



The Pews News

United benefice of Shenstone & Stonnall

"Time for us to come together"

Life can be busy, and weeks can rush by – but God calls us to pause, gather, and be with one another. Church is more than a building; it's a family where we worship, share, and grow together in faith. Let's come together, lift our voices in praise, and encourage one another in God's love.



Sunday 28th September

	St John the Baptist	St Peter's
9.30am	Early Birds	
10.30am	Joint Harvest Festival service at Trinity Church	
10.45am	No service at St John the Baptist	Morning worship Rev Jonathan Iddon
6.30pm	Shenstone library By The River Rev Jonathan Iddon All welcome	

Collect

Lord God,
 defend your Church from all false teaching
 and give to your people knowledge of your truth,
 that we may enjoy eternal life
 in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Sunday 5th October

	St John the Baptist	St Peter's
9.30am	Early Birds	
10.45am	Morning Worship with Trinity Methodist Church	Holy Communion Rev Jonathan Iddon
6.30pm	Shenstone library By The River Rev Jonathan Iddon All Welcome	

Time for Prayer

Prayer for World Peace

Lord, we ask for your Almighty intervention in all the war-torn areas of our world. In particular UKRAINE & RUSSIA. We ask that your Holy Spirit is present when World Leaders meet to bring an end to these conflicts and your will overpowers the will of leaders. We Pray for your Peace to reign in their hearts.

Prayer for Rev. Jonathan Iddon

Please pray for Rev. Jonathan Iddon as he continues his ministry here in Shenstone and Stonnall. Pray also for his family as they settle into their new home in the Village. We also pray for our congregation as they support and walk alongside him. Help us to be a strong community of encouragement, unity and grace. May we work together to share Your love, deepen our faith, and serve our churches and the wider communities.

- We pray for our Church, our Bishops and Clergy.
- We pray for our churches, St Peter's and St John the Baptist. We pray for Rev Jonathan Iddon as he continues his ministry within our united benefice, we ask that the Lord guide and strengthen our Ministry teams, Church Wardens, and PCC members in his work.
- We pray for King Charles and for all the Royal family.
- We hold in prayer those members of our church family who are caring for loved ones at home, in hospital or in residential care.
- We pray for those known to us who are ill, and we particularly hold in prayer Di Gavan.
- We pray for Val Neale.
- We pray for Carole Gregory.
- We pray for those who are undergoing medical tests and awaiting results.
- We pray for calm and peace as we read and listen to stories in the news and help us to discern the truth.
- We pray for the people of Ukraine as the war there continues, and all those in countries of unrest and dispute.
- We pray for the people of Israel and Gaza, we pray for civilians, for aid workers, for all impacted by this war.
- We thank you Lord for the earth and all you have provided for us. We are especially grateful to live in our beautiful villages.

Time for Church Notices



admin@shenstone-stonnall.church

Our email address for all church enquiries, event updates and pastoral support. Thanks for keeping in touch with us!!!

f **GET CONNECTED**...there's plenty on our Facebook page. Start following **St John the Baptist Shenstone** for news, Jonathan's online services and various snippets. Why not also follow his own **Facebook page Revd Jonathan Iddon**.

ALPHA – A SELL-OUT!

The good news is that we now have 19 people doing Alpha on a Thursday evening and we need you to join with us in praying that each and everyone will encounter Jesus in a new and meaningful way. Please pray for the team, and also, for our volunteer chefs who had no idea when they signed up how many mouths there would be to feed!

If anyone could spare an hour on a Thursday to help in the kitchen between 7-8pm that would be a big help – please email lawcarol19@gmail.com or ring 07837 307981.



St Peter's Hub – St Peter's Church, Church Road, Stonnall, WS9 9HL.

Scherzo

**A Quartet of clarinet players plus flutes, playing light music including well known tunes from
'The Last Night of the Proms'**

Friday 17th October 2025 - 7PM for 7:30PM Tickets (cash only) £10 Adult £5 Child Includes a glass of wine/soft drink Tickets available from Linda Birchall (01543 328711) Or Premier Shop, 174 Main Street, Stonnall. WS9 9DY

Keep Music alive **Conserve and Grow our Church.....**

Shenstone PCC meeting – Monday 29th September – 7.30pm

The next St John's Shenstone PCC meeting is Monday Sept 29th. If there is anything you wish the PCC to consider for discussion please speak to Alan Bateman, Jonathan Iddon or a member of PCC to be included under AOB.

Giving and Support

We are so thankful for all who give their time, prayers, and resources to support the life and ministry of our churches. Your generosity enables us to keep our doors open for worship, prayer and community care. If you would like to contribute to the work of the church, there are several ways to give: For more details on how to donate, please speak to Rev Jonathan Iddon or a member of the church team. Every gift, no matter how small, makes a real difference. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of our churches here in Shenstone and Stonnall.

Useful Contacts

Vicar: - Rev. Jonathan Iddon – vicar@shenstone-stonnall.church

Associate Minister Revd John Aston: - 01543 480388, bradston@btinternet.com

St John the Baptist Church Wardens: - Veronica Raybould 01543 480756 & Ian Law 07973 548785

St Peters Church Warden: Colin Birchall – 01543 328711

Parish Admin: Calls & WhatsApp: 07476 351436 admin@shenstone-stonnall.church

St Johns Hill community hall Booking & Administration: Calls & WhatsApp: 07476 351436 admin@shenstone-stonnall.church

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com (search Shenstone or Stonnall)

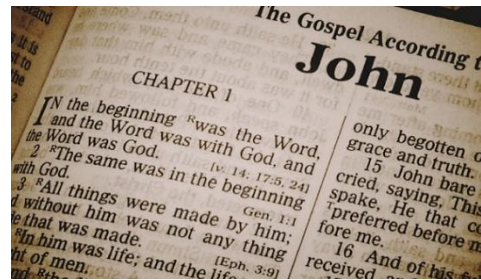
Facebook: St John the Baptist Shenstone and St Peters Church Stonnall.

Time for Reflection

This week's readings are

Ephesians 4.4-6

Gospel John 17. 20-23



In this passage, Jesus prays not only for his disciples but for all who will come to believe in him through their message - that means us today. His prayer is for unity: that all believers "may be one Father, just as you are in me and I am in you".

This shows the heart of Jesus: he longs for his followers to share the deep unity of love that exists within the Trinity. It is not about sameness, but about being bound together in God's love and truth. Such unity is not only for our own blessings; it is a witness to the world. Jesus prays "so that the world may believe" and "know" God's love through the unity of his people.

The challenge for us is to ask: how do we live out this prayer? Unity is not always easy – differences, misunderstanding, and divisions can creep in. Yet Jesus points us back to love: "I have given them the glory that you gave me," That glory is not about power, but about the love and presence of God shining through us.

When the church lives in this love – caring for one another, forgiving, and working together despite differences – it becomes a living sign of God's presence in the world.

Questions for Reflection

- How can I help build my unity within my family, church, or community?
- Do my actions and words help others to see God's love at work?
- What does it mean for me personally to be "one" with Christ and with others in faith?