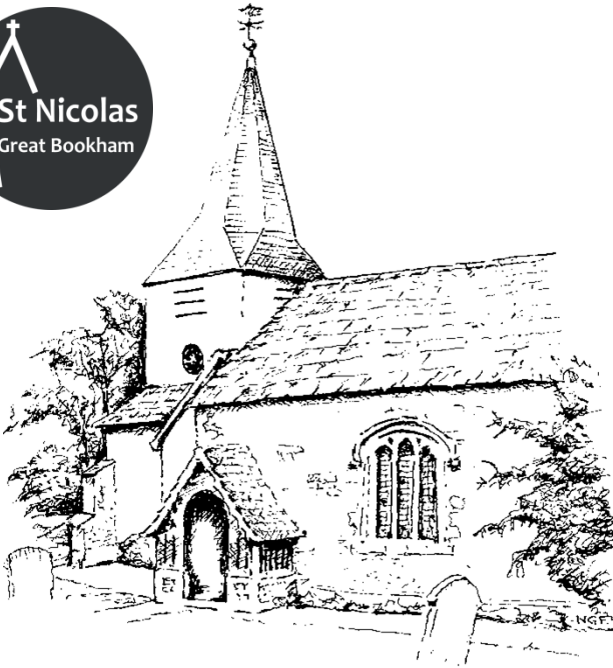


St Nicolas News

50p

November 2023



www.stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Building Faith in the Community

Services at St Nicolas

Sundays

- 8.00am **Holy Communion**
- 10.00am **Holy Communion** - 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays
Morning Praise - 1st Sunday,
GLOW - Children's Provision
- 6.30pm **Evensong** - 3rd Sunday - with choir

Weekday Services

- 8.30am **Bible Reading and Open Prayer**
Monday and Wednesday
- 10.00am **Holy Communion (Said)** Thursday
- 9.00am **Prayers for our church** - 2nd and 4th Saturdays
- 10.00 am **Church Development Plan Prayers** –
1st Saturday



Tots Alive! (term time) - Monday
10.00am in church with social time afterwards

For other services please see
Notice Board by the Lychgate

Letter from the Ministry Team

Once again we will be gathering at the war memorial on Saturday 11th and holding our Remembrance Service in church on Sunday 12th, to remember all those who died in the two world wars of the last century, and also the loss of life in numerous conflicts around the world since. As we remember, we commit ourselves to the work of peace. Never will it seem more relevant than this year when the tragedy of the war in Ukraine continues far longer than any of us expected, and as I write this in early October we seem to be facing the possibility of war in the Middle East again, as conflict between Israel and Gaza erupts. Thanks to modern communications we are brought face to face with the terrible realities of war on a daily basis. We see the loss of life, the destruction of homes, the despair of ordinary people caught up in the fighting. But it leaves us reeling. How do we respond to the terrible scenes we see on our television every night?

Sometimes there are practical things we can do, like those who opened their homes to provide a safe refuge for Ukrainian families. We can support aid

agencies providing shelter and essential supplies to survivors and refugees. We can commit ourselves to be peace makers—to seek peaceful solutions to the disagreements we encounter, to be a voice that speaks peace into challenging situations, to listen to and try to understand the point of view of others, to see those who are different from us as fellow children of God, not people to be feared or stigmatised.

We can also pray, for peace and for peace makers, because when we look at the complexity of the situations and the years of anger and injustice that so often lead to conflict, it can seem there is no human solution possible. On the weekend that Hamas invaded southern Israel we were reading part of psalm 46 in our morning prayer. *'He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

Let's pray that God may reign in our world, and that all might live in His peace. Peace be with you,

Barbara

PCC Meeting 18th September 2023

With Alan Jenkins away on Extended Ministerial Development Leave the meeting was ably chaired by Joy Lord. Barbara MacDonald led us in the Bible reading and prayers. She had selected Paul's letter to the Ephesians contained in 3:14-20 as appropriate to consider ahead of our PCC meeting. We then used the same text as our prayer.

We received an encouraging report from Celeste, our Families and Children Minister. We were told that Tots Alive is growing, connections with Scouts and Guides are strengthening and that ideas are in place for the restart of Glow. Looking outward we have participated in Village Day, arranged park playdates and participated in Rhyme Time at the local library. We heard about Celeste's work in local schools and her visits to lead assemblies. She has plans to build on this work and offer an after-school club in 2024, possibly as an ecumenical initiative. She has the full support of the PCC in her work.

Neil MacDonald, as Treasurer, presented his financial report. He was able to report that the church's finances appear reasonably healthy, although there is no room for complacency. He added that now the Building for the Future works are complete, the reserves we have that could be spent on discretionary projects are relatively small. This means that choosing to take one project forward could mean that another project might be unaffordable. He encouraged the PCC to consider fund raising to support new projects or existing commitments such as our youth work.

