



Stretton Parish

CONTACT

News for weekend beginning Friday 2nd July 2021
The Parish of St. Laurence's, Church Stretton with
St. Michael's & All Angels LEP, All Stretton & All Saints, Little Stretton.
Parish Website: www.strettonparish.org.uk
Parish office: 01694 724224 office@strettonparish.org.uk

Our verse for the year:

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15.13

Services for Sunday 4th July, 5th Sunday after Trinity. Reading: 2 Corinthians 12.2-10

St. Laurence's	8.00	Holy Communion
	9.30	Morning Prayer
	11.15	All Age Worship
	4.00	Welcome service for David Andrews
St. Michael's	10.30	Morning Prayer
All Saints	11.00	Morning Prayer
Online Service	10.00	Online via website, or by phone 01694 631066

To allow for distancing, numbers in the churches must be limited at the moment, so please book a seat via the website

www.strettonparish.org.uk or by phoning the office on 01694 724224

The mid-week Communion Service is on Wednesday 7th July at 10.30am in St Laurence's.

All three churches are open for private prayer on Wednesdays, All Saints, and St Laurence's from 10am -4pm, St Michael's from 10am-2pm.

Welcoming our new curate, David Andrews: David is being ordained on Sunday 4th July and we are having a short service at 4pm that day at St Laurence's to welcome and pray for him. Please do come along to give David a warm welcome. Book in via the link on the homepage of the website.



Parish Prayer Meeting: Our monthly Parish prayer meeting will be on Wednesday 7th July at 8pm on Zoom. To receive the Zoom link for the prayer meeting, please book in via the website.



Staff changes: Following the announcement of Sarah Robinson's retirement as our Children's and Families worker from 31st July 2021, much prayer and discussion has taken place. I am pleased to announce that from 1st August Sally Clilverd will move from being Youth worker into the Children's and Families worker role. This feels a very good and God-led move for us and for Sally. It gives us continuity and also gives us space to think creatively with the role of youth worker, which we are planning to retain. Until we appoint, Sally will also continue in a coordination role for the youth work. Do pray for Sally as she transitions into this role and also for wisdom and imagination as we look at the youth worker role. *Steve.*

The joy I felt when I talked to Steve and he said that he felt God saying he wondered if I would like to move to the Children's and Families role was immense. As I had prayed about the situation I had also felt God prompting me to move role but I just didn't think this would happen! I am very excited at the prospect of working with the Stretton Parish children and families and making Jesus known through work with the school and community. *Sally.*

Sarah's retirement: On 25th July we are planning to present a gift to Sarah at the end of the 11:15am service to thank her for her 10 years of service to the children and families of Stretton Parish. If you would like to contribute towards a gift please do so using one of the following methods:

1. By credit or debit card via the Donate button on the home page of the parish website www.strettonparish.org.uk. Use the drop-down menu under "Fund" there is an option labelled 'Gift for Sarah'.
2. By cash or cheque - place your gift in a sealed envelope, clearly marked "Sarah Robinson gift", on the offering plate" – cheques payable to "Church Stretton PCC".
3. Give direct from your bank account, using reference "Gift-S Robinson" – for bank details go to the [Giving page](#) on our website.

Please **DO NOT** put gifts though the Parish Office letterbox. We are also planning a card and would ask that you email a message for Sarah to sally@strettonparish.org.uk and this will then be included.

We are hoping to be able to have a **bring-your-own-picnic** (sorry, definitely no sharing allowed!) on Rectory Field after the service to say a more informal farewell to Sarah, but are waiting to see how the Covid guidance develops. Please watch out for further announcements in the coming weeks.

Help needed: As we start to look to the new academic year we are hopeful that things may start returning to a bit more normality. We are planning to restart three children's groups on a Sunday morning: 2-5 years, 5 - 9 years and 10+ years. If this is an area of ministry God is calling you to please get in touch with me either by email at sally@strettonparish.org.uk or pop over to the Parish Centre on a Sunday morning after either the 9:30 or 11:15 services, so we can have a chat.



We are also hoping to restart **Messy Church** and I would again ask you to have a chat with me if you feel able to help - there are a wide range of roles needing to be filled!! Please also let me know which afternoons you would be able to help. *Sally Clilverd*

Strong set-up helpers needed for Parents & Toddlers: Could you offer to help put out the toys on a Thursday morning at 8.30am and clear away again at 11.45am on a rota basis? Please speak to Sarah if you can offer. Thank you.



Stretton Parish Summer Festival Services: August 2021:

'Making Jesus known by telling stories' will be the theme running through our Summer Festival services in August. The stories we'll tell will be stories which Jesus himself told but we also want to tell our own stories of faith too. That's why we're aiming to display a 'gallery of artwork' in St Laurence's during the month of August.

Are you a photographer, an artist, a woodturner, an embroiderer, a potter, a quilter, a model-maker, a knitter.....? Will you contribute a piece to our gallery? It might be something which you created during lockdown or something which you made at an important point in your journey or even something which you create specially for the gallery. We'll be receiving contributions at the end of July (details to follow) so there's a bit of time to think. We'll also ask you to write no more than a couple of sentences to go along with your piece in answer to the question: what does this piece say about your journey of faith with Jesus?

We're really looking forward to seeing all that is on display and telling our stories to our visitors.



