



PARISH NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2021

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

<u>Sunday 3rd October</u> 10.15 am	Trinity 18 Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 10th October</u> 10.15am	Trinity 19 Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 17th October</u> 10.15 am	Trinity 20 Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 24th October</u> 10.15 am	Trinity 21 Morning Worship
<u>Sunday 31st October</u> 10.15 am	Trinity 22 Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 7th November</u> 10.15 am	Trinity 23 Holy Communion

All services will take place at St Denys.
Due to their small size and the need to socially distanced inside a church for 2m, it will NOT be possible to have any services in our two Chapels, Goosey and Hatford. We will, of course, keep you posted but cannot see services happening any time soon in these two chapels.

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar	The Revd Paul Eddy	710267
Wardens		
	Maz Galley	710211
	Nigel Archer	718163
Verger	Mrs Susan Mayall	

Vicars Write :

Just for one minute, I invite you to turn your 'life clock' back to the start of 2021, and recall all the good things you discovered as a result of lockdown. Then think of the things that you decided you'd make a priority from now on and, all the things you realised had been soaking up your time, and which you were determined would no longer have a hold over your diary, or life? Perhaps write them down?

Now, be honest. Nine months on - similar to the main lockdown phases - how are you doing? How have your new life priorities gone? What things have crept back in and, what of your life-giving, energy-giving activities have been thwarted by other people's 'urgent' or, of course, because they don't plan or organise themselves! Be easy with yourself. If you've just realised in nine months your hopes have been dashed: there's always tomorrow, and next week to press the Re:Set button.

As I approached my phased Return To Work Plan - devised by an OH Expert, I decided I'd make priorities and have a personal focus as I returned to work. I even got a new 'Focus Planner' into which you transfer your annual goals down to quarter, then monthly, then weekly goals. Yes it's American - don't laugh! Well, within two mornings back, even my very carefully devised 'To Do List' which our excellent Churchwardens helped me prioritise went to the wall!

Why? Well life - because we don't live like an Island, and even if I had my priorities, that doesn't mean that dozens of others, knowing I was back, tried to ensure their requests for my reduced time coincided with my goals or weekly plans 😊

It's just life isn't it. Life is full of compromises and negotiation - especially in a church or charity where you work with volunteers who do things in their own time, and not like employees who can be asked to do things by a deadline so the 'plan' keeps to your plan! Well, what do you and I do now we're over 2/3rds into the year? The Christian faith has two principles that can help to get us back on focus and, ensure our priorities remain priorities.

The first is the Sabbath: one day a week of a complete break from work. A day of refreshment, renewal and recreation as God designed. For Christians it's a day of putting God first by worshipping Him as a deep reminder that God deserves our priority time and, that as we worship Him, meet with other Christians and hear from the Bible, we are re-created as people made in God's image, and sent out to live lives mirrored on the life of Christ.

Each Sabbath day, why not spend 30 minutes reflecting back on last week and putting in place boundaries to ensure those priorities you discovered in lockdown remain a priority?

The second Christian principle is an ancient one: a Rule of Life. A Rule is not a legalistic list of 'Thou Must' but rather a Trellis of key foundational poles for your life which, if not in place and maintained, your life can get blown around by the winds of life. A Rule of Life can be as simple or as detailed as you want it to be. It's roots go back to the earliest Monasteries. If 30 or so blokes were to live together, and carry out a joint purpose, some 'ground rules', spiritual and practical, were needed - unless unholy chaos would soon happen - especially as they brewed their own Ale!



A Rule might include key Routines you do each day like exercise, or making time for family. It may include scheduling time to put in place some of those life principles you discovered in lockdown, what 'holiday days' your going to take - spread out evenly over the year, and how you might live your life inwardly (healthy) and outwardly (helping others).

Today I had an hour's Zoom with my own Mentor and we discussed how I might balance those things which I deeply believe I need to prioritise in my life with, the needs, expectations and aspirations of others of what a vicar should do - especially when I'm only back part-time, and building up.

Sabbath, Rule of Life and a Mentor (a good friend is a start) are three ways that you and I can press the ReSet button on our lives in October and as we do, we may get a step closer to the Rhythm of Life that God intended for us and, live at the speed we were created to live at

Happy ReSet month! Yours Paul Revd Paul Eddy, Vicar

Stanford in the Vale, Repair Cafe

The Repair Café is now opening on the first Saturday in the month from 12.00 – 2.00pm in the Coffee Shop – **Saturday 2nd October**. People can bring along their broken items such as toasters, table lamps, garden shears for sharpening etc. We also carry out safely checks on electrical items i.e. PAT test. We make no charge for our work, but a donation is acceptable

You can bring items to one of two houses; we can then distribute the item/s to one of our repairers. For more information contact:-

Derek Sayers 2 Hunters Field, Email reco@clara.co.uk

or

Bill Hart Silkie, Chapel Road Email stanfordrepaircafe@siulkie.co.uk

BIG KNIT ALERT!!

