

## November



Steve Birrell is growing a beard to support Prostate Cancer in their 'Movember' Fund Raising efforts. As you can see he has a neat little growth and there is still time to help if you would like to, by going to the fundraising page via this link: <http://mobro.co/13723654>

Many thanks from *Steve*

Many thanks to Steve and the team for their hard work in caring for the churchyard throughout the year. They will now be taking a break over the winter months.



**Christmas Tree Festival**  
**St Mary's Church Haddenham**  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**



Come and see an amazing display of trees decorated by local organisations including SJB Stone. Free entry but donations to Thame Foodbank and Friends of St Mary's.

**Witchert Chorale concert in St Mary's Church Haddenham**

**'The Most Wonderful Time of The Year'**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7:30pm**

Seasonal joy with music by Bach, Brahms, Chilcott and more


Ticket information : [www.witchert.org.uk](http://www.witchert.org.uk)

**Soup Saturdays are here again!**

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 12:00 noon – 2:00pm**

at the **Methodist chapel in Eythrope Road**


Soups / cake / tea & coffee - donations to Action for Children



Network Name:  
**SJB Congregation**

Password:  
**StJohnBaptist**

We now accept  
online donations.  
You can donate at:  
[www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate)



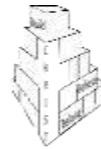
Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: [drphilgroves@gmail.com](mailto:drphilgroves@gmail.com) 01296 748390

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Website: [www.stonedintonhartwell.com](http://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](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com)

## St. John the Baptist STONE

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November

#### Christ the King Sunday

**10:30**

**FAMILY COMMUNION**

*Led by Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves*



**EXPLORERS** will meet during the service

**The Collect for today**



*STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

From this special prayer for today, the last Sunday before Advent has become known as 'Stir up Sunday'. It is also the day when people traditionally 'stirred up' their Christmas puddings in the days before they were available to buy in the shops. So, today is the best day to dig out Grandma's old recipe for Christmas pudding if you want to impress the family with it on Christmas Day.

**THIS WEEK**

<b>Tues</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Choir practice – Methodist chapel</b>
<b>Thur</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>SJB committee meeting – location on agenda</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Choir practice – in the church</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>ADVENT COMMUNION - Revd Nigel Featherston with the choir and the start of the Posada</b>

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## Matthew 25:31-46

## The Sheep and the Goats

<sup>31</sup> "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?' <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?' <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

<sup>41</sup> "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

<sup>44</sup> "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

<sup>45</sup> "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

<sup>46</sup> "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

This is one of the last teachings from Jesus before he was arrested. What Jesus is doing here, at the end point of his earthly ministry, is making it very clear to people who claimed to be his disciples and supporters that there is no grey area at all when it comes to following him. Our faithfulness to Jesus is shown in what we do for the most vulnerable and needy in our society. That does not mean we can earn our way in to heaven by good works. Read verses 37-40 again and notice that the 'righteous' were doing what was required of them without even recognising it.



*Dear Lord Jesus, awaken in us your merciful and kind heart so that we might have the privilege of seeing you in the people we serve. Amen*

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## CHRISTMAS COFFEE AND CRAFTS



The Coffee and Crafts yesterday was a great success with lots of visitors enjoying the space in our church.



We sold a lot of things but do still have some for you to see in church today. In cash we made £363 and still have to add in the card payments, but we think about £500 in total will be a good guess, and that will go to SJB Fabric Fund to continue improvements.

Thank you to everyone who helped or attended

*Sue*

### Socks for prisoners

A big thank-you to those who have already contributed socks as a Christmas present for the men in HMP Grendon and Springhill 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 appreciated in the prison setting!

### Posada 2023

Advent is a special time in the church calendar when we prepare for the coming of Jesus. It is a period for us in the church to reflect and wait.

Our annual Posada begins **NEXT WEEK** on Advent Sunday. 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 minister to one another by spending a few minutes together at the handover. The procedure for handing over involves some simple prayers that are already written down for you to say together.



The Posada is open to all ages and it offers an opportunity to include those who are no longer able to come to church on a regular basis for whatever reason. If you would like to take part or would like more information before deciding, please contact Jenny Pickup. [jennifer\\_1\\_pickup@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifer_1_pickup@hotmail.com) tel no: 01296 748170

*THANKYOU to everyone who has already signed up. Although spaces are still available please be aware there are fewer places over all this year because Advent is shorter.*

### Coffee Cup news.

Our Coffee Cup Collections in SJB this month will be sent to the **Community Christmas Lunch** in St Mary's church in Aylesbury. It offers a free Christmas Day meal and entertainment to those who are in need.



Further details can be seen here <https://www.freechristmasdinner.com>

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