Churches Count on Nature – is a new initiative from A Rocha and Caring for God's Acre. It encourages churches to set aside time each year for people to visit and enjoy churchyards and to record the nature living there such as wildflowers, lichens and butterflies.

Churchyards are often sanctuaries for all kinds of wildlife. The churchyard at St Laurence's in Church Stretton is always open for people to enjoy. But on Sunday 13th June there was a special opportunity for people to look around and the chance for all ages to join in recording and identifying species. To help people appreciate the species and management of the churchyard, lots



of helpful signs were placed. Some simply identified plant species, others explained their uses. Some encouraged reflection while others explained the management of different areas or the wildlife found in particular habitats. There has been loads of positive feedback regarding the signs, both from churchgoers and passers by, with people really enjoying the chance to learn a little more, to make time to reflect on the wonder of God's creation and brush up their plant ID skills.



On the Sunday, some surveying took place together with simple ID sheets available for younger passers by. Surveys in the past 15 years have identified 4 species of mammal, 6 species of birds passing through or resident, 22 species of invertebrates, 128 species of flowering plants and 41 species of lichens and fungi. So it was quite a challenge to find additional species! However, several invertebrates, 4 beetles and 3 bees, were added to the list along with 3 new birds.

A week later there was a Messy Church Outdoors session after school. We had over 20 children and adults participating and we used the ID sheets produced by Churches Count on Nature. The youngsters were very enthusiastic in seeking out and identifying the 8 flowers on their sheets and adding new ones (with some enthusiastically drawing or painting these).



Then we looked for bugs of all kinds and found woodlice, earwig, a millipede, bees (there was a nest of Red Tailed bees), beetles and best of all a beautiful Scarlet Tiger moth was seen flying through. The youngsters and their helpers thus managed to add another 6 species to the Churchyard official list.



The information signs will remain in the churchyard until the wildflower areas are cut back late August so please go and enjoy them. As they fade in heavy rain, they will probably then be stored and reappear next spring.

For our prayers:

We pray for those who mourn, particularly the family and friends of Anne Tipper.

We pray for those who are sick or are unable to leave their homes: Margot, Barbara, Paul, David, Trevor, Anne, Ewan, Rosemary, Eileen, Jeannie, Margaret, Margaret, Doreen, Sue, Di, Lena, Roger, Ray, Brian, Dorothy and Laura.

Please pray for our new curate, David Andrews, as he begins his time in Stretton parish.

Residential Homes: We pray for all our nursing homes, this week particularly remembering Sandford Nursing Home.

Memorial Book: We give thanks for the lives of those in our memorial books in July: Barbara Leak, Peggy Medlicott, Robert Roseveare, Hedwig Lewis, Doris Nutall, Thomas Shepherd, Alan Newman, Clive Wheeler, Christine Hughes, Mary Marsden, Kathleen De'Ath, Sydney Mulliner, Annie Cooper, Kenneth Elderwick, Marjorie Stevens, Harry Harland, Margaret Robinson, Valerie Yapp,

Baptism Anniversary Prayer

At their baptism we welcomed Aella and Rory into our church family and promised to support them through prayer. Today on their anniversary we renew that promise, and pray that through love and support these children will come to know you as their saviour. Amen.

Prayer Chain: Prayer requests for the prayer chain should be sent to Jo at office@strettonparish.org.uk. In order to ensure that we comply with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we need to be sure that we have the individual's permission to share details via email as this information is emailed to a group of people who will pray for that particular issue. Only a first name should be used and very minimal details – it is not appropriate to share detailed medical information in this way. This is a really great way to actively pray for others in need and if you would like to join this chain please email Jo as detailed above.

Services for Sunday 11th July, 6th Sunday after Trinity. Reading: John 4.5-30, 39-42

St. Laurence's	8.00	Holy Communion
	9.30	Holy Communion
	11.15	Morning Worship followed by a baptism
St. Michael's	10.30	Holy Communion
All Saints	11.00	Holy Communion
Online Service	10.00	Online via website, or by phone 01694 631066

Rector	Rev Steve Johnson	steve.johnson@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 722585
Associate Minister	Rev Christobel Hargraves	chris.hargraves@strettonparish.org.uk	01547 550311
Curate	Rev David Andrews	david.andrews@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 721355
Minister, St Michaels	Rev Hazel Allen	hazel.allen@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 751400
Children & Families Worker	Sarah Robinson	sarah.robinson@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 771248
Youth Worker	Sally Clilverd	sally@strettonparish.org.uk	07985 943906
Pioneer Community Mission Enabler	Romaine Thompson	romaine.thompson@strettonparish.org.uk	
Readers	Robert Rayner	rayner617@btinternet.com	01584 861424
	Gillian Taylor	gillian.taylor@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 722956
Churchwardens	Steve King	steve.king@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 722694
	Marion Shuttleworth	marion.shuttleworth@strettonparish.org.uk	01588 672597
Pastoral Coordinator	Barbara Oakley	barbara.oakley@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 724225
Deputy Wardens			
All Saints	Chris Jones	mail@chrisbellamy.plus.com	01694 722229
St Michael's (Acting Warden)	Malcom Forbes		01694 723439
Treasurer	Graham Vince	graham.vince@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 328478
Rector's PA	Jo Aze	jo.aze@strettonparish.org.uk	01694 724224
Rector's Day Off	Fridays	Church office hours: 9am-12.30pm Monday to Friday	