



## PARISH NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022

### SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<i>Christmas 2</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<i>Epiphany</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<i>Epiphany 2</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<i>Epiphany 3</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<i>Epiphany 4</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<i>Presentation of Christ</i>
10.15 am	Holy Communion (Stanford)

### In Memory

**Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and friends of people who have recently died.**

**Sadly, this includes:**

**Neil Mayhew  
Miriam Peck**

### WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

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

### Vicars Write:

Dear Parishioners

As many of you know, I'm a great user of Facebook. For those of us over 40, it's the main means of communication via social media. And yes, I'm probably too old for Tiktok and the others!

Sadly, I'm increasingly noticing how it's becoming a platform to really - there's no other way of saying it - show off. Yes of course, it's lovely to post a picture of a holiday, but whether we really need 12 shots of a stay at an elite London hotel in December, or 48 shots of a 'four day' holiday in a far-flung location, perhaps pushes the boundary of FB being a place to keep family photos or, stating your position in social life today.

Personally, I'm happy for such people that they have the means to enjoy such occasions. But, whether it be the 'quick fix' to stardom that shows like the X-Factor, or Britain's Got Talent like to suggest is possible or, our social media feeds constantly reminding us what we have NOT got, it's all too easy for our minds to focus on what our lives seemingly lack, rather than to be thankful for what we have.

And it's not just money that does that: always wanting that next best job or, that next promotion - only then will we be 'happy' or 'satisfied'.

For those of us who are 'Big Picture' people, and like to lay out the plan for the next stage of our work or personal development, these past 20 months have been frustrating: it's been impossible to do, and frankly, it's still impossible to plan with accuracy - probably anything more than the next six months.

All in all, pastorally, I'm finding that it's combining to leave a lot of people feeling dissatisfied with their lot in life, and that in turn can affect us mentally, physically and spiritually. That constant focus on 'the next big or best thing' or what we have 'not' got, can soon affect the way in which we relate to people, as well as things. In short, we can become 'ungrateful'.

Now, unless you or I suddenly win the Lottery or, of course, win X-Factor, we're unlikely to find our 'lot' change much overnight. But even if it does, we only have to read about the lives of the rich and the famous to know that the grass is not always 'greener on the other side'!

As we start another year, may I suggest that 'Gratitude' turns what we have into 'enough'.

I'm not big on 'New Year Resolutions', but if there was one I think we'd all benefit from it would be reflecting at the end of the day and noting down three things that we are grateful for.

To start, you may only think of one, but in time, as you think throughout the day of things you do, or are done to or for you, or you simply have, you'll be amazed how many things we each have to be thankful

Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter January 2022. To include items for the newsletter:

Janet Warren 01367 710789 or [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com) Closing date this month is the 18<sup>th</sup> January

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

Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale



and grateful for. And studies show that by acknowledging what we have, and expressing gratitude can help our mental health - keeping us in balance.

One of my favourite passages in the Bible talks of how we are not to be anxious (or ungrateful), but to pray constantly that God would supply our needs. But we are to do that 'with thankfulness'. Thankfulness, because of what God has already given us, and thankfulness, in faith, that He will supply our needs, not necessarily our wants.

If we do that, the Bible says, 'the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard our hearts and our minds'.

And when that happens, we really do have something to be grateful for!

A very Happy New Year!

Paul      Revd Paul A Eddy      Vicar, St Denys Church

## SITV Helpers

**SITV HELPERS** are still on hand if anyone in the village requires help with:

- Shopping
- Posting letters
- Prescriptions
- Just for a talk

during these challenging times or any other emergency. We have a Facebook page "**SITV Helpers**" where helpful information is shared.

Any other problems or concerns contact

[sitvhelp@gmail.com](mailto:sitvhelp@gmail.com) – phone number

07710760894 or 07891013114.

Also contact, if you are happy to join this group and be on hand should help be needed.

**Wantage Advice Centre** is also there to refer families for food and heating vouchers. They are also able to offer advice on legal matters, benefit, education, housing etc over the phone. Contact them on -

01235 765348 / [help@wantageadvice.org.uk](mailto:help@wantageadvice.org.uk)

Very many thanks to all again

**The next Parish Council Meeting  
is on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
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 Local History Society

Happy New Year to all our members

Join us in the large village hall at 7.30 on

**Wednesday 12 January** for a talk on "West Berkshire in the Anglo-Saxon Period"

By David Peacock

## U3A

Dear all

There is still uncertainty as to whether January Japes will go ahead but we have a very popular speaker Val Calderbank who will talk by Zoom from the Corn Exchange on Thursday 13th January at 2.30pm. Valerie will talk about "Exploring the Universe". She will discuss the equipment available to the amateur to help explore the Universe and discuss the major observatories in the world, and what they have achieved. The talk will also consider the satellites "out there" and what they are doing. Valerie has spoken to us several times before and so this talk is strongly recommended. If you are watching by Zoom the link will be sent to all members a few days before.

## STANFORD IN THE VALE WI

Covid permitting, we will meet at **7.30 pm in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th January** for a recycling or regifting evening. If you have any unwanted items such as Christmas presents, bring them along and swap them for something that appeals more to you. Any queries, ring Joan on 01367 710562.

