

Bishop of Oxford vacancy

Bishop Steven Croft has announced his retirement this summer and so a process is currently in place to discern who might be our new Diocesan Bishop for Oxford. Anyone living, working or worshipping in the diocese can contribute their views via the form online.

A document called a Statement of Needs must be put together. It will set out information about the Diocese, including its hopes and challenges, and what people have said is important to them in a new Bishop.

To this end the Diocese has created a short, anonymous survey that will be the main way of seeking views and opinions to be included in the Statement of Needs. The survey features four questions and will take less than ten minutes to complete.

The link to the survey is:

www.stonedintonhartwell.com/news/new-bishop/

The survey will close on Wednesday 4th February at 17:00

An invitation from Revd Cassa Messervy

Cassa's last Sunday in the benefice will be Sunday 15th February, and she has extended an invitation to everyone in the benefice to a 'Leaving Social' on **Sunday 15th February** anytime 12 - 3 pm in St. Mary's School, Haddenham.

On **Sunday 1st March at 6 pm** in St. Mary's Church, Aylesbury she will be collated as Archdeacon of Buckingham and then installed at Christ Church Cathedral on **Saturday 14th March at 6 pm**.

Cassa warmly invites us to attend these services.



The next **choir practice** will be sometime in February, date yet to be arranged.

Chris

Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com 01296 748390

Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com

Weekly pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com

Benefice office: office@wychertvale.org 01844 291108

Notices for the pewsheets should be submitted to the pewsheets mailbox by 7pm on a Friday evening.

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



Sunday 25th January 2026

Notices for the week



Our church is a member of the Wychert Vale family of churches

EPIPHANY THREE

10:30 FAMILY COMMUNION with **JOYFULL JUNIORS**
led by Revd Canon Phil Groves



*Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen*

This week

Tues 27th - 11:00am Cafe in the Park – in the Jubilee Pavilion
Weds 28th - 7:00pm SJB committee – at 7 Badgers Rise
(NOTE EARLIER TIME AND CHANGE OF VENUE)
Thurs 29th - 9:00am Little Wrighlers – in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sun 1st - 9:00am **MATINS**
10:30am **MORNING WORSHIP**

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins to preach

¹² When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee.

¹³ Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – ¹⁴ to fulfil what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ 'Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles –

¹⁶ the people living in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.'

¹⁷ From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

Jesus calls his first disciples

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.'

²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.



Jesus heals the sick

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and illness among the people

Vacancy for Rector

Preparations have begun for the vacancy arising from Cassa moving on. The Area Dean, Revd Jonathan Hawkins, will take on the role of incumbent of the benefice during the vacancy. Our Church Wardens and PCCs will then start the process of preparing a parish profile and advertising for a new rector for the Benefice. Please pray for this process, our teams as they step up into roles during this period, and for Cassa as she moves to her new role.

Important update on church finances

In this parish, we have two well-kept historic church buildings where we are able to worship God and welcome visitors, and to undertake outreach activities in our community. This is a great privilege, but it is also a heavy financial responsibility.

Most of our income depends on regular giving by members of the church and community, one-off gifts, donations during services or other events, and reclaimed gift aid. Our biggest outgoings are our contribution to the diocese which pays our clergy; utility bills and other costs of maintaining our churches; and the cost of supporting our services and activities.

In 2025, we experienced a significant decline in our income, while unavoidable costs continued to increase, and we face significant additional costs in 2026. We currently need at least an additional £600 per month to maintain a stable financial position for the churches, before we can even begin to think about starting improvement projects.

Please pray for the SJB Committee which meets this week, as it will potentially need to make some difficult decisions to restrict spending and consider how we may raise additional funds to cover our running costs.

Richard

Parish Magazine Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2026 are now due. It remains at £10.00 for the year.

If you would like to receive the Parish News each month and do not yet do so, please contact magazine@stonedintonhartwell.com

You can pay subscriptions by:

Bank transfer

Stone Dinton & Hartwell PCC Sort code **20 03 18** Account **60823872**

Please use your name and address as the reference eg **Smith12HighSt**

Cash or cheque

Cheques are payable to **Stone, Dinton & Hartwell PCC.**

Please return to me at 12 Roundhill, Stone HP17 8RD

David