



PARISH NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

SERVICES FOR THE MONTH

Sunday 6th February *Fourth before Lent*
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 13th February *Third before Lent*
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 20th February *Second before Lent*
10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

Sunday 27th February *Sunday before Lent*
10.15 am Morning Worship (Stanford)

Sunday 6th March *Lent 1*
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:

David Hunt

St. Denys Kids is held every Sundays during term time, where during the main Holy Communion Service the children go to the Village Hall.

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:

Dear Parishioner

FEBRUARY seems to me to be one of those in-between months, where the freshness of New Year seems to collide with the reality that we're still in the darkness of Winter, and Spring feels a long time away. That faithful waiting, holding on, some might say is what relationships are about, and so, maybe it's good that Valentine's Day punctures the month half way through?

I was struck afresh the other day with a BBC newsreel clip of a couple celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary. They shared how, through the ups and downs of the decades, their love, commitment and faithfulness has seen them through. Marriage was the 'rock' on which all else had been built. Their wedding vows we're as real today as they were that giddy, love-struck day when they ventured out into the world with hardly two pennies to rub together.

There may be some reading this for whom Valentine's Day is deeply painful. A partner may have died. You may have been deserted by, or cheated on by someone you thought loved you. Or, over the years, you've simply not found the right person you wanted to spend your life with.

As vicar, one of my deepest joys is conducting weddings, and preparing couples for married life - even if they'd lived together before. The vows made took the relationship to a whole new level. Each couple is offered four simple resources to encourage them to start to communicate deeply with each other. The First looks at the positive and negative baggage we all take from one relationship into another. The Second looks at areas of Life where compromise will be needed or conflict is sure to follow, especially if you are opposites. The Third considers how you 'feel' loved by the other, rather than just told it in words. The Fourth unpacks the depths of the Vows, the promises made.

Of the 80+ couples I've married - I'm in touch with all of them via social media or other means - NONE has split in the 13 years I've been conducting weddings!

But those resources aren't just for couples starting out. They're used when couples want to renew their vows, when they're going through a tough time, when children have fled the nest and after 18-20 of all the focus being on children, a couple finds that their partner has significantly changed, and a whole new lot of compromise is needed.

We all know the extra strain these past few years has put us all under. It may be that you're reading this knowing that your own relationship could do with some help. As your vicar - regardless of whether you believe in God, go to church, or have ever been inside a church - I'm here for you! If you'd like to email me (vicar@stdenys.org), I'll happily email the resources to you with instructions how to use them. You don't need to tell me anything, and the contact will be 100% confidential, as are all my dealings with parishioners. On the other hand, if you would like to talk to me in confidence, I'd be very happy to. I've helped many couples over the years and often signposted them to further help as needed.

Don't let an issue build up. So often a relationship issue caught quickly, help sought and then honest discussion, can make a huge difference.

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

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Oh, and of course, if over the past two years your relationship has been tested and you've decided that she/he is the one - we offer great weddings in our three buildings, so do get in touch to chat over. Weddings don't have to be expensive. The church element is often the cheaper bit and, after 80+ weddings, I've picked up a lot of tips from my couples how to keep costs low which I always pass on.

A very Happy St Valentine's Day - and please get in touch if I can help. **Yours Paul Revd Paul A Eddy**

Ps. Thank you for all the good wishes I've received as I've been recovering from my long-awaited hip replacement. My consultant recently reviewed me and was very pleased with my X-rays and range of movement. Sadly, the final recovery bit is that I still can't sit down. I stand, recline or lay. I'm advised it's probably due to three lots of scar tissue all working against each other. The solution is lots of intensive Physiotherapy massage and ultrasound, which I need to raise funds via trusts for, as the local NHS provision is based on providing exercises to do at home. So, I'm getting there, but it will be some months before I'm sitting/driving again.

Congratulations Stanford Cars

On 1st November 2021 Stanford Cars celebrated its **20th Anniversary** serving our local community, as well as our customers further afield. We would like to say a massive thank you to you all, new and old, near and far, for all the support you have shown us over the past twenty years. It's hard for us to believe where all the time has gone but we look forward to serving you again in the future.

Kind regards and many thanks to you all.
Yolande & Roger.

A thank you!

Thank you so very much for all the lovely Christmas cards and letters sent to me at the Grange. They have helped lift my spirits and kept me in touch with what's going on. I appreciated the many gifts and plants I received: the plants have definitely brightened up my room.