Two additional sidesmen for the 8.00am service were approved and Nick Garrett was approved and welcomed as Assistant Church Warden.

The PCC agreed to adopt the Social Media Guidelines as provided by the church at national level. No adverse feedback was received when these guidelines were circulated to those within our church using social media. The guidelines would apply and provide a template for behaviour for those using social media in the name of the church.

Nick Garrett was able to report that the AV upgrade was successfully completed on Friday within budget. This facility will provide a platform to build on in the future. David Barnes reported on other ongoing building projects. We are proposing to provide a small oak donations box in the tower. At the request of the PCC the Fabric Committee is progressing a

scheme to upgrade the toilets in the Church Room. The scheme at present involves swapping the accessible toilet to the right-hand side as you enter allowing the larger area on the left to accommodate two toilets. Other ongoing projects include replacing the leaning garden wall of the Pastoral Centre, replacement of choir vestry cupboards, renewing the Sexton's Shed, (Boiler house) roof and replacing the Gardeners' shed roof. It was noted that the war memorial is going to be cleaned by BRA.

Joy Lord reported on the success of the Eco Fair held recently in the church. The fair was well attended by both the congregation and the community and focused on looking after our planet in a better way. The event provided an example of how the more flexible church space can be utilized.

Anne Shears presented the Safeguarding report and reminded us that Safeguarding failures have emerged within a church in St Albans, so Safeguarding is very much a live issue.

David Barnes



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- Family Advent Trail
- Childrens' Activities
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SATURDAY, 2nd DECEMBER 2023
1.00PM - 4.00PM



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

14th September 2023

Eighteen of our members welcomed Margaret Hibbert and Edna Woodhouse who came to talk to us about the Meeting Place and Community Fridge.

It was an interesting and informative talk to hear how our community benefits from the services. The Meeting Place was set up eleven years ago as many people found living alone hard. Now on Saturdays, between 10.00 - 12.00am, folk can drop into the Baptist Church Hall for coffee, cake and conversation. It also runs a variety of activities and support groups, and anyone is able to access the Community Fridge. The Community Fridge was set up in 2019 with the idea to save waste from local shops and supermarkets with a 'Sell By' date... quite different from a 'Use By' date. There are presently 40 volunteers who collect and distribute the goods around the locality. These fresh food items would otherwise go into landfill. It is heartwarming to know how many local residents, of all ages, benefit from this service. During Covid many who were unable to shop for themselves found the 'drop off' service invaluable. The list grew from 20 to 200 having items brought to their doorstep. The catering staff at Keswick and The Grange also receive goods from the donations of food, which are used in the making of meals for the residents.

The Meeting Place is an ideal place to distribute food items. We are blessed to have this service for our community. Coincidentally, the Green Fair in the church took place a few days later with a range of stalls prompting us to reduce, reuse and recycle to help look after the beautiful world we live in. The Mothers' Union has been at the forefront of organisations encouraging environmental concerns and it was really encouraging to see the Church being used for this purpose. There were stalls about 'toilet twinning', refilling plastic cosmetic bottles, the possibility of a Repair Cafe being set up at St. Mary's Church in Fetcham for people to bring broken items for repair instead of taking them to the tip, and some literature about the environment for further reading.

Dawn Owers

Dates for your Diary..

7th November Prayers in Lady Chapel 11.30 am

9th November 'Inspirations' MU meeting 2.15 pm

Diocesan meeting date to be announced.



New look Sunday Afternoon Alpha

Join us on Sunday, 14 January 2024



Our next Alpha starts on Sunday, 14 January 2024 but with a big difference. Instead of meeting in small groups on an evening, we're going to have one big meeting on Sunday afternoons from 4-6pm – starting with tea, coffee and cake.

It will be open to all – whether you've been a Christian 50 years, five minutes or not at all because we all have questions and we can all learn something from the Alpha videos.

Also new, is a faith story section where different people at St Nicolas share their experience of faith. It's ideal for friends who don't normally come to church. So if you tick any of these boxes:

- Nothing to do on a Sunday afternoon
- Enjoy cake and coffee
- Like watching videos
- Enjoy a friendly discussion



Then Alpha is for you!



Join us at St Nicolas Church: enjoy a friendly chat with coffee and cake, watch an Alpha film and discuss life's big issues. Starts Sunday, 14 January and each Sunday until 3 March 2024. 4pm – 6pm.



Everyone welcome! More info: www.stnicolasbookham.org.uk or call 07809 245464

Barnabas



Fellowship

We were asked to consider whether the UK government are being too hard in dealing with asylum seekers, refugees and migrants and whether the Church of England leaders were playing a sufficiently active role in advising on fair treatment.

