

Sunday 15th October 2017 – 18th Sunday after Trinity – Proper 23

WELCOME TO THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ST NICHOLAS GODSTONE, ST STEPHEN SOUTH GODSTONE AND ST JOHN BLINDLEY HEATH



Rector: Revd Peter O'Connell 01883 741945 rector@godstone.net

Assistant Priest: Revd Evelyn Randall 07590 099326 evelynrandall@uwclub.net

Church Wardens: St Nicholas: Louise Case 01883 740182, St Stephen: Jane Moss 01342 892502,

*A warm welcome to all who are with us today, especially to those joining us for the first time.
Children's Church is available. Please stay for refreshment after the service to meet with us.*

Services for Sunday 15th October 2017

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephens HC, CW
10.30 am St Johns – Family Communion CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW

Readings: Exodus 32.1-14, Matthew 22.1-14

Communion on Wednesday 18th October

10.00 am St Nicholas Church HC, BCP

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Friday 20th October – Children's Film Night at St Stephen's Church showing 'Storks' – doors open 5.00 pm. Film starts 5.30 pm**
- **Saturday 21st October – Village Coffee Morning at St Stephens Church – 10 am – 12.30 pm**
- **Friday 27th October – Film Night at St Stephen's Church 'Beauty and the Beast' (new Disney musical version) starting at 7 pm.**
- **Saturday 28th October – Wedding at St Nicholas Church – Christopher Hill & Emily Ewen – 2 pm**
- **Sunday 29th October – Benefice Joint Service at St Stephen's Church – 500th Anniversary of the Reformation – 10.30 am**
- **Monday 30th October – Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church for Eileen Atherley – 11.30 am. Committal at Surrey & Sussex Crematorium – 12.45 pm.**

FUNDRAISING – We have now raised more than £400 from Easyfundraising for our three churches. Some things only raise a few pennies, but these pennies are adding up! Please consider using one of these links for any internet shopping you do. So far we have raised £233 for St Nicholas, £109 for St Johns and £136 for St Stephens.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholaschurchgodstone/>

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ststephenssouthgodstone/>

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnsblindleyheath/>

All enquiries concerning Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Visits and Home Communion to:
Revd Peter O'Connell (contact details above)

Items for this news sheet to Philippa March email benefice@godstone.net

www.godstoneunitedbenefice.org.uk

Services for Sunday 22nd October 2017

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
10.30 am St Stephens – Family Service
10.30 am St Johns HC, CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW

Readings: Exodus 33.12-23, Matthew 22.15-22

Communion on Wednesday 25th October

10.00 am St Stephen's Church HC, BCP

FRIENDS OF ST NICHOLAS – FISH & CHIP SUPPER IN THE WHITE HART BARN - WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER – 7 pm. £12 per head, Bookings and payment before the event to Philip Anderson – 01883 742655 (raising funds for the improvement and maintenance of St Nicholas Church)

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH – If there is anyone interested in the following roles of a reader, a sides-person, assisting with offertory, taking the chalice up to the altar, helping with refreshments after the service, flower arranging, Church cleaning and counting the collection following the service, please contact Louise Case (Churchwarden) 01883 740182.

CAFÉ CONNECT – another wonderful morning took place last Saturday that felt very busy with lots of people joining us. Funds raised totaled **£520**. The decision has been made to donate £200 to the hospitality fund and the rest made available to fund resources for Café Connect.

MUSICAL CONCERT – “TUNES FOR A TENOR FOR OUR TOILET” will be held in St Nicholas Church on **Saturday 25th November – 3 – 5pm**. Will include several varied forms of musical entertainment, refreshments, raffle and start everyone thinking about the joy of Christmas.

THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR, available now £3.99 Did you know that 36% of 5-7 year olds don't know whose birthday is celebrated at Christmas? The calendar comes with 25 festive chocolate shapes, a 24 page Christmas story-activity book and a charitable donation. **To order contact Alison on alison.mccormick@mac.com or 01737 245501.**

CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS – It is time to order your home made, boozy and fruity CHRISTMAS PUDDING. Same price as last year: 1lb £7.50, 2lb £12.00 3lb £16.50. With or without nuts, also gluten free made to order. **All profits to the St Nicholas Church – Accessible Toilet Fund.** Ring JENNY BULL on 01883 743359 or sign the list in Church.



St Nicholas Church, Godstone

Readings for Sunday 15th October 2017

COLLECT - Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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.

EXODUS 32.1-14 - **The people of Israel have received the Ten Commandments verbally, but Moses is still up on Mount Sinai receiving them in writing.**

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, 'Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' Aaron said to them, 'Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.' They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"' The Lord said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.'

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, 'O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever." And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that

he planned to bring on his people.

MATTHEW 22 1-14 - **During the last week of his earthly life, Jesus tells a third parable about admission to the kingdom of heaven. Knowing the story of the feast in Isaiah 25, his first audience would naturally associate a king's banquet with the inauguration of the era beyond the end of time**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and find everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend. How did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth". For many are called, but few are chosen.'

POST COMMUNION

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

PRAYER LIST

St Nicholas – Caroline Pope, Audrey Head, Cheryl Payne, Tom Battell, Minnie, Archie Butler, Christian Schumacher, Barbara Gibbons. **St Stephens** - Mona Watkins, Claire McFetridge, Samuel Moss, Ron Harradine, David Snell, Jennifer & Gerry Marks **St Johns** – Hugh Hunter, Julie & Jo Charlton, Daphne & Peter Reed, Janice Reed, Claire Taylor. **The Benefice link with Rutendo in Zimbabwe.**

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED
Josephine Clarke **Eileen Atherley**

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If you like to read that week's readings, or keep up to date with the notices, you can find this news sheet on the benefice website www.godstoneunitedbenefice.org.uk

