mon 24th	7:30pm	Finance Committee meeting - online
Tues 25th	11:00am	Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sun 30th	11:00am	MORNING WORSHIP at the chapel in Eythrope Road <i>Led by: David Pickup</i> There is no service in our church but there is always a warm welcome for us from our Methodist friends.

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

The gospel reading for today is from Matthew 13

The Parable of the Weeds (verses 24-30)

24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

27 "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

28 "An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

29 "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

The Parable of the Weeds Explained (verses 36-43)

36 Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

37 He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.



40 "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

This parable follows a similar pattern of teaching to the parable of the Sower. Jesus uses an example from everyday life and then gives an explanation of its meaning. The parable of the weeds tells us something about God's attitude to good and evil. Since He only sows goodness in the world it must be frustrating to Him to see all the bad things that are happening amongst all the good He has done. For example - we can appreciate the beauty of His creation but be discouraged by the way it is being abused – but why doesn't God do something about it – NOW?

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It is not God who causes things to go wrong, it is us – corruption, greed, jealousy etc are often the root causes. In this parable God is warning us that our collective (and individual) actions have consequences, but He is also a compassionate God who gives us the time and opportunity to change.

We may feel powerless to change the policies of national leaders around the globe (a debate for another day!) but we are each responsible for how we live our own lives and the choices we make – and with God's help we can be changed – if we ask Him.

*All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield;
Wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we - wholesome grain and pure May be.*

*For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;
From His field shall in that day, all offences purge away,
Giving angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store In the garner evermore.*

(Written in 1844 by Revd Henry Alford while he was rector at Aston Sandford)

Holidays

As we enter the holiday period, many of us will be taking well-earned breaks. Various members of the ministry team and Chloe, our benefice administrator will be taking holiday in July and August. Details of whom to contact if you have a pastoral need or other urgent issues will be on our answer machines or email responders. We hope everyone has a refreshing summer with time 'to stand and stare' ☺ *Cassa*

Prayer for the Summer Holidays



God of Love, we thank You for any opportunity to take a holiday, or at least to pause for a while from the daily rounds and the many responsibilities and routines that govern our lives. We pray that it will be a time of rest and refreshment where we can go quietly through the day without having to plan for the many 'workaday' things that have become the norm in our busy daily schedules. We pray that we will enjoy both spiritual and physical renewal, and find rejuvenating rest for our minds and spirits as well as enjoying relaxation and respite for our bodies. We also remember those who care for family members day in and day out, and for whom there is no break. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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