

Sunday 19th November 2017 – The Second Sunday before Advent

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 19th November 2017

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephens HC, CW
10.30 am St John's – Family Communion CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11, Matthew 25.14-30

Communion on Wednesday 22nd November

10.00 am St Stephens Church HC, BCP

Services for Sunday 26th November 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: Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24, Matthew 25.31-46

Communion on Wednesday 29th November

10.00 am St Mary's Chapel HC, BCP

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 19th November – Baptisms at St Stephens Church – Euan Dennis, Ryan Dennis and Liam Dennis – 9 am.
- Sunday 19th November – Baptism at St Nicholas Church – Ralph Cowlard – 2pm.
- Friday 24th November – Funeral at St Nicholas Church for John Lawton – 1 pm. Followed by committal at Godstone Burial Ground.
- Friday 24th November – Children's Film Night at St Stephens's Church – 'Despicable Me 3' – 5.30 pm.
- Saturday 25th November – Village Coffee Morning at St Stephen's Church with fresh coffee and homemade cakes and perhaps a stall or two – 10 am – 12.30 pm.
- Wednesday 29th November – Peal of Bells at St Nicholas Church – 11 am (3 hours non-stop)
- Saturday 2nd December – Café Connect at St Nicholas Youth Centre for Godstone Village School -10.30 am – 12.30 pm
- Sunday 10th December – Joint service with Bishop Jonathan at St Stephen's School – 10.30 am

FUNDRAISING – We have now raised more than £500 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 £238 for St Nicholas, £143 for St Johns and £160 for St Stephens.

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

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

NOTICES

ST JOHN'S are having a **SKITTLE EVENING ON FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER at 7 pm. Fish & CHIP SUPPER PROVIDED Cost £10.00 and Raffle. Further details from Pauline 01342 833638. All welcome!**

MUSICAL CONCERT – “TUNES FOR A TENNER FOR OUR TOILET FUND” 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.

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER – TOY SERVICES Once again we will be collecting new toys to go to **Welcare in Redhill.**

December 9th – 16th This year St Nicholas Church will be hosting a **NATIVITY FESTIVAL for the first time.** We are inviting anyone who wants to display a Nativity scene that they have made, or bought, in the church for the week of the festival. Scenes can be traditional, modern or completely off the wall, and whatever size it is, we can probably find a space for it. You can find pictures of similar festivals held elsewhere at www.godstonenativity.weebly.com and these pictures may give some inspiration.

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 & 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 CHRISTMAS CARD – New Design - £3.00 for pack of 5. Available at Café Connect or from Louise Case (01883 740182)

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



St Nicholas Church, Godstone

Readings for Sunday 19th November

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs to eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Thessalonians 5.1-11

Paul has just told his readers that, when Christ returns, those who have died and those who are still alive will have equal status: they will be with God for ever. Now he encourages them to be prepared.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security'. Then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25.14-30

Jesus continues to tell parables about the kingdom of heaven. In the previous parables, he has told us that we need to be prepared for the Second Coming at all times.

For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made

two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more talents, saying "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave, you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see I have made two more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Post Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

PRAYER LIST

St Nicholas – Caroline Pope, Tom Battell, Minnie, Archie Butler, Christian Schumacher. **St Stephens** - Mona Watkins, Claire McFetridge, Samuel Moss, Ron Harradine, David Snell, Jennifer & Gerry Marks, Barry Slade **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

Ruth Bonnell

John Lawton

Philip Demonte