With my very best wishes *Joan Greenwood*

The Village Hall Management Committee Christmas Bingo and Quiz Night

Thank you very much to all the businesses, groups and individuals who provided the wonderful variety of prizes for the Christmas Bingo. Thank you, too, to everyone who turned up on the night and thereby helped to raise £740 for the hall funds. What a magnificent result! The Quiz Night, with the interesting questions posed by Kate Guest and a tasty ploughman's supper, was greatly enjoyed by all who took part. We thank the participants for their support of this event. The next Quiz Night is on

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Saturday 26th March. Well done all and thank you again.
Janet Warren (Chairman)

MENTORING MEN

Two statistics hit me from a newspaper feature at the start of this year. The biggest killer of men under 40 in the UK is Suicide and, the average male has less than three close male friends they talk to regularly!

By and large, women are more sociable and have more friends. They are often better at expressing their feelings. Men, on the other hand, bottle things up, rarely go to the GP, are good at hiding their emotions and don't process their emotions.

For the past decade, this has been a key research area of mine. I've read well over 200 books and academic articles on these and related issues of male identity, and I am a Fellow of the RSA, working with other Fellows on ways we can help encourage boys to change the environment and culture and to be more open.

One of the biggest needs for men is to have a trusted, confidential Mentor. Someone who will journey with them through the various transition points of life where men often have little help. These are:- Boyhood to manhood (especially if no male role model/father figure at home), manhood to fatherhood, midlife change (often around 35-55), pre-retirement/retirement and bereavement.

In the 9 years I've been vicar here I've helped countless men (as well as women) - often encouraged by their wife, partner or GP to come and see me.

If you are a male villager, struggling with an issue and have no one to talk to or, maybe you are at a transition point in your life - maybe considering a change in career or a new focus, and you'd like to talk things through, identify the hurdles and how to get around them, I'd be very happy to meet with you for 40-minute Mentoring sessions in confidence. These are typically done via zoom at present, but have also been done on a walk, or over a pint at the Horse & Jockey! If you'd like support, or know a man who does, please email me at vicar@stdenys.org, or call 01367 710267. Revd Paul Eddy, Vicar

Kind regards Paul Revd Paul A Eddy, FRSA, MCIPR

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wednesday 2nd February 2022

Venue to be confirmed - check noticeboards or Parish Council website for details. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

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 5th February**. 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 is stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk

Stanford in the Vale Local History Society

COME ALONG AND LISTEN TO TIM HEALEY talk on "DROVERS' ROADS IN OXFORDSHIRE" Wednesday 9th February at 7.30 in the Large Village Hall Visitors welcome

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 TALK ON THURSDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2022 2.30PM

The talk will be held on Zoom and the link will be sent out to all members a few days before the talk. Speaker: Mr Richard Ovenden OBE FSA FRSA, chief librarian at the Bodley Library in Oxford. Richard will talk about his role and the work of libraries across the country. He has held positions at the library of Durham University, the House of Lords Library, and the University of Edinburgh Library. He also serves as the director of the Bodleian Library's centre for the study of the book, and holds a professional fellowship at Balliol College.

BAGS2SCH

Let us help you to get rid of any unwanted clothing, shoes etc by donating them to the school and help raise much needed funds via this simple fundraising scheme. This is open to ALL community members, not just families connected with school.

DROP OFF DETAILS - Tues 15th February 2022, 3.30pm - 7.00pm and Weds 16th February 2022, 7.30am - 9.00am outside the main entrance of Stanford in the Vale School .

Printed donation bags are available from the school office but you can use any bags i.e. bin liner or carrier bag. All proceeds to FOSS, Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

STANFORD IN THE VALE WI

Unfortunately, because of the continuing Covid threat, we had to cancel January's meeting. We are hoping to have our Antiques Quiz run by Richard Anderson on **Wednesday 16th February at 7.30 pm** in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall. For more information, ring Joan on 01367 710562.

Help with Newsletter Delivery

Many thanks for the offer of help on the River Meadow Estate. We are also short of help on the **Forest Grove Estate** - Is there anyone on the willing to deliver these newsletters to your estate? E mail me – jmwarren302@gmail.com

Stanford Gardening Club

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 23rd in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

The speaker will be Kay Ewing. Her subject will be "Creating a Norfolk Garden". Refreshments and a Raffle.