## Stanford Volunteer Taxi Service

If you need transport for a medical appointment please phone

**MARJORIE GOODING 01367 710656**

As much notice about any appointments makes things easier and more drivers would be greatly appreciated

*Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter January 2022. To include items for the newsletter:*

*Janet Warren 01367 710789 or [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com) Closing date this month is the 18<sup>th</sup> January*

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

*Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale*



# Aladdin



A traditional pantomime suitable for all the family. Stanford Drama Group presents Aladdin by Ben Crocker.

Will Abanazar change his wicked ways? Will Aladdin get his Princess? Come and join us to find out!!

**VENUE: Stanford in the Vale Village Hall**

**DATES: Thursday 3rd February 7.30pm, Friday 4th February 7.30pm, Saturday 5th February 2.30pm Matinee and 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm for evening performances and 2pm for the Matinee.**

**TICKETS: £8 and £6 for concessions. Tickets are available from Stanford Coffee Shop (next door to the Co-op). Cash please. A Bar is available for all evening performances. For all enquiries please call 01367 710400.**

## WHEELCHAIR LOAN

**A reminder that the village wheelchair is available, for temporary loan, to any resident of Stanford in the Vale.**

**Day trips out, temporary mobility problems, visitors with disabilities etc.**

**For more information phone 01367 710724**

## Help with Newsletter Delivery

Is there anyone on the new 'Riverside Estate' willing to deliver these newsletters to your estate? E mail me – [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com)

## Diary dates for 2022



**Village Celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

**Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**On the football field.**  
More details next month

## **Stanford Summer Festival Returns**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

## Pre-school news – December

We have had an exciting term with the children really enjoying the build up to Christmas. They have spent long periods of time in the Elf Workshop dressing up, wrapping presents, writing letters to Santa and writing labels for presents. They also enjoyed making their own salt dough decorations to take home and selected a variety of resources to make their own Christmas cards.

They have enjoyed learning the Christmas songs and delighted everyone that came along to watch them at the church for our Christmas Performance.

Earlier on in the term we enjoyed the surprise arrival of snow which has endless learning opportunities but also is a huge amount of fun. We ventured out to the park to play in the untouched snow and had such fun.

The Pre-school operates a waiting list. If you are interested in registering your child with us please visit [www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk](http://www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk) and complete a Pre-Registration form or contact the Pre-school on 01367 71869

*Stanford in the Vale with Goosey and Hatford Newsletter January 2022. To include items for the newsletter: Janet Warren 01367 710789 or [jmwarren302@gmail.com](mailto:jmwarren302@gmail.com) Closing date this month is the 18<sup>th</sup> January Stanford Community Website for e copy - Local events, business listing, village history and more Newsletter sponsored by Public Purposes Charity Stanford in the Vale*





### Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

Reported by the 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

What a busy few weeks we have had!

#### Bethlehem's Buzzin'

Foundation and Years 1 and 2 put on a heart-warming performance of 'Bethlehem's Buzzin'. The children confidently and enthusiastically performed the nativity story. There was brilliant singing and fabulous acting.

#### Super Star

Years 3, 4 and 5 put on a wonderful performance of Super Star. The children did a fabulous job with amazing singing, acting and dancing throughout.

Overall, the Christmas Performances we managed to raise £498.17 from donations. This money is being sent to Sobell House in memory of Mr Godwin.

#### Christmas Big Sing

On Wednesday 1st December the choir went to Oxford Town Hall to take part in the Christmas Big Sing. Six Oxfordshire schools were in attendance and each choir sang their own song, two joint songs and a number of carols with the audience. The choir did an amazing job with their own beautiful song - 'Heaven on Earth' and the mass choir songs sounded amazing - 'A statue out of snow' and 'Mi Burrito Sabanera.'

#### Christmas Art Day

On Friday 26th November the Year 6 children ran our Christmas Art Day. They moved around the classes to demonstrate different Christmas crafts and then helped the children complete the activities. Year 6 were amazing and all the

children made a variety of crafts including Christmas tree decorations, snow globes, wreaths. Everyone had a brilliant time.

#### Panto at the Wyvern

On Thursday 16th December we all went to the Wyvern Theatre to watch 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' Oh no you didn't, oh yes we did! We had a great time booing, cheering, clapping, singing and dancing. We all liked the character Daisy, the cow and enjoyed an ice cream in the interval.

#### Carol singing at The Grange

On the last day of term we all went up to the Grange to sing carols to the residents. The children did a brilliant job especially Lola and Edward who also played their instruments. Lola played Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Edward played Jingle Bells, with both of them leading the school to sing We Wish You A Merry Christmas. The residents were very impressed with the children's singing.

We also got to meet Reg, a 103 year old resident who entertained us on the piano with Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer.

#### Special Visitor

To recognise the hard work of all the children this term and their brilliant Christmas performances, every class got a visit from a very special person! Father Christmas brought every class some gifts for them to use in their classrooms. Thank you, Father Christmas.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

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.