



PARISH NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2022

Saturday 3rd December

5.00 pm Lighting of St Denys & Christmas Tree in St Denys Churchyard, followed by the singing of Carols & Hot Refreshments

Sunday 4th December Advent 2

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00 pm St Denys @ 4 Christmas Fellowship Meal in Stanford School

Wednesday 7th December

6.00 pm Stanford School Year 3, 4 and 5 Christmas Performance

Thursday 8th December

2.00 pm Stanford School Year 3, 4 and 5 Christmas Performance
6.00 pm Stanford School Year 3, 4 and 5 Christmas Performance

Sunday 11th December Advent 3

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
4.00pm Denys@4 – Advent Theme
6.00pm Carols by Candlelight – St Georges, Hatford

Wednesday 14th December

2.00pm and 5.30 pm Stanford School Foundation Stage and Key Stage One Christmas Performance

Saturday 17th December

4.00pm Carols by Candlelight – All Saints, Goosey

Sunday 18th December Advent 4

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight at Stanford

Saturday 24th December

Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service at Stanford
10.00pm Holy Communion at Stanford

Sunday 25th December

Christmas Day

10.15 am Family Holy Communion at Stanford

Sunday 1st January

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)
3pm Denys@4 New Year's Day Fellowship Walk to Hatford & back, then approx. 4pm in church for Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows. Members of ALL church congregations welcome to join in this New Year's Day Walk!

In Memory

Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and friends of people who have recently died. Sadly, this includes:

Bridget Howard

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

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

Open House On most Saturdays St Denys Church is open between 10 am and noon for coffee and tea, cake and chat. Do pop in. You'll find a warm and friendly welcome.

Vicar Writes

Thank you so much to all the villagers who thus far, have given over £1,200 towards our **Village Compassion Fund (VCF)** to support pensioners and families through the cost of living and fuel crisis this winter.

We are now set up and ready to receive applications for small Emergency Grants from January 1 via downloading an Application Form which will be on the church website (www.stdenys.org) from that date.

We have also secured the agreement of the **Faringdon Food Bank** to enable myself, and the headteacher of Stanford School, and Manager of the Pre-School to refer Stanford individuals and families to have

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up to SIX lots of food parcels. If we can all increase our donations to the Food Bank via the COOP Food Bank Bin, at the back of store, that would be much appreciated.

It is humbling to see how pensioners, and those on low income have given already to the VCF, saying they hope their small donation will benefit those in need. Every donation helps, and please be assured the Trustees of the Fund, the Church Wardens and myself, will carefully check all applications and use whatever funds we have at any given time, to go 'where most needed'.

As I write this, the Chancellor has just announced the Budget. It is clear that pensioners and many villagers are going to find this winter season very hard to navigate, and those in touch with villagers living just off state pensions, and with young families, will know just how hard things are already. But with the usual goodwill and compassion we always find in the village, I am confident that together, we can support those most in need. If you would like to make a donation to the VCF, simply go online and donate to:-

Account: Stanford PCC St Denys Church

Number: 00109758, Sort Code: 30.93.18 If you could add 'Village Compassion Fund' that would be great. You can also donate by writing a cheque, payable to the A/C name above, or in cash, in an envelope through The Vicarage letterbox.

Sadly, the Trustees of the Stanford Public Purposes Charity have just informed me they will not be making a Grant to this Fund, so public donations will be vital.

Opposite you will see the **Church Services this Christmas at Goosey, Hatford and Stanford**. We would love to see you at any of these as together, we remember the one who, although he had everything, came to give of himself for you and for me, and always sought to minister to, and meet the needs of the poor and the marginalised. May His example inspire us all this Christmas, and this winter throughout the village.

A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Paul
Vicar

Revd Paul Eddy

THANK YOU

Robert Elliot

Sarah, Sam and Beth want to thank everyone who attended dad's (Robert) funeral, and for everyone's kind words, cards, flowers and generous donations, in total the money raised was over £400 to Labrador Rescue"

A big thank you to the Repair Café for a generous donation to help buy a new Public Address system for use at the regular village open mics. Much appreciated by all the musicians and locals who enjoy these great nights of free entertainment which run from 8pm every 1st Wednesday of the month in the Horse and Jockey and

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every 3rd Thursday of the month in the Social Club. These open mics are open to all (performers and audience).

