

### A call for helping hands

Our wonderful church of St John the Baptist is not only a beautiful historic church building, but also a lively, active worshipping community.

Our volunteers look after the building and the churchyard, keep the church as a safe environment, help to run services and other activities such as Café in the Park. You might get the impression that, because these things happen, we don't need help. Actually, we would welcome additional help with all of these things!

For example, we are seeking someone to be the treasurer for the combined Parish of Stone and Dinton. We would also value additional volunteers to serve food and drinks at Café in the Park. If you can sing or play an instrument, you would be very welcome. Our choir lifts our worship at all the major church festivals. Our churchyard maintenance teams would benefit from additional volunteers. We can probably find a use for most skills somewhere, so if you would like to volunteer in some way at the heart of your local community, even if occasionally, we would love to hear from you.

Sue Birrell (SJB churchwarden) [s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com](mailto:s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com)



Naomi Corbould (Café in the Park) [naominz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:naominz@hotmail.co.uk)

Extra hands are also needed to help put the 'Parish Church and Community News' magazine together each month. The editorial team meets once a month over Zoom for about an hour, and magazine content is submitted to them via email. You need a PC/laptop and a good working knowledge of Microsoft Word.

David Pickup (Editor) [david@pickupandscott.co.uk](mailto:david@pickupandscott.co.uk)

A BIG THANKYOU to all of you who already volunteer your skills in so many ways!

**NOTE: We no longer take a collection during services. The collection bowl is near the door as you leave and also a card payment machine if you prefer that. Thankyou.**

	Network Name:	
	SJB Congregation	
	We now accept online donations.	
	Password:	
	StJohnBaptist	<a href="http://www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate">www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate</a>

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# Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

## Notices for the week

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



**HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CLOCKS MOVED FORWARD BY AN HOUR?**

# EASTER SUNDAY

# THE LORD IS RISEN !!

10:30am **FAMILY COMMUNION** with **CHOIR**  
*led by Revd Phil Groves Reading: Mark 16:1-8*



*God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

### Services next week

9:00am **MATINS** *led by David Pickup*  
10:30am **FAMILY WORSHIP** *led by Richard Smith*

### The week ahead

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> April 11:00am **CAFÉ IN THE PARK** in the Jubilee Pavilion  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> April 10:00am **CAFÉ IN THE PARK** in the Jubilee Pavilion

Has anyone found **FAITH** yet? Perhaps you will when you next come into church.....  
*(see next week's pewsheets for the explanation!)*

## Mark 16:1-8

### Jesus has risen

*16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. <sup>2</sup>Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb <sup>3</sup>and they asked each other, 'Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?'*

*<sup>4</sup>But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.*

*<sup>6</sup>'Don't be alarmed,' he said. 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."*



*<sup>8</sup>Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.*

Unlike Christmas, Easter is recorded in and is the climax of all four Gospels.

Mark says everything he wants to say about the most important event in history in just 8 verses. It is so short that those who copied Mark's gospel felt obliged to add an additional 8 verses to say what happened next.

Mark tells us that at the earliest possible time three women attended the grave to anoint the body. The story points to their dedication, but also their powerlessness – they would not be able to roll away the stone.

The women in Mark's gospel are always present. Their dedication is noted, as is their powerlessness. While the men jostle for power, the women serve. When the men run away, the women stay.

They are the least in the community and it is no accident they are the first to hear of the resurrection. Jesus told them that the last shall be first.

Mark's point is that resurrection transforms everything. Death is overcome and good news comes to the powerless.

The women are overwhelmed and run away saying nothing to anyone. This leaves the story hanging and this is deliberate. The story is no longer just theirs; it is ours. The question for us is how we are to live as people who know that Christ has risen.

We may feel powerless and insignificant, but we have this treasure of joy, and hope. What are we to do with it?

*Phil*

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

## Thankyou

.....to the choir who lifted our worship in church on Palm Sunday and will do so again today in our Easter celebration. They are taking a break now until they resume practices on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm** at 29(b) Eythrope Road. New members are always welcome. There is no audition – just speak to Chris Ashbridge or Richard Smith.

### Coffee Cup news

Our coffee cup collections until the end of April will be given to **Aylesbury Homeless Action Group**. AHAG is a local charity based in Rickfords Hill in Aylesbury. It provides support and advice to those who are homeless; at risk of becoming homeless; or who are inadequately housed.



AHAG runs a Drop In advice service in Aylesbury Library every Friday 9:30 – 12:30. You can read more about the work of AHAG at <https://www.ahag.org.uk/>

### Church Electoral Roll

The revision of the Church Electoral Roll is once again due. This always takes place before the Annual Church Parochial Meeting which is in May. If you are already on the Roll you need take no further action but if you would like to be included on the Roll please speak to one of the Church Wardens or Dee James (tel: 747671) for any further information and an application form.

The criteria necessary for joining the Roll is shown on the "REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL" notice displayed on the Church notice board or can be found on the church website. The deadline for joining is 23rd April 2024.

### Good Friday

Following the awful weather on Thursday evening we anticipated a wet walk of witness from the school to the church. So what a joy it was, right on cue as we started to gather in the school car park, to see the clouds part and the sunshine stream through! Led by David Pickup we stopped to pray at the War Memorial, the Village Hall, the chapel, the pond, and the church steps. We gathered more people as the walk progressed and we entered the church for the Easter Garden service. Many thanks to all twenty seven people (and Pumpkin of course!) who walked with the cross. Do take the opportunity today to see the lovely Easter Garden that the children put together in the church.

### Is it nothing to you all you who pass by?

We have once again put a wooden cross in the verge on Oxford Road, near to the pond. Anyone is welcome to put flowers at the foot of the cross. On Easter Monday the cross and any flowers will be brought back to the churchyard.

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