



NOVEMBER PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 5th November

4th Sunday before Advent

10.15 am A Service of Remembrance & Hope

4.00 pm Denys@4

Friday 10 November

10.45am Stanford Primary School Act of Remembrance

Saturday 11th November

10.50 am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

Sunday 12th November *Remembrance Sunday*

10.15 am Remembrance Service (Stanford)

11.00 am Act of Remembrance outside at the War Memorial. Uniformed Groups and Villagers gather outside at 10.45am. Followed by Communion in Church

4.00 pm Denys@4

6.00 pm Evening Prayer at All Saints, Goosey

Sunday 19th November

2nd Sunday before Advent

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 26th November *Sunday before Advent*

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4

6.00 pm Evensong at St George, Hatford (BCP)

Saturday 2nd December

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

Sunday 3rd December *Advent Sunday*

10.15 am Holy Communion (Stanford)

4.00 pm Denys@4

Sunday 5 November 2023

1015 – A Service of Remembrance & Hope

If you have lost a loved one in recent years, you may find a service we offer a help – especially if you are facing Christmas for the first time without a close relative/friend.

In our 1015am service, we will read out a list of those who have asked us to remember them by name, give an opportunity for family members to come forward and light a candle, and those who mourn shall be remembered in prayers. Appropriate hymns, bible reading, and a short sermon will support the focus. Afterwards, cake and hot drinks shall be served at the back of church. In the past this service has been on a Sunday afternoon, but we are focussing our 1015am service for the wider community this year on Nov 5.

IN MEMORY

**Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and friends of people who have recently died. Sadly, this includes:
William (Bill) Grant**

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.

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH?

Vicar

The Revd Paul Eddy 710267

Church Wardens

Maz Galley 710211

Michelle Sinclair 07929733429

Vergers

Susan Mayall 710138

Parish Website: www.stdenys.org

The Vicar Writes

The Vicar Writes – November 2023

NOVEMBER is a month with Remembrance at its heart. As many in the nation stop what they are doing at 11 am, on the 11th day, of the 11th month, and remember those who gave their lives in the two great wars, and those that followed, so others start to consider how they shall cope with the first Christmas without a loved one.

Sadly, of course, as I write (19OCT), we are still reeling from the images of Hamas' barbaric acts on innocent civilians in southern Israel, and then as the days and weeks follow, we see the effects of war, once again

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in this region, and we pray for a cessation of violence, and a just outcome so that both Jews and Muslims can live peacefully, alongside each other.

This year 11/11 falls on a Saturday. So, the **School Remembrance service shall be on Friday 10th**, then a short **Act of Remembrance around the War Memorial on 11/11**, and of course, you're most welcome to join our **Remembrance Sunday Service at St Denys at 1015am**, followed by the two-Minute-Silence at 11am on 12 November. **Goosey residents** (and others) may also like to attend a **6pm Evening service at All Saints on 12/11**, with refreshments starting at 5.15pm - see Church Service panel.

As I said, the first Christmas without a loved one can be especially hard. I am conscious that during the Covid season, many in the parish had to hold very small funeral services for loved ones. In some cases, there were just four of us standing around the grave in Stanford churchyard for a brief, socially distanced service, with no Wake to follow. For those families, as well as for others in the past two years, I thought it might be helpful to hold a service in St Denys where families can gather and remember their loved one, have their name read out, light a candle in their memory and then after, gather with other villagers for cake and hot drinks, and share memories. **Sunday 5 November, 1015am**, will therefore be a **Service of Remembrance and Hope**. You, and your family would be most welcome. If you'd like the name of your loved one read out, please email vicar@stdenys.org with the full name of your loved one, the date of death, and your relationship to the deceased, please.

Finally, two other pastoral matters which I hope will help. The **Village Compassion Fund** may be able to help with small grants in cases of real emergency for those struggling with the cost of living. The **application form** can be found at www.stdenys.org. I can also refer people to the **Faringdon Food Bank**, who can provide up to six lots of food for the family/individual etc.

