

Sunday 3rd February 2019 – The Fifth Sunday before Lent

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 & Frank 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 3rd February 2019

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephen's HC, CW
10.30 am St John's HC, CW
10.30 am St Nicholas - Family Communion CW

Readings: 1 Corinthians 13.1-13, Luke 2.22-40

Communion on Wednesday 6th February

10.00 am St Mary's Chapel – HC, BCP

Services for Sunday 10th February 2019

8.00 am St Nicholas HC, BCP
9.00 am St Stephen's HC, CW
10.30 am St John's HC, CW
10.30 am St Nicholas HC, CW

Readings: Isaiah 6.1-8, Luke 5.1-11

Communion on Wednesday 13th February

No Communion – see below

NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Saturday 9th February – Build@Church at St Stephen's Church – 3 pm.**
- **Monday 18th February funeral for Raymond Sheil at Surrey & Sussex crematorium – 11.45 am** (Raymond used to live in Oaklands, South Godstone and his family have asked us to let people know).

EVERYONE WELCOME AT ST NICHOLAS YOUTH CENTRE ON Sunday 10th February at 12.30 to celebrate the **Rector's half century!**. It is a 'Bring & Share' lunch, so please all bring along a plate of food to be shared. Tea and coffee will be provided. **(Helen)**

MIDWEEK COMMUNION – as from January these will only take place on the first Wednesday of the month at St Mary's Chapel and at St John's Church on the third Wednesday. There will be no other midweek communions.

BISHOP ROD will be running a Christianity Explored course on Monday evenings (Jan 28th, Feb 11th, 18th, March 4th, 18th, 25th)

FUNDRAISING – We have now raised more than **£1,000** through Easyfundraising. If you haven't signed up, then try it today:

St	Nicholas'	(£470)
: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholaschurchgodstone/		
St	Stephen's	(£335)
: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ststephenssouthgodstone/		
St	John's	(£200)
: 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



St Nicholas Church, Godstone

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2019 – THE FIFTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

COLLECT

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; 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.

1 CORINTHIANS 13.1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believe all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to the childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; but then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

LUKE 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord), 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord') and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-and a sword will pierce your own soul too'.

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after he marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

POST COMMUNION

God of truth, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life: strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER LIST

St Nicholas – Christian Schumacher, Diana Schumacher, Daphne Hughes, David Collins, Amanda Thompson, Amy West. **St Stephens** – Mona Watkins, Claire McFetridge, Elaine Childs, David Snell. Barry Slade, John Turnbull, Gemma, Jo Peacock, David Poffley. **St John's** - Hugh Hunter, Julie and Jo Charlton, Janie Reed, Tim Mundy, Basil McFarland, Jay Lloyd-Jones, Nicky Tredenick. The Benefice link with Rutendo in Zimbabwe

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYER, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Raymond Sheil

Colin McPhail

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