

Bishop of Oxford vacancy

Bishop Steven Croft has announced his retirement this summer and so consultations are taking place regarding his replacement.

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.

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

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



Sunday 18th January 2026

Notices for the week



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

EPIPHANY TWO

9:00 **MATINS** led by David Pickup

10:30 **FAMILY WORSHIP** led by Richard Smith



*Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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

Mon 19th - 10:30am Socially Crafty - in the church

Tues 20th - 11:00am Cafe in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
7:30pm Choir practice - at 29b Eythrope Road

Weds 21st - 7:30pm SJB committee - at Vicarage Farmhouse

Thurs 22nd - 9:00am Little Wrigglers - in the Jubilee Pavilion

Sun 25th - 10:30am **FAMILY COMMUNION**
with **JOYFULL JUNIORS**

led by Revd Canon Phil Groves

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John 1:29-42

John testifies about Jesus

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is the one I meant when I said, "A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me." 31 I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptising with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.'

32 Then John gave this testimony: 'I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. 33 And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit." 34 I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One.'

John's disciples follow Jesus

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples.

36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, 'Look, the Lamb of God!'

37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus.

38 Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, 'What do you want?'

They said, 'Rabbi' (which means 'Teacher'), 'where are you staying?'

39 'Come,' he replied, 'and you will see.'

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas' (which, when translated, is Peter).

Socially Crafty

Our team of crafters will be starting on two new projects on **Monday 19th January at 10:30am** in the church. We will be starting work on a **JOY** poster as well as preparing outfits for the World Day of Prayer in March. Everyone is welcome. Just turn up on the day.

Make friends ~ Drink Coffee ~ Eat Cake ~ Do Crafts



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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.

Licensing of Revd Tracey 'TJ' Jones

On Wednesday evening Revd Tracey 'TJ' Jones was licensed in Cuddington Church by Bishop Dave. As you would expect, it was a joyful evening, and TJ thanked the community in Cuddington for their warm welcome into the village. Our churchwardens Sue Birrell and Ian Cairns took part in the service too because TJ will also be on the service rota for our churches. Revd Canon Chris Bull preached on a passage from Ephesians chapter 4 that TJ had chosen as the reading. He said we **ALL** need to discern what God's calling is for us. That doesn't necessarily mean ordained ministry as there are many other callings that contribute to our churches. On Thursday evening in our online prayers we took up the theme of God's calling. Our next online prayers will be on **Thursday 5th February at 8pm**. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Evensong news

Thank you to Stephan for managing to somehow fit the plough in the back of his lorry - in the dark - after the Plough Sunday service! The service reminded us of the hard work undertaken by our farming community and the strong associations with previous generations. In previous times the plough would traditionally be stored in the church building over the winter months, so it was important to bless the work it would be doing at the start of the season.

Thankyou to the choir and to Richard on the organ and Charlotte for playing the cornet.

Our next Choral Evensong in Dinton Church will be on **8th February at 6pm** when we will be celebrating Candlemas. This is when church candles for the year are traditionally blessed, symbolising Christ's light dispelling the darkness. Members of the congregation would bring household candles to church for a prayer as well. The service remembers when Christ was presented in the Temple, as the "light of the world"



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