

CHURCHYARD GARDENING

On 29th June our church will be undergoing a visitation by the Associate Dean as part of the Archdeacon's inspection. All of the fabric, grounds and church items such as records and linen are checked to make sure we are compliant with regulations.

With this in mind the gardening session yesterday was really important. So, a BIG THANKYOU to those who came to help, we have made a tremendous difference and I'm sure everyone will appreciate the beauty of the churchyard and the tidyness of the graves which have been tended.

THANK YOU. Sue

Church Graffiti

Our church has recently been visited by an historian who took great interest in the graffiti he found, as well as the font. He found our graffiti particularly exciting due to its age and significance, and he went away to research it. Some of you will have seen it already and may be aware of its history, but many will not. There is a lot of history in our church building that we perhaps do not notice.

If enough people would be interested in hearing about it we could invite the historian to come and give a talk about it. Coffee and cake would of course also be on offer! Please let Sue know if you would be interested.

Sue Birrell on 01296 338163 or s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com

Coffee Cup news

Our coffee cup collection until the end of June will support **St Luke's charity for clergy wellbeing**. The aim of St Luke's is simple – it is to help clergy to flourish in their ministry.

<https://www.stlukesforclergy.org.uk/dioceses/why-is-st-lukes-work-needed/>

There are some leaflets about this charity in the church porch.

	Network Name: SJB Congregation	We now accept online donations. You can donate at:	
	Password: StJohnBaptist	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



SJB

Sunday 16th June

Notices for the week

Our church is a member of the Wychert Vale family of churches



SJB

Services TODAY

9:00am **MATINS** (Prayer Book Service in the Chancel)
Led by David Pickup

10:30am **FAMILY WORSHIP** *Led by David Pickup*
A Special celebration of Fathers' Day
Readings: 1 Samuel 15:34 – 16:13; Psalm 103
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17



*Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus,
the child of Mary,
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all parents as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and
patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to you for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen.*

Services next week

10:30am **FAMILY COMMUNION** with the choir
celebrating our **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**
Led by Revd Canon Phil Groves

The week ahead

Mon 17 th June	10:30am	SOCIALLY CRAFTY in the church
Tue 18 th June	11:00am	CAFÉ IN THE PARK in the Jubilee Pavilion
Tues 18 th June	7:30pm	CHOIR PRACTICE at 29(b) Eythrope Road
Thur 20 th June	9:00am	LITTLE WRIGGLERS in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sat 22 nd June	10:30am	CHOIR PRACTICE in the church

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This is the gospel reading for today but it is not the reading in the morning service as we will be focussing on Fathers then instead.

Matthew 9:35-38 The Workers Are Few

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 10:1-8 Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

¹ Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.

⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

Did you know?

- Father's Day has been celebrated in the UK for just over a century although it has only been officially recognised on our calendars since 1972.
- It was originally celebrated on 5th June as that is the feast day of St Boniface, the patron saint of fathers.
- Nowadays we celebrate it on the third Sunday in June, but in Australia and New Zealand it is celebrated in November.
- It was started in the US by a lady who was brought up with her siblings by her single father after their mother's death. She wanted to honour his hard work and dedication in their upbringing. She thought of the idea while listening to a sermon in church about mothers.
- Who was St Boniface? (I heard you ask). He was an English Benedictine monk, born in Devon in 675. He made it his life's mission to convert the Germanic tribes to Christianity. He is also famous for cutting down an oak tree that was being worshipped by pagans. That is a whole new story for another day.

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Socially Crafty
Monday 17th June (tomorrow) 10:30am – 12:30pm
in the church



We will be making bunting and discussing Poppies so come along and have your say, as well as coffee and a chat!

Make friends ~ Drink Coffee ~ Eat Cake ~ Do Crafts if you want

The General Election

The Church of England has launched a campaign known as [#PrayYourPart](https://www.churchofengland.org/about/topics/pray-your-part-general-election-2024) – to promote prayer and participation in the life of our nation and communities. A series of daily reflections written by bishops, drawn from the Bible, and exploring major themes has been published. It covers the final three weeks up to polling day and started on Friday. You can sign up to receive the daily reflections by email:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/topics/pray-your-part-general-election-2024>

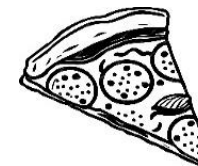
Election Prayer gathering

Prior to election day we will be gathering in the church to pray for the candidates, for the voters, for the election day itself, for the new government (whoever that is) and for our country. Everyone is welcome to gather with us. We will begin with a reflection from the Bible and then anyone is welcome to pray or share thoughts in an informal way. Others may prefer to sit in quiet contemplation throughout.

Tuesday 2nd July at 7:00pm lasting 30-45 minutes.

Post Patronal Pizza Picnic

Next week we will be celebrating St. John the Baptist, the patron saint of our church here in Stone. In order to continue the celebration after our patronal festival service, Canon Phil, Clare and I would like to invite you to a Post Patronal Pizza Picnic (see what I did there?) in the garden here at Vicarage Farmhouse.



We will start after our usual tea, coffee and biscuits at about 12:45. We are planning an Italian theme and will be cooking authentic Neapolitan pizza on our wood fired oven. All authentic pizzas are vegetarian and will include the mighty Margherita, the mouthwatering marinara and the beautiful Bianca. Please feel free to bring your own picnic and some cakes or puddings for sharing.

We will ensure there is plenty of shade if we are blessed with sunny weather. and provide some games for children to keep them happy and occupied. All members of the congregation as well as their families and friends are welcome.

*If possible, **please RSVP to Terry** to get some idea of numbers by text on 07968 368524 or email to terrycooper@gmail.com. Ci vediamo lì! **Terry***

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