The pressures on family life, finances, health and a myriad of other issues these past four years have put **considerable strain on relationships**. In my pastoral work, couples often express embarrassment at seeking help, but often, being signposted to qualified, practical help outside the parish can really help save a marriage – and thereby, a family. It is **never** too early, or too late to seek help.

In my 10 years here as vicar, I've referred over a dozen couples to counselling and in some cases, the church has covered the costs in an anonymous way. So, if your relationship is under strain, or you think you would benefit from external help, please do contact me in the strictest of confidence. As other parishioners will confirm, I am completely unshockable, and my only goal is to see what might be possible to help **restore, and then build on the relationships**. Many find emailing me in the first instance easiest, so vicar@stdenys.org. We can then arrange a face-to-face meet or, if childcare

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is difficult, I often zoom in the evenings. And if you are seeking help alone, do bring someone along with you, or to join in the zoom.

November may well be a month of remembering, and looking back, but **December 3 is the start of Advent**, and a whole new season looking forward, and one in which God can be present, as He was in the person of Jesus.

At Christmas we celebrate Emmanuel – God with us. Whatever you are going through this month, or next, God wants to help. We were never intended to live life apart from God, but in a daily relationship with Him. So as you look back, also look forward as my prayer is whatever the past may have held, your future can be changed if you invite Emmanuel to be a part of your life. I hope to see you at one of the services this month, and/or next!

Yours Paul **Revd Paul Eddy, Vicar**
Tel: 01367 710267

St Denys Handbell Ringers

Do you like music? Would you like to play in a group? Why not give handbells a try? No musical experience required, although a sense of rhythm is a plus! We are a small, friendly group that meets every Wednesday at 8pm in the small village hall.

If, instead, you would like to us to play for you, we are available to book. We have played at a number of events from coffee mornings to weddings!

Please contact us at StDenys.HBR@btinternet.com if you would like to join or book.

Film Club

Stanford Village Hall Management Committee are looking to start a monthly film club in the Village Hall now that an audio-visual system has been installed, thanks to funds from a Section 106 (S106) agreement which secures money for infrastructure from new housing developments in the village. We are looking for volunteers to help with this – projectionist, bar staff, front of house, publicity, bookings. We will not be able to run the films without your help and support.

Please contact Janet – jmwarren302@gmail.com / 01367 710789 for more details.

Harvesting in the Churchyard

Autumn is the time in the churchyard when we cut down the long grass areas. The long grass creates and encourages various habitats that is part of our continued aim to be an Eco Church.

This year we had to do without the help of the Parish Council, to help cut down the long grass, as their mower was under repair.

We were very grateful when Jim Thorneycroft came to the rescue and did an excellent job, leaving a number



of hay stacks in readiness for the Working Party to collect.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Cliff Hill, Peter Murphy, Felipe Viscoso, Neil Mantle, Roger Calaghan and Steve Moore for their continued help throughout the year.

We would always welcome any members of the parish who might be interested in helping. Please contact any of the above or Peter Gill (718224 and cpnngill46@gmail.com). Peter Gill - for St. Denys

Wednesday 1st November 2023

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

Repair Cafe

Coffee shop 4th November 12.00-2pm Advice on repairs, small items and now **ULTRASONIC CLEANING FOR JEWELLERY**
Social Club 18th November 11am – about 3pm General repairs and servicing. Please let us know beforehand if possible so we can have tools and parts available. Our work is varied but new Volunteers are welcome
Tele 01367 710283 Email stanfordrepaircafe@silkie.co.uk.

STANFORD IN THE VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 8th November at 7.30 in the Large Village Hall **BLACK WANTAGE - XIX Century Thieves, Murderers & Villains.** Speaker: SEM SEABORN
Visitors welcome £5 entrance fee

Stanford Art Group

Monday 13th November in Small Village Hall - 7.30 pm
Fee for Members £2
Fee for Visitors £6 (cash, please)

Stanford in the Vale WI

The next meeting of Stanford in the Vale WI is on **Wednesday 15th November 2023** in the Village Hall. This will be an evening of Christmas Crafts. For enquiries, please ring Annette on 01367710528

STANFORD IN THE VALE GARDENING CLUB

The Annual General Meeting will be held on

Wednesday, November 22nd at 7.30 pm in Stanford in the Vale Village Hall.