Asylum seekers, refugees and migrants are different terms that describe people who are on the move, who have left their countries and have crossed borders. They have different legal statuses and rights depending on their situation and the country they are in.

A refugee is a person who has been forced to leave their country because of war, persecution or natural disaster. They have a fear of being harmed if they return home.

An asylum seeker is someone who is seeking international protection abroad, but has not yet been recognised as a refugee. They may have applied for asylum in another country but their claim for refugee status has not been determined legally. They have a right to stay until their claim is determined legally.

A migrant is a person who moves from one country to another often to find work or better living conditions (quality of life). There may be other reasons like wanting to join relatives. Migrants have a right to expect respect for their human dignity regardless of their legal status.

We commented on the fact that many asylum seekers are being smuggled by criminal gangs in small boats crossing the channel. However, in 2022 more than 50% of those seeking asylum arrived by other routes and some related to specific circumstances (eg Hong Kong or Ukraine).

Process management seems weak, with significant delays in processing claims. Many seeking asylum are young men who often speak reasonable English (which may be the reason for the popularity of the UK as a destination). Are we making best use of their skills and willingness to work?

But we seem to want to send them to Rwanda, house them in huge barges, marquees and hotels where the conditions may be poor, with poor food and obvious health and safeguarding risks. This absorbs resources which are limited and already under pressure (eg healthcare, housing and education) although in the longer term immigration has generally provided economic benefits to our country.

We did consider that church leaders had provided positive input to the discussions and promoted the view that the Kingdom of God did not recognise national borders. Collective worldwide effort should be made to develop appropriate policies to combat criminal elements and divisive attitudes.

One comment suggested that a form of National Service should be introduced to provide structure and discipline to those seeking 'shelter' on our shores!

~~~~~

## **Making Sense of Life by Michael Ots**



All of us go through moments when we are forced to face up to life's big questions. For some it is the reality of death - the tragedies around us certainly have a way of making us think. For others it is the wonder of life – marvelling at the birth of a baby, or the spectacle of a sunset.

These moments provoke questions – about life and value, love and relationships, justice and freedom, despair and hope.

In *Making Sense of Life*, Michael Ots honestly and carefully examines questions that we all have. He unravels our desires and our dilemmas and makes the case that the Christian faith really does make the best sense of the things that matter most.

This book is honest and refreshing engaging and powerful. If you are genuinely interested in making sense of life this book is a great place to start.

Deborah Gallacher

## Just One Action...

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October we celebrated Harvest Festival at St. Nic's. Barbara gave a great sermon on the topic of climate change and how our lifestyles and choices have led to global warming. Why we should all be more mindful of caring for this wonderful world which God created for us.



Barbara challenged us all to take action by doing just one thing differently, just one change to our current lifestyles that would collectively make such a difference.

With that in mind, your Eco team came up with 5 simple ideas:

- 1. Eat one more meat-free meal a week... why?**  
Farm animals naturally emit methane and now, livestock farming is considered one of the major contributing factors to the extreme weather conditions that large parts of the world are experiencing. But we don't all have to adopt a plant-based diet: just adding one more veggie meal into the week will help.
- 2. Time your showers and limit them to 4 minutes... why?**  
This is the recommended time to spend in the shower. Giving you just long enough but not so long that you are wasting water. It saves water and energy and reduces your bills. Spend 8 minutes in the shower and you will use as much water as you would taking a bath.
- 3. Ditch the clingfilm and use beeswax wraps... why?**  
Clingfilm takes years to break down and when it eventually does decompose, it forms microplastics which leach harmful chemicals into our soil, groundwater and oceans, killing wildlife and fish.
- 4. Make sure your peanut butter is free of palm oil and your garden compost peat-free... why?**  
The widespread destruction of rainforest to make way for lucrative oil palm plantations has turned vibrant habitats packed with species into desolate monocultures, destroying wildlife. Peat bogs are brilliant at absorbing carbon which is responsible for most of today's global warming. They are better even than trees, so should be preserved as much as humanly possible.

5. **Use bars of soap in place of plastic dispensers... why?**

Plastic dispensers, bottles and containers might be recyclable, but they produce large amounts of waste that have to be dealt with. Look for bars of soap wrapped in paper or a small cardboard box as the environmentally friendly alternative. Or you could take your dispenser to a zero-waste shop and re-use it many times.

Which action will you take from now on?

~~~~~



Coffee



Morning in aid of Mission to Seafarers and

Mission Aviation Fellowship (two of the Charities which the Church supports)

Date: Saturday 18th November

Venue: Pastoral Centre

Time: 10.00 am – 12 noon.

All welcome!





