



### Coffee Cup news

Starting next week our coffee cup collection will go towards another good cause - 'Dogs For Good' and this will run throughout August and September. One of our church families benefits greatly from an assistance dog provided by Dogs For Good, and we will be hearing about that in the coming 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 5<sup>th</sup> August/Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Café in the Park

**Weds 9<sup>th</sup> August** – SJB committee meeting

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> August /Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September** – churchyard gardening

**Mon 21<sup>st</sup> August** – Socially Crafty

**Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> August** – choir practice resumes

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – outdoor Evensong by Hartwell Church

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – Harvest Thanksgiving

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

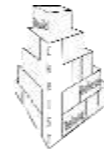
Some of you will be going away on foreign holidays again soon. In recent years we have been able to raise funds for the church from donations of foreign and obsolete coins and broken jewellery. The jewellery is mainly broken chains and the coins are left over from foreign holidays. So if you have any broken jewellery or obsolete foreign or English coins and banknotes please send them in. Every little helps! David Pickup tel: 748170

### Holidays

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*

Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: [drphilgroves@gmail.com](mailto:drphilgroves@gmail.com) 01296 748390  
Benefice office (Chloe): [office@wychertvale.org](mailto:office@wychertvale.org) 01844 291108  
(Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-1pm)

**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 30<sup>th</sup> July

**11:00am**

### MORNING WORSHIP

at the chapel in Eythrope Road

*Led by: David Pickup*



There is no service in our church today but there is always a warm welcome for us from our Methodist friends at the chapel.

Our service **next week** at 10:30am will be for all ages together so the young Explorers have the opportunity to take part in a service with the wider church family.

Then, by popular demand the Explorers group will continue to meet through August on 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 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

<b>Tues</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Café in the Park – in the Jubilee Pavilion</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>MATINS</b> <i>led by David Pickup</i>

This is a short Prayer Book service that focuses on the liturgy and the Word. We meet in the chancel and we do not sing. Everyone is welcome.

**10:30am** **FAMILY WORSHIP** *led by Revd Nigel Featherston*

Pewsheets: [pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com](mailto:pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com)  
Website: [www.stonedintonhartwell.com](http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com)

**BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE**

## The gospel reading in the lectionary for today is from Matthew 13

We have read the parable of the sower, and the parable of the weeds and the wheat. Today the lectionary offers us more parables – this time to illustrate what the kingdom of heaven is like - something that it can be difficult for our minds to grasp. We will just look briefly at four of the parables for today because the parable of the net covers similar teaching to the parable of the weeds and the wheat from last week.

### The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast



<sup>31</sup> He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. <sup>32</sup> Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup> He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds-of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

We already know from the scriptures that we only need faith the size of a mustard seed but here Jesus is telling us something different that would have been recognisable to his audience. The image of birds in branches appears a few times in the Old Testament where it represents people from all nations becoming part of God’s family. So Jesus is saying the Kingdom of Heaven is for the whole world, not just for the Jewish people.

Then Jesus goes on to talk about yeast that works its way through the dough. We need to be that yeast. Our influence can be enormous in the world around us – in our homes, families, schools, offices and so on. This is how the transformation of society takes place. We may sometimes feel overwhelmed by all the wrongs in our society, and we may feel despair at how we can change that – but Jesus tells us our influence can be tremendously effective.

### The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup> When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Some people - like the merchant here - search desperately for God before they find him. Others - like the man in the field - seem to stumble across him without trying. We each come to faith in our own way and hearing the testimony of others can be a source of encouragement in our own journey of faith. Whichever way you find Him, His kingdom is worth giving up everything else for.

**BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE**



*Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow, just like the yeast in the dough.  
Even though our faith is small as a mustard seed,  
we pray that you will make it grow to your glory,  
so that your kingdom may flourish.  
Thankyou that your kingdom is open to all peoples.  
Encourage us to show our faith in the way we live our lives,  
so that our families and friends may seek your kingdom too.  
We long to see others turn to you,  
and to live as citizens of our kingdom.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

### New Christian Bookshop in town

Before you trek down to Great Missenden for your Christian books and greeting cards, have a look in the new bookshop in Aylesbury first. The St Mary’s bookshop is in the south porch of the church and it is run by volunteers from several churches across town. It has only been open for about three weeks so please give them some encouragement if you can. The idea is for it to become a ‘Faith Hub’ where people will be welcomed to drop in with questions about faith as well as resting with a cuppa. The town Centre Chaplaincy team are also giving their support and encouragement to this exciting new project. There is a poster in our own church porch for you to see.

### ST MARY’S BOOKSHOP & CAFÉ TEAS | COFFEES | BAKED GOODS

Featuring Redemption Roasters coffee (reducing reoffending through coffee)

**Your local Christian Bookshop @ St Mary’s Church in Aylesbury**

Partnered with St Andrew’s Bookshop

**Monday – Saturday 10am – 4pm**

### Coming soon - WHY I BELIEVE - a series of talks

The Aylesbury Church Network and Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ have arranged a series of evenings featuring conversations about science, philosophy, and faith with extraordinary people doing extraordinary work. Each guest speaker is a renowned scientist or academic, coming to Aylesbury to share their work, perspective and reasons for believing.

Each session will be hosted at Holy Trinity Church in Walton Street on a Wednesday evening. The first is on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The full programme is on the noticeboard in our church porch. Entry is free (to the talks and also to our porch).

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