I have just heard that the deadline for the Big Knit Hats to be into the Age UK Abingdon Office is OCTOBER 1st and not the end of October as previously believed. In light of this new date, I will be having a collection day on MONDAY 27th SEPTEMBER - 2.00 - 4.00pm so that I can get them to Abingdon before the given date. As usual, it will be a tea and cake get together and I hope to see you all then.

If you can't make the 27th just drop them in to me at any time before that date or let me know so that I can pick them up from you.

I realise that by the time you receive your Newsletter this article will be out of date but, if you do have any hats for the project, you can still drop them in at any time and I will keep them for when next year's project begins.

Jan Stenzhorn 01367 710724

Churchyard Working Party

Saturday 2nd October – 9.30- 3.30pm

Can you spare some time on 2nd October to help maintain our Churchyard? Main task will be raking up the long grass areas which need to be cut down in the Autumn. Rakes and wheelbarrows would be excellent. Also pruning and cutting tools would be very useful. Hope to see you there!! Sincerely, Peter Gill- St Denys Church

CHATTERBOX every Thursday

We are open again every Thursday

10.00 – 12 noon In the Small Village Hall.

We look forward to welcoming everyone- old friends and new – to join us to share coffee/tea etc and chat!

FARINGDON & DISTRICT U3A IN OCTOBER

Tuesday 5th October - Our annual OPEN DAY will be held in the Corn Exchange between 10.00 and 12.00

This event is both to attract new members and to allow existing members to learn something about Groups with which they are not familiar and which they might consider joining.

Come along and have a browse round the many stands, chat with Group Leaders and see if anything takes your fancy. Refreshments will be available.

Thursday 14th October at 2.30pm Speaker is David Allen talking on Zoom about Blood, Gore and Victorian England. David will take us on a fascinating journey through the world of plots, deadly poisons and the occasional chopped-up body, using contemporaneous accounts from newspapers and law reports. David tells of one meticulously researched story which is jam-packed with factual details – a particularly blood-curdling tale. Review talk about spell-bound audiences.

Come and enjoy either in the Corn Exchange or at home by Zoom Refreshments are available as usual afterwards. Zoom details will be sent in advance to all members or you can just turn up to the Corn Exchange.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wednesday 6th October in the large Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend. Details published via our web site and noticeboards.

Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter October 2021 To include items for the newsletter:

Janet Warren 01367 710789 or jmwarren302@gmail.com Closing date this month is the 18th October

Stanford Community Website for e copy - Local events, business listing, village history and more

Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale



St Denys' Handbell Ringers are back!

After an extended (covid-distancing) break, the group has now started meeting again to play music on handbells. It would be a great time to welcome new joiners. As long as you enjoy music then absolutely no experience is necessary – come along and see.

We meet weekly, on Wednesday evenings from 8pm, in the small village hall.

If you have any questions or can let us know that you hope to see us there, please e-mail

StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com (this will help with numbers as we are continuing to be reasonably cautious – although we really would love to see new faces).

Jackie O'Hagan

St Denys Church invites you to Women's Breakfast

When: Saturday 16th October 2021.

Where: Stanford in the Vale Village Hall (Large Hall)

Time: 8.30 am for 8.45am start.

Talk by Jeanette Gill: "Every Step Counts."

Booking is essential as Covid safety measures will be in place and seats are limited. Please leave a message on 01367718163, sign up in Church or email the Breakfast Team via Womensbreakfast@stdenys.org for further details.

STANFORD IN THE VALE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Rise Of Pleasure Boating On The Thames

By

Simon Wenham

**Wednesday 13th October at 7.30pm
Large Village Hall.**

New Members and Guests Welcome

USUAL BOOK SALES AND RAFFLE

STANFORD IN THE VALE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We are looking forward to hearing James Haddow, "The Taxi Driver Poet", the speaker at our next meeting in The Village Hall at on **Wednesday 20th October at 7.30 pm**. Visitors are very welcome to come along (£5). For more information, please ring Joan on 01367 710562.

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 27th in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

Refreshments and a Raffle.

Visitors will be welcome for a £3.00 entry fee.

For more information contact Rosemary Packer.