The AGM will be followed by a Social evening and a Bring and Share Supper. **For more information contact Rosemary Packer. Tel. 01367 710445**

Gardening Tips for November

- Clear up fallen leaves, especially from lawns, ponds and beds.
- Raise Containers to prevent waterlogging.
- Plant spring bulbs.
- Prune Roses to prevent wind-rock.
- Plant out winter bedding.
- Don't forget to feed the birds.
- Stop winter moth damage to fruit trees using grease bands around trunk.



St Denys Church
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY
24th NOVEMBER
Stanford Village Hall
11.30 am – 2.00 pm
Homemade Soup and puddings
Gifts, Toys, Books
Christmas Food
Plus more !!

Stanford in the Vale Volunteer Hospital Taxi Service

Should you require a lift for a hospital or dental appointment - call **05603 660 122** and leave a message. If a driver is found, they will contact you.

Should you not receive a phone call by the day prior to your appointment this usually means a driver has not been found. **We do need more drivers so that this very valuable service can be continued in the village.**

Contact Dan – 05603 660 122 for more information – leaving your number and he will get back to you

STANFORD IN THE VALE SOCIAL CLUB

Dates for your diary.

Christmas Fayre will be held 12 to 4pm on

Saturday 4th November (requests for stalls to

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Christine Hutt 01367 710451)

Christmas Bingo - eyes down 7:30 pm Friday 1st December. Christmas Club Draw will be held at 8pm Friday 16th December

Pre-school news – November 2023

We are really pleased with how well our new children have settled in. We have enjoyed getting to know them and their families.

The children have been playing lots of imaginary games about Volcanoes and we have been finding out lots of interesting facts about them. The children have also made their own volcanoes using various different resources including playdough and 3d modelling. We have also learnt a poem about a Volcano erupting.

The children have made Apple Crumble. They had to chop, mix, pour, measure and use their 'crumble fingers' to make their delicious crumble to take home and share with their families.

We had our AGM this term and we are pleased that the majority of our committee is staying on for another year. Many thanks to them for their continuing support of the Pre-school.

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 newly elected School Council:

Year 1 - Jonathan & Lola,

Year 2 - Sophie & Luis,

Year 3 - Ivy & Saffron,

Year 4 - Conway & Anneke,

Year 5 - Toby & Lottie,

Year 6 - Tessa and Esmay

Foundation - We have been enjoying exploring our classroom and school further as well as taking part in collective worships with the rest of the school. We are enjoying learning about autumn and taking part in welly walks!



Year One - We have been learning about instructions and following them to create some tasty treats! In DT we have had lots of fun exploring and creating windmills.

Year Two - We have had a wonderful term swimming and developing our gymnastics skills even further. It has also been fun learning about different parts of the world.

Year Three - We all had a great visit to White Horse Hill as part of our History work - it was a very exciting trip despite the weather! We are very proud of our sewing work which we put to good use to create purses.

Year Four - We have continued to learn all about the Anglo-Saxons. We really enjoyed our highly informative workshop from the Oxfordshire Museum all about the lives of Anglo-Saxons. We have also been enjoying doing some persuasive writing and learning to sing and improvise in Music.

Year Five - We took part in a very interesting literary talk at the Beacon. We have all enjoyed creating Egyptian self-portraits this term - using images of ourselves and imagining what we would look like as pharaohs.

Year Six - We had a fantastic trip to Coleshill for a 'secrets and spies' experience. We learnt lots of amazing facts as well as skills that would have been useful for spies. We have also been exploring light in Science - thinking about how it travels and helps us view things.

On the 22nd September we had a wonderful Harvest festival at St Denys. We all walked to the Church and shared a variety of Harvest themed work including poetry and songs. We donated food goods to the local food bank and said thanks for the food we have.

On the 16th October we all enjoyed a very exciting workshop from 'Bassistry'. Every class learnt a song which we then shared with the rest of the school during collective worship.

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

Thank you for reading our report.
Take care and keep safe.

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