



Church e-Bulletin 26th April 2026

To receive this bulletin by email each week please send your email address and name to theoffice@smso.org.uk

DIARY

Upcoming Services:

Sun 26 Apr: 10.30am **Holy Communion** John 10:1-10
"Living the Best Life"
7pm **Boiler Room** Parish Prayer Meeting
Tue 28 Apr: 10.150am **Morning Worship** John 10:1-10
Sun 3 May: 10.30am **All Age Worship** "Called to Serve"

Events:

Mon 27 Apr: 9 & 10.10am **Open the Book** in our church schools
7.30pm Vacancy Leadership Team Meeting
Tue 28 Apr: 11am **Connexions** – Stoneleigh Male Voice Choir
1.30pm **ESOL** English language class
3pm **Tuesday Afternoon Extra**
Wed 29 Apr: 9.15 **Coffeebreak** Baby & Toddler Group

GOD DEPENDENT, JESUS CENTRED, MISSIONARY DISCIPLES



SAYING GOODBYE TO ALAN AND JANE

Last Sunday we said a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to Alan and Jane Hulme who are retiring. After 6.5 years with us here, they will be sorely missed. As the Church Wardens said, Alan and Jane have clearly and humbly shown us how to be Jesus Centred, God Dependiant, Missionary Disciples and we have all been personally enriched by their ministry. We had an incredibly generous response to the collection and, with a top up from the PCC, were able to present them with a beautiful wooden plaque and a gift of £4,500. We wish them a blessed and restful start to their retirement.

TOP TIPS FOR THE VACANCY

Here are the main points from Alan & Jane's farewell sermon last week.

Jesus Centred

1. The Bible equips us to live as followers of Jesus – Read it! (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
2. Keep the Main thing the main thing. LOVE! (Matthew 22:36-39)
3. Guard your unity. (Psalm 133:1,3b)
4. Serve sacrificially. (Mark 10:45)
5. In this time of change, keep your eyes fixed on Jesus. (Hebrews 12:1-2a)

God Dependent

6. Make Prayer a Priority. (Matthew 7:7-8)
7. The Nehemiah Principle. (Nehemiah 4:9)
8. Remember the past for the right reasons. (Psalm 105:5)

Missionary Disciples

9. Keep an outward focus. (Matthew 28:19-20)
10. Trust in the Lord. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

THANK YOU FROM ALAN AND JANE

Dear friends,

Last week we thanked you for being co-workers with us as we served Jesus together in Rugby. But today, we want to add three more "thank-you's". First to those who planned and worked to make our last Sunday really special. Secondly, for our leaving gifts including the beautiful carving and the amazing gift that dropped into our bank account today. We're overwhelmed by your generosity. And thirdly for all your kind and encouraging words to us in the leaving cards/online cards. We will miss you very much and pray that God will continue to bless you all.

With our love, Alan and Jane.

CHURCH FAMILY

Rev Michael Paget-Wilkes: We are sorry to hear of the recent death of Rev Michael Paget-Wilkes, former Vicar of St Matthew's Church. Rev Mike Paget-Wilkes' 'Call of the Kingdom' service will be held on **Tuesday 5th May** at Cirencester Baptist Church, Chesterton Lane, Cirencester GL7 1YE and streamed via YouTube <https://www.cirencester-baptist.org/livestream> For further information, please contact Marion MacLellan.

St Oswald's Book of Remembrance: After a period of some years, we have now found a new calligrapher to make entries into our Book of Remembrance. If your loved one has died in the last few years and has had a service connected to St Oswald's Church, and you would like their name entering into the book, please fill in the form that will shortly be found in the church foyer. There will be a cost of £18 per entry. On an ongoing basis, the book will be taken to the calligrapher once or possibly twice per year, depending on the number of entries needed. Thank you.

Sunday Lunch Club: are meeting as shown below at 12.45pm, unless advertised otherwise. If you would like to join in, please let the organiser know **by the Wednesday before** the meeting. Lifts are available from the church after the service. If you are new to the church, the first time you come, the cost is on us.

03 May The Waterside, Hillmorton - Colin Coleman: 07733 456312

17 May The Barley Mow, Newbold - Ann Seaton: 07989 639853

CHURCH BUSINESS

Parish Profile Questionnaire: Deadline for responses is Sunday 26th April. Please complete it if you can. Hard copies are available in the foyer.

Repeat Church Electoral Roll: Revision of the Roll will take place between **Sunday 26th April and Sunday 10th May**. The Roll will then close until after the APCM on Sunday 31st May. The revised roll will be available for inspection between Wednesday 13th and Wednesday 27th May. We encourage all members who are 16 years or older to be on the Roll so that you can vote at the APCM. If you are unsure as to whether you are already on the Roll, please contact Dawn at the Church Office dawn@smso.org.uk or 01788 330440.

ECO CHURCH

Nature Trail. We now have a nature trail around the church grounds aimed particularly at children and families but, hopefully, of interest to all. The trail can be downloaded from smso.org.uk/eco-church or contact Malcolm Wright (malcolmwright11@gmail.com) for a printed copy.



"YOU MIGHT WANNA PULL UP A CHAIR.
I'VE HAD A PRETTY BUSY DAY."

CONTACTS

Church Office: 1a New Street is open from 9.30am - 1.30pm Mon -Thursday. 01788 330440.

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