St Denys' Telephone Support Group

If you are dreading the short days and long dark evenings, windy wintry weather and staying indoors...

Perhaps a friendly telephone call might help?

Please speak to Maz Galley and join this group.

01367 710211 07585553883

HELP

Volunteer Taxi Service

We need someone to take on coordinating the Village Volunteer Taxi Service as Marjorie Gooding is having to give this up. This is an essential service that arranges transport to medical and dental appointments for villagers who have difficulties getting there.

It involves taking phone calls requesting transport then sending out an e mail to the drivers list asking for a volunteer to answer the request. Then just coordinating the results. You do not have to be a driver, and this can all be done from home.

The number of requests goes up and down, but this service is greatly appreciated. And essential to many, many villagers. **Can you help?**

Very many thanks to Marjoie Gooding for her years of doing this job.

Delivering this Newsletter

We need a volunteer/ volunteer to deliver this newsletter once a month to Horsecroft, Sheards Lane, Treadwells and Marlborough Lane.

Contact Janet Warren – 01367 710789 or jmwarren302@gmail.com for further information.

RECRUITING RINGERS

We have 8 church bells in the tower at Stanford but we don't have enough ringers to ring them all at the same time. It would sound much more interesting if we could. Please come and learn this fantastic skill. It is suitable for almost anyone (from about age 10 and upwards). Ideally we would begin teaching you now so that we have enough ringers for celebrations coming up in 2023.

Need more incentives?

- there is always something different to try.
- keeps the mind active.
- boosts concentration, teamwork, listening and analytical skills.
- effective exercise for posture and toning muscles, it is gently aerobic - and it



- burns calories.
- meet new people and visit new places.
- a great activity for parents and children to learn and enjoy together.
- the glorious sound – from the largest and loudest (unamplified) musical instruments in the world!

To find out more please visit us in the church tower on a Tuesday or Sunday (times below) (ideally contact us in advance via e-mail at

StDenysChurchBells@btinternet.com).

We meet on Sunday mornings at 9.45 to ring for the 10.15 church service and (supported by visiting ringers from other towers) on Tuesday evenings to practice from 7.30-9pm. *Jackie O'Hagan*

Stanford in the Vale Village Hall

Christmas Bingo

Friday 2nd December 2022

Doors open at 7 for Eyes-down at 7.30pm

Cash prize for Last House

Bar and raffle

Contact: J. Warren jmwarren302@gmail.com or 01367 710789

Repair Café

Saturday 3rd December ADVICE DESK in the Coffee shop 12.00 – 2.00pm, where we can discuss whether we can effect a repair on the 17th December. We will also do PAT testing on electrical items

Saturday 19th December in the Social Club 11.00am until 3.00pm where there is more room for repairs.

Saturday 3rd December

5.00 pm Lighting of the Tree in St Denys Church Churchyard, followed by the singing of Carols and hot refreshments

Wednesday 7th December 2022

7.30 pm Stanford in the Vale Parish Council Meeting in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall – Large hall - check noticeboards or Parish Council website for details. Members of the public are welcome to attend

FARINGDON & DISTRICT U3A MEETING ON THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER

Anne -Marie Prestidge will talk about the Samaritans at our December meeting in the Corn Exchange starting at 2.30pm. Anne-Marie has been a listening volunteer with

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the Samaritans for 18 years. Her talk will cover how and why the Reverend Chad Varah founded the organisation in 1953, and how it has evolved into the 24/7 service it is today. It is a common misconception that the Samaritans was set up only to support people who had decided to end their lives prematurely. The organisation is much more than this and Anne-Marie will present some surprising statistics relating to the demographics of the incidents of suicide and the reasons why people reach the point where they believe that this is their only option. She will also discuss what it takes to become a volunteer, the personal qualities that a potential volunteer should possess, and how they are trained to uphold the ethos of the organisation.

After this fascinating talk refreshments will be available to everyone, but non-members are required to pay £1.50 as a contribution.

All attendees are required to be in good health and up to date with all their Covid vaccinations. If in doubt, please stay at home.

