

Sunday 7th January 2018 – The Baptism of Christ – First Sunday of Epiphany

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 7th January 2018 – Baptism of Christ

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

Readings: Genesis 1.1-5, Mark 1.4-11

Communion on Wednesday 10th January

10.00 am St John's Church HC, BCP

Services for Sunday 14th January 2018

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

Readings: Samuel 3.1-10, John 1.43-51

Communion on Wednesday 17th January

10.00 am St Mary's Chapel HC, BCP

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 8th January – Epiphany Service at St Stephens – 8 pm.
- Friday 12th January – Funeral at St Nicholas Church for Caroline Webster – 12 noon followed by committal at Godstone Burial Ground.
- Saturday 13th January – Build@Church at St Stephen's Church – 3 pm.
- Wednesday 17th January – Funeral at St Nicholas Church for Betty Jennings – 2 pm followed by committal at Godstone Burial Ground – 2.30 pm.
- Saturday 27th January – Village Coffee Morning at St Stephens – 10 am – 12.30 pm

NOTICES

FUNDRAISING – After an excellent December we have now raised more than **£650** 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 **£283** for St Nicholas, **£155** for St Johns and **£213** 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



St Nicholas Church, Godstone

Readings for Sunday 7th January 2018

COLLECT

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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.

GENESIS 1.1-5

Genesis includes creation stories drawn from two different sources. The authors of the first creation story emphasize the goodness of God's creation, and how God created the orderly world out of chaos, and gave humans a place of honour.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

MARK 1.4-11

In the first verses of this gospel, Mark quotes an Old Testament passage prophesying that God will send a messenger to prepare the way for Christ. The good news of Jesus Christ begins with John's call to repentance.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER LIST

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

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS, THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Betty Jennings,

Caroline Webster