Tel. 01367 710445

Friends of Stanford School Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM of the Friends of Stanford School will be held on **Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 8pm.**

The meeting will be held in the school hall however, it will also be possible to join the meeting via Zoom if you prefer.

We are looking for a new Chair, Secretary and Treasurer –

if you think you can help, please do get in touch! All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there. For further details, please contact fossbox01@gmail.com or Ali on 07760 256164

Advance Notice

Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Grand Quiz Night

Saturday 6 November

£20 per team of 4 if prior notice given, or £25 at the door, both including ploughman's supper.

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm. Raffle and Bar

Contact: J. Warren 01367 710789

Also

Christmas Bingo

Friday 3rd December

In the Village Hall

To include items in November's newsletter please send to send to jmwarren302@gmail.com or telephone 01367 710789 and leave a message. Closing date: 18th October 2021. Late items cannot be accepted

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**St Denys Church Christmas Bazaar
on Saturday 20th November
in Stanford Village Hall
from 11.30 am - 2.00pm**

September Pre-school news

We were sad to see our children leaving who were going off to school, but we sent them off with a lovely visit from Boogie Beats in the park, medal ceremony and picnic. The sun shone and everyone seemed to have a good time.

We have welcomed 10 new families to Pre-school and the children have settled in well. We are enjoying getting to know them and their families. Our returning children seem to have come back like they have never been away and are enjoying all that Pre-school has to offer.

We have been enjoying the harvest of apples and plums that were ready to eat when we returned in September. The children made some plum cakes and enjoyed hearing about how the blossom we had seen a few months ago has turned into the delicious pairs. The apples were chopped up to share at snack. Our AGM is coming up shortly. Please look out for signs around the village for the date if you would like to come along to hear about our year or take on a role on the committee.

The Pre-school operates a waiting list. If you would like to put your child's name down please email: manager@stanfordpreschool.org.uk or call: 01367 718696



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

Reported by the newly elected School Council:

- Year 1 – Holly & Isabel N,
- Year 2 – George & Phoebe,
- Year 3 – James H & Bella,
- Year 4 – Harry & Merryn,
- Year 5 – Edward & Faith,
- Year 6 – Orlaith & Ruby

We are very excited to all be back in school. Teaching and learning is now back in full swing. We are all learning lots of new facts.

Foundation – We are busy exploring the inside and outside of our classroom. We think our new school is amazing! We have made lots of new friends and enjoy playing with them. We are having fun doing 'squiggle while you wiggle', 'running on the field, playing in the

role play kitchen and washing the small world barns and horses.

Year One – We are doing lots of reading to help our reading and writing skills. In art we have been exploring primary colours and looking at the colours they make when mixed. We are doing lots of running on the field and have been working on bouncing balls to our partners. We are really enjoying playing with our friends.

Year Two – We really like going back in to the hall for Collective Worship with all the different classes. It has been great listening to the entrance music and singing hymns together. In art we have been exploring fire colours linked to our topic The Great Fire of London. We accompanied 'Magic Grandad' and went back in time to see what happened during the Fire of London. We are reading lots of books and writing about them.

Year Three – We are studying the artist, Henri Rousseau, and exploring his use of colour. Mr Chadwick is teaching us to balance on different body parts and we are learning netball skills. We are using the text, 'The Great Kapok Tree,' to help our persuasive writing, to stop the man cutting down the tree.

Year Four – We like playing with our younger brothers and sisters on the field at lunchtime, now we can all mix again. In maths we have been learning how to round numbers to 10, 100 and 1000. Mr Chadwick has been teaching us how to create sequences in gymnastics and we have been learning hockey skills. We are studying 'Alice in Wonderland,' looking at the character of Alice and stepping out the story.

Year Five – We have been focusing on the text, 'Emily and the time slip scarab' – we have stepped it, spoke it, mapped it and heard it. In PE we are learning netball skills and in gymnastics practising different balances – arch, dish, pike and straddle. In art we have drawn different Egyptian Gods and in French learnt about different flags. We have just started having our whole class guitar lessons with Mr Harris, which has been great!

Year Six – We have just started swimming again which is great because we haven't been able to go for 2 years! In Art we are looking at the work of Banksy and the use of spray painting. We are studying the text, 'The Lion and the Unicorn,' which is about our topic World War II. In PE we are learning how to play tag rugby and in science we are learning about the parts of the eye and how light reflects.

Please do look on our school website for more information about what we have been doing.

We have a few spaces in Foundation and Year 5. If interested, please do contact Oxfordshire County Council admissions.

Thank you for reading our report.

Take care and keep safe

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