Stanford in the Vale Local History Society Christmas Social Wednesday 14th December 7.30 in the large Village Hall.

Come along and listen to the well-known local author Julie Ann Godson talk about her new book.

“Free Spirits of Oxfordshire “ 20 True Lives from History. Visitors welcome ,£5 entrance fee for talk Followed by a quiz, drink and nibbles (£3 per person.)

Stanford in the Vale WI

Stanford in the Vale WI usually meets one **Wednesday evening each month** in the Village Hall. If you would like further information, please ring Annette on 01367710528.

They're back oh yes they are !!!

Aladdin will be performed by the talented members of our local

Stanford in the Vale Drama Group.

A Pantomime not to be missed!!

Put a note in your diary for

Thursday 2 February, Friday 3 February or Saturday 4 February (matinee and evening performances) 2023



Pre-school news – December 2022

The children have been spending time in our Jungle book area. They have enjoyed listening to stories and looking at books with their peers. The Pre-school is passionate about sharing books with our children. We have a lending library for the children to take books home to share and have enjoyed visits from a librarian.

As a follow up to our baby pigeons fledging the children have been making their own birds and birds' nests and eggs out of clay. The children's own interpretations of these never fail to delight us.

We have been busy in the garden building car parks for scooters and bikes, making road detours/diversions and writing signs.

We have now signed up as a good cause on the new White Horse Lottery. This is a great way to support the Pre-school and also win some money yourself. Information on how to join can be found here:

<https://www.whitehorselottery.co.uk>

The Pre-school would be delighted to hear from any companies or individuals who would be interested in supporting the Pre-school financially. Due to a mixture of long- term insufficient funding from government (our only income) and rising financial costs the Pre-school continues to be in a very precarious financial state.

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 - William and Daisy,

Year 2 - William and Mara,

Year 3 - Mary and Dylan,

Year 4 - Jake and Evie,

Year 5 - Jasmine and Lily,

Year 6 - Amelia and Lewis

Foundation - We have been learning about different celebrations such as Bonfire night and Diwali, focusing on fireworks and fire safety. We have also been doing lots of printing and mark making as well as beginning learning our Phonics sounds, some of us have also started learning to read!

Year One - We went on our very own bear hunt to Badbury clump, where we made dens, acted out the story and found a bear! It was lots of fun! We have also been learning different number sentences in maths and practicing our throwing skills with bean bags in PE.

Year Two - We went on a trip to the church to help us answer our question, 'How is St Denys important to the history of the village?' We have also been learning about WW1 and WW2 in history. In PE we have been working hard on our catching skills, aiming to achieve bronze, silver and gold, catching whilst moving.

Year Three - We are busy thinking about some big questions in Year 3. In Geography, whether we would rather live in Oxfordshire or Normandy and in RE, whether light is a good symbol for celebration. We have also been having fun playing handball in PE and improving our throwing and catching skills whilst moving. We have also begun practicing our Christmas play which we are excited to show our parents!

Year Four - We have begun learning about electricity in Year 4, we have explored snap circuits and looked at what things in our school and at home use electricity to work. We have also been looking at the story 'Until I Met Dudley' where we came up with our own inventions and have been learning how various items work such as a vacuum cleaner, toaster and a bin lorry.

Year Five - In English we have begun reading 'Cosmic Boy' which is about a very tall boy called Liam who wins a competition to go to a theme park in China, we are excited to find out what happens to him. In DT we have been exploring gears on bikes as well as making our own using cardboard and paper.

Year Six - We had an amazing residential to PGL. It was great fun and the food was especially good, particularly the tuna pasta bake and meatballs! We also took part in many activities, a couple of our favourites were the climbing wall and the giant swing! Some of us were a bit scared of heights but overcome our fears and had fun! Back in school we have been learning BID maths and looking at grouping animals in Science.

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

We have a few spaces in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 6 classes. If interested, please do contact Oxfordshire County Council admissions.

Lastly, we would be extremely grateful if anyone is able to help hear readers or help out with cycling proficiency. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

Thank you for reading our report.

Take care and keep safe.

To include items in January's newsletter please send to send to jmwarren302@gmail.com or telephone **01367 710789** and leave a message. **Closing date: 18th December 2022. Late items cannot be accepted.**

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