

Notices

Thank You

CSW would like to thank the anonymous donor of £500, received last Sunday.



Burns Night Quiz Supper
Saturday 22nd January

Any cards of condolence for the family of Jenny Sinclair should go to her home in Wrotham & will be collected on 28th Dec. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Wrotham Church on 4th February.

Have a peaceful and blessed
New Year

Check out our new website:



www.cogsonline.co.uk

IN OUR PRAYERS Please remember those who are ill or in special need at this time:
Pat Head, Celia Smith, Alan & Margaret Soames, Gillian Aitkenhead, Barry Corbishley,
Pam Jones, Brenda Hewson, Linda Vallance, Marion Alcock, Sophie Collin
RIP: Jenny Sinclair

For changes or additions to the pew sheet please email: vicar.cogs@gmail.com



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BOROUGH GREEN

1906—2021



Vicar Revd. Chris Turner 882447 vicar.cogs@gmail.com (Not available Tuesdays)

Churchwardens: Carole Simpson 883073, Julie Sweeting 885437

Lay Ministers Elaine Almond 886440, Ruth Burnham 884154 **Reader** Chris Almond 886440

PCC Secretary Jo Smith 882515 **Treasurer** Mark Sweeting 885437

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Carole Simpson 883073, Chris Atkins 366615

Feast of Stephen —26th December 2021

Welcome to the Church of the Good Shepherd

10:00 Holy Communion

90 Good King Wenceslas
71 Who would think
Jesus Christ the Lord is born

The Collect

Gracious Father, who gave the first martyr Stephen grace to pray for those who took up stones against him: grant that in all our sufferings for the truth we may learn to love even our enemies and to seek forgiveness for those who desire our hurt, looking up to heaven to him who was crucified for us, Jesus Christ, our mediator and advocate, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Prayer after communion

Merciful Lord, we thank you for the signs of your mercy revealed in birth and death: save us by the coming of your Son, and give us joy in honouring Stephen, first martyr of the new Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Did you know that to pay our bills we need to raise over £1000 per week. If you would like to help support our work you can give online. Scan the QR code to see our donations page.

Thank you



2 Chronicles 24.20-22

The spirit of God took possession of Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada; he stood above the people and said to them, 'Thus says God: Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has also forsaken you.' But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him to death in the court of the house of the LORD. King Joash did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. As he was dying, he said, 'May the LORD see and avenge!'

Psalms 119.161-168

Princes have persecuted me without a cause, but my heart stands in awe of your word. I am as glad of your word as one who finds great spoils. As for lies, I hate and abhor them, but your law do I love. Seven times a day do I praise you, because of your righteous judgements. Great peace have they who love your law; nothing shall make them stumble.

Lord, I have looked for your salvation and I have fulfilled your commandments.

My soul has kept your testimonies and greatly have I loved them.

I have kept your commandments and testimonies, for all my ways are before you.

Acts 7.51-60

Stephen said to the high priest and the council: 'You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.'

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they

dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 10.17-22

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: 'Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the

Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Good King Wenceslas

