

SOCIALLY CRAFTY

We meet every 3rd Monday of the month, except Bank Holidays.
in St John the Baptist Church, Stone **10.30am - 12.30**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

There is no commitment to come every month

Did you know that there is no Baby/Toddler group in Stone?

We are planning a weekly term-time session on **Thursdays 9.00am – 10.30am** in the Jubilee Pavilion for children to play and socialise with a Bible story, snacks, singing and dancing, etc – and a place for parents, grandparents and carers to get out the house for a cuppa and chat.

Could you help on Thursday mornings from 8.30am – 11.30am?

Setting up, serving drinks/snacks, welcoming, playing/talking to little/big ones – either weekly, fortnightly or monthly. It would be great to have some men on the team as well as women.

Do you have any good quality play mats, baby and toddler toys, toy animals, cars, dinosaurs, etc which you could donate?

Time for a clear out!


Can you come up with a good name for the group?

Haddenham has 'Pitter Patter', Brill has 'Little Saints' There'll be a **prize** for the winner.

Please get in touch if you can help:

naominz@hotmail.co.uk or ring 01296 747689.


Thanks *Naomi*



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 21st January

Third Sunday of Epiphany

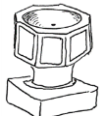
9:00am MATINS *led by David Pickup*

10:30am FAMILY COMMUNION WITH BAPTISM
led by Revd Phil Groves



EXPLORERS will meet in the vestry during the service

Today we welcome **Darcy Marie Thorp** together with her family and friends to celebrate her baptism



Heavenly Father, we pray that Darcy will grow in grace and love, and learn to faithfully follow Jesus all the days of her life.

We pray for guidance and strength for her parents and family. May their example, wise counsel and love lead her to live a life of strength, righteousness, faith, love, joy and peace.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

This week

Tues 23rd 11:00am **CAFÉ in the PARK** *Jubilee Pavilion*
Sun 28th 11:00am **JOINT COVENANT SERVICE**
at the Methodist Chapel

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John 2:1-11

Jesus changes water into wine

¹On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ²and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.'

⁴'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'

⁵His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

⁶Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres.

⁷Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim.

⁸Then he told them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.'

They did so, ⁹and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰and said, 'Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.'

¹¹What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

In those days (and in some cultures today) wedding feasts lasted about a week. They were times of great revelry and rejoicing. People wore their best clothes, sang and danced, laughed, and had fun. Jesus was enjoying himself along with everyone else. Some people might find that surprising. It may also surprise some that rather than condemning those who were drinking the wine Jesus turned over 120 gallons of ceremonial washing water into the very best wine when they ran out!

Simply **letting him know what the problem was**, and then **following his instructions** led to this surprising miracle. Jesus does things abundantly because he wants to give life and joy in all its fullness – but he does not impose himself. He wants us to talk to him. Notice how he only acted when his mother asked him to do so, and when she told the servants to 'Do whatever He tells you'.



There is another significance to this miracle as well. It is one that should have been recognisable to the Jewish community. According to the Jewish Scriptures, when the Messiah comes there shall be an abundance of new wine, a symbol for God's abundant goodness towards his people. That Jesus turns so much water into the best of wines is a 'sign' that he is in fact the long awaited Messiah.

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Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an ecumenical and international celebration. In the northern hemisphere it takes place between 18th and 25th January. This year the resources have been produced by the churches in Burkina Faso in West Africa on the theme "You shall love the Lord your God . . . and your neighbour as yourself. . ."

<https://ctbi.org.uk/resources-for-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024/>

Our prayer today has been taken from this source:



God of life, You have created us to have life, and life in all its fullness. Help your wounded Church to be a source of hope and healing. As we follow Jesus' way with determination, may we lead others to you.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Coffee Cup collection

The Archdeacon of Buckingham's Clergy Charity supports local clergy and their families who are in financial need, hardship or distress.

The Trust raises its income from collections and donations throughout the year from parishes within the Archdeaconry.

Dates for your diary

We are still in the church season of Epiphany at the moment but it is worth looking ahead and making a note of these dates now:

14 th February	Ash Wednesday (the start of Lent)
10 th March	Mothering Sunday
29 th March	Good Friday
31 st March	Easter Sunday

What will you give up this Lent?

We are not asking you to give up chocolate, coffee or wine, this year we are asking you to give up something far more precious: **Time**

Please consider joining a Lent Group.

The groups meet once a week during the 5 weeks of Lent. The aim is to deepen our spiritual life and commitment to Jesus.

We are looking for hosts, leaders and people who would like to attend.

More information will come out soon, but please think if you can give up a couple of hours for something that could be inspiring for you and others.

Phil Groves

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice

Phone 01296 748 390

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