Visitors will be welcome for a £3.00 entry fee. For more information contact Rosemary Packer. Tel. 01367 710445

Gardening Tips for February:

Pruning time for Clematis, Wisteria, Winter Jasmine, Hydrangea, Buddleia, Cornus, Mahonia, Evergreen Shrubs, Climbing and Bush Roses. Sow early seed under glass with extra heat and light. Plant Summer Flowering Bulbs. Cut back Sedum. Sow Sweet Peas. Chit Potatoes.

Aladdin

They're Back But not quite yet!!

The Village Pantomime has been postponed

Oh yes it has !!

We want everyone to be able to shout, cheer, sing-along, relax and enjoy themselves and we hope that you, our audience, will be able to do just that when the SIV Drama Group take to the stage in the summer. Put a note in your diary for

Thursday 7 July, Friday 8 July or Saturday 9 July (matinee and evening performances) 2022.

Diary dates for 2022

Stanford Summer Festival Returns

Saturday 18th June and Sunday 19th June 2022

Any local craft people who would a stall to sell their goods on the Green either on the Saturday or Sunday please e mail Janet – jmwarren302@gmail.com for further information.

Pre-school news – February

The children have settled back in well after the Christmas break. We have 5 new families who have joined the Pre-school and they seem to be settling in well too.

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It's been a cold start to the new term and the children have spent time in the garden observing their environment seeing frosty spiderwebs and frozen ice. We have talked about temperature and used a thermometer and talked about how it works. We have been exercising and running around to keep us warm and used cold colours to make frosty pictures to decorate the Pre-school.

The Pre-school operates a waiting list. If you are interested in registering your child with us please visit www.stanfordpreschool.org.uk and complete a Pre-Registration form or contact the Pre-school on 01367 718696



Stanford in the Vale CE Primary School

Reported by the School Council:

Year 1 - Holly & Isabel N,

Year 2 - George & Phoebe,

Year 3 - Bella,

Year 4 - Harry & Merrylyn,

Year 5 - Edward & Faith,

Year 6 - Orlaith & Ruby

We have been working hard on our new topics since our return to school in January.

Foundation - Our topic is Now and Then. We have been busy segmenting and blending our phonics and are becoming much more confident. We have been reading the 'Kipper' books and even discovered a nibbled box in our classroom, which we found out the mice did!

Year One - Our topic is Where in the World did that come from? We have been learning about instructions and have been giving and following them. We gave directions to our partner which they followed perfectly including the number of steps to take. We got to taste a range of fruits, some were nice but some were not. I did not like peppers (Isabel).

Year Two - Our topic is A Place Down Under. We have been learning the Australian states, including

Queensland and South Australia. We have also learnt about the famous landmark Ayers Rock. To help us

get around Australia we have learnt to use a compass. We are studying the book, 'How the birds got their colours.' We mapped it out, stepped in out and wrote about the birds.

Year Three - Our topic is Roald Dahl. We had a Wow Day to launch our topic with everyone dressing up as Roald Dahl characters. We also got to taste different types of chocolate, which was yummy! We created dream jars like in the BFG and produced wanted posters for our own 'giant' characters. We are currently reading *George's Marvellous Medicine*. In PE we are swimming, and we are creating a dance based on Matilda which we will perform on the stage of the New Theatre, Oxford.

Year Four - Our topic is Viking invaders and Saxon settlements. We have been learning about King Alfred the Great and King Athelstan. We have mapped and stepped out our book 'How to train a dragon' and even drawn dragon eyes. In maths we have learnt about length and perimeter and in music we are studying a rap song called 'Stop' which is about not bullying others.

Year Five - Our topic is Aurora and Wonder! In Art we created images of the Northern Lights in pastels and chalks. We are studying 'Baldrur, a Norse Myth' and have been mapping and stepping it out. We are also learning a Viking Dance with Mr Chadwick and Mr Scott is developing our hockey skills.

Year Six - Our topic is 'The Mysterious Maya.' In English we are studying 'The Hero Twins, a Mayan story.' With Mr Chadwick we have been learning a hip hop dance routine and are creating our own dances. In Maths we are becoming skilled in multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We have learnt to name different fruits and vegetables in French and can explain our preferences. In Science we are studying the topic of Evolution

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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