

Sunday 22nd April – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

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, Doug Randall 01883 742751. St Stephen: Jane Moss 01342 92502,

*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 22nd April 2018

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

Readings: Acts 4.5-12, John 10.11-18

Communion on Wednesday 25th April

10.00 am St Stephens Church HC, BCP

Services for Sunday 29th April 2018

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
10.30 am St Nicholas – Joint Benefice Service

Readings: Acts 8.26-40, John 15.1-8

Communion on Wednesday 2nd May

10.00 am St Mary's Chapel HC, BCP

NOTICES

THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE UNITED BENEFICE FOR 2017 are now available and will be considered for approval at the AGM on **25th April 2018**. If anybody would like a copy in advance, please email Philippa on benefice@godstone.net

A COFFEE AND CAKE MORNING WILL BE HELD AT CHURCH HOUSE, BLECHINGLEY ON **SATURDAY 28TH APRIL – 10 am – 12 noon** to introduce the Archdeaconry Resource Exchange. The initial focus will be on resources for children but this will expand later.

ST NICHOLAS Parish Breakfast

Enjoy sharing a meal and RAISING FUNDS FOR CHRISTIAN AID at the 11th Parish Breakfast – **Sunday 6th May 2018 9.00 am** in the Youth Centre.

Cost £5.00. £3.00 for children. ADDITIONAL DONATIONS FOR CHRISTIAN AID MOST WELCOME.

PLEASE SIGN THE LIST AT THE BACK OF CHURCH.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK May 13-19 2018

After over 30 years of organising the annual collection for Godstone, with first Dot Rao and later Carol Carey in S. Godstone, we have found it increasingly difficult to find enough volunteer collectors. We will not be collecting from all roads anymore, however, if any of the faithful regulars would like to continue, we have envelopes and authorisation badges.

Another option is to simply deliver, leaving a close by return address. It would be helpful to identify someone in each road who could be the "return address". Please let us know if you could help in that way. There are other fund raising events planned for May and we hope you will be able to support them. People across the world will have their lives changed by your giving.

Rita Hale – 01883 743032 Carol Carey – 01342 893189

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Sunday 22nd April – St Johns Annual Meeting at St John's Church – noon.**
- **Friday 27th April – Children's Film Night at St Stephen's Church – 'Toy Story 2' - 5.30 pm.**
- **Sunday 29th April – United Benefice Service at St Nicholas Church – 10.30 am.**
- **Sunday 29th April – NO 10.30 am services at St Johns Church and St Stephen's Church.**
- **Sunday 29th April – Baptism at St Nicholas Church – Amelie Wilkinson – 12.30 pm.**
- **Sunday 29th April – Baptism at St Nicholas Church – Leo Gibson – 1 pm.**
- **Friday 4th May – Thanksgiving Service for Daphne Reed at St John's Church – 12 noon. Afterwards a Funeral Reception at Yew Lodge Country House, Felcourt Road, East Grintead. (the family requests "NO BLACK")**
- **Saturday 5th May – Café Connect at St Nicholas Youth Centre raising money for Christian Aid – 10.30 am – 12.30 pm.**

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

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

ACTS 4.5-12

When Peter and John have visited the Temple to pray. Peter has cured a crippled man – who has praised God and entered the Temple with them. Peter and John have preached the good news to the crowd – but the religious authorities have arrested them.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man had been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.

JOHN 10.11-18

Jesus continues to speak of himself as the good shepherd, an image familiar to his audience. True followers, he has said, recognise the good shepherd, "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved.....and will find pasture.....I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly"

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand runs away because a hired man does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father know me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER LIST

St Nicholas – Caroline Pope, Archie Butler, Christian Schumacher, Daphne Hughes, David Collins. **St Stephens** - Mona Watkins, Claire McFetridge, Elaine Childs, Ron Harradine, David Snell, Jennifer & Gerry Marks, Barry Slade Daphne Hodge, John Turnball. **St Johns** – Hugh Hunter, Julie & Jo Charlton, Peter Reed, Janice Reed, Tim Mundy. **The Benefice link with Rutendo in Zimbabwe.**

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Daphne Reed

