

Sunday 28th September 2025 - 15th Sunday after Trinity - Proper 21

Welcome to the United Benefice

Rector: Revd Peter O'Connell			01883 741945	rector@godstonebenefice.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Revd Evelyn Randall			07590 099326	evelynrandall@uwclub.net
St. Nicholas, Godstone	Churchwarden :		Graham Millar 07710 096 103	
	Safeguarding Officer :		Diane Hoy 07726 341677	
St.Stephen, South Godstone	Churchwarden+Safeguarding Officer :		Karen Jackson 01342 894 669	
St.John, Blindley Heath	Churchwardens :		Trevor Nightingale 07739 100 857	
	Churchwarden+Safeguarding Officer :		Helen McRobert 01342 893 190	

Upcoming Services

St.Stephen's	28th September - 9.00 am	Communion (CW)	5th October 10.30 am	All Age Service - HARVEST CELEBRATION
St John's	28th September -10.30 am	Morning Prayer	5th October 10.30 am	Communion (CW)
St.Nicholas'	28th September - 10.30 am	Communion (CW)	5th October 10.30 am	Communion (CW)
			HARVEST	HARVEST

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

St.Stephen's	Eileen Stewart
St.John's	Basil McFarland, Fiona Mackenzie, Julien Hollingshurst, Lesley Winn, Barbara Burch, Shirley Kemp, Valery Pull, Selina Lea, Coral Denyer, Alice Charles George, Sue & Chris Farr, Chris McPhail
St.Nicholas'	Daphne Hughes , David Collins, Roger Bedford, Stan Rodgers, Maureen Hollands, Nathan Jackson, Sarah Goad, Phil Buttifant, Jim Polsfut, Emilia.
Let us also remember those who have recently died.	June Adams

Notices and Events

COFFEE & COMPANY - Tuesday 30th September - 10.00 am - noon at St Stephen's Church Hall
CAFE CONNECT - Saturday 4th October 2025 - 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. St Nicholas Youth Centre. Supporting Ukraine - we must not forget them.
BINGO AFTERNOON at St Nicholas Youth Centre - Saturday 18th October 2025 - to include tea & cakes, raffle and prizes. Doors Open 2.15 pm, Eyes down 2.30 pm. Adults £8, Children under 12 £4. Please book at st.nicholasfundraiser@gmail.com . Or call 01737 822312.
ST NICHOLAS DCC MEETING - Tuesday 14th October 2025 - in St Nicholas Church - 7.30 pm
HARVEST WEEKEND - St Nicholas Church will be open 10 am - 4 pm - Friday 3rd - Monday 6th October showing displays of flowers, produce, arts, crafts - local organisations.
HARVEST SUPPER - Saturday 4th October in St John's Church Hall - £10. Please contact Joan Wall 07825476329
SKITTLES EVENING WITH FISH & CHIP SUPPER on Friday 24th October in St John's Church Hall - 7 pm

Give- a – Little QR Codes

St.Stephen's



St.John's



St.Nicholas'



Collect

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

Three days later he called together the local Jewish leaders. When they had assembled, Paul said to them: "My brothers, although I have done nothing against our people or against the customs of our ancestors, I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. They examined me and wanted to release me, because I was not guilty of any crime deserving death. The Jews objected, so I was compelled to make an appeal to Caesar. I certainly did not intend to bring any charge against my own people. For this reason I have asked to see you and talk with you. It is because of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain." They replied, "We have not received any letters from Judea concerning you, and none of our people who have come from there has reported or said anything bad about you. But we want to hear what your views are, for we know that people everywhere are talking against this sect." They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus. Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul had made this final statement: "The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your ancestors when he said through Isaiah the prophet: 'Go to this people and say, "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving." For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.' "Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles and they will listen!"

Acts 28:17-28

Gospel

Please remain standing for the Gospel Reading.

**Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.**

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate a poor man named Lazurus, covered in sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazurus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-for I have five brothers-that he may warn them,so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

Luke 16.19-31

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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