WILL WRITING SERVICE

If you are over 50 and live in the Mole Valley area, you can use Age Concern Mole Valley's Will Writing Service.

Once a month, local solicitors, Meaby & Co, are taking appointments for Will Writing at their offices in Dorking. A donation of £100 can be given to Age Concern Mole Valley for the service. (A solicitor would normally charge over £250 plus VAT per Will.)

To book an appointment for the Will Writing Clinic, please call 01306 899104/ 07442 017169 or by email: info@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk
Registered Charity No 1111678

Sidesmen vacancy

The primary role of Sidesmen is to assist the Church Wardens and others in preparing the church for worship, welcoming the congregation, guiding people to communion and maintaining an overview during and after services. Is this something you feel you could do? We currently have a vacancy for alternate 3rd Sundays with our 10am service team. If you would like to find out more and able to help either regularly or temporarily until the vacancy can be filled, please email or speak to Vicki Dixon for more information. e-mail: vicki.dixon@stnicolasbookham.org.uk



Leatherhead & District Lions *Project Wenceslas*

**ARE YOU RECEIVING FUEL ALLOWANCE AND DON'T NEED IT?
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Project Wenceslas, as the line in the popular carol says, is about 'gathering winter f-u-e-l'.

FUEL POVERTY ISN'T NEW! Leatherhead Lions have been running the project since December 2013. During this time, we have asked better-off pensioners who don't need their winter fuel allowance to donate it. Their donations are placed in a ring-fenced account and every penny is then used to support those less fortunate and in fuel poverty or simply can't put food on the table.

Since its inception, we have helped over 200 households to keep the lights on and stay warm. We work very closely with the Citizens Advice Bureau in Leatherhead and Dorking, Christians Against Poverty in Great Bookham and Leatherhead Community Hub to identify those needing help.

Often, it is serious illness that tips a family into difficulty. For example, we helped one family when the main breadwinner fell seriously ill and had to give up work and his partner also had to curtail work to care for him. From having two incomes, the family became dependent on benefits and fell into arrears. Our Wenceslas fund offered a lifeline to pay off energy debts and keep them warm.

We are appealing for funds again this year as increased energy costs are putting even greater numbers in need of help. **So - if you don't need your winter fuel allowance, why not donate it?** (If you are a taxpayer, gift-aid your donation to increase its value by 25%.) Every penny donated will go to help families suffering with fuel poverty. And like all donations made to Lions, nothing is ever deducted for administration.

DONATE HERE

Or go to www.leatherheadlions.org.uk where you can donate direct or download a Gift Aid form and send a cheque to:

Wenceslas Appeal, Leatherhead Lions Club,
Byways, 31 The Street, Fetcham KT22 9RA



Holy Days

5th November: Guy Fawkes – an early terrorist

Back in 1605 Guy Fawkes managed to stow a good few barrels of gunpowder under the House of Lords without anybody noticing. He was part of a Roman Catholic plot to murder James 1 of England and his parliament at the state opening. Fortunately, Guy Fawkes was found – and stopped – in time.

5th November: The Kea to toothache?

Kea was an early Christian and a monk from a good family who left Glastonbury to work in Devon and Cornwall, where Landkey (Devon) and Kea (Cornwall) bear his name. He founded several Christian centres in the area before going on to Brittany to become the saint known there as 'Saint-Quay'. It seems that Kea may also have tried a bit of early dentistry, as down the centuries since he has been invoked over the problems of toothaches.

8th November: Four Crowned Martyrs

Has your boss ever tried to get you to do something that is against your Christian faith? If so, here are some saints for you. They chose to make a Christian 'stand' at work, even though it really irritated their boss. Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius were simple stonemasons in early 4th century Rome. They worked in the imperial quarries and workshops of Sirmium. They made a number of carvings for the Emperor Diocletian, who had a passion for building.

Diocletian decided he wanted a statue of Aesculapius, the ancient Greek god of medicine. Here Claudius, Nicostratus, Simpronian and Castorius hesitated: they were Christians, and not comfortable about making a 'god'. They demurred. Their line manager Lampadius was furious, and soon had them imprisoned for refusing to sacrifice to the gods. Claudius and his friends were in bad trouble – and then it got worse. Lampadius suddenly died. His family were distraught, and so blamed the stonemasons. Claudius and his companions were killed by drowning.

The courage of these four simple stonemasons to risk everything rather than make a stone statue of a god, was a great inspiration in the early Church. Their story was told and retold down the centuries... eventually Claudius and his friends became the patron saints of guilds of stonemasons in England.

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MEMORIAL SERVICE, 5th November 2023

for all who have been bereaved.

Each year we hold two services, in May and November, where those who have died are remembered by name. The relatives of all whose funeral services have been taken by our Ministry Team are invited by letter to these, for the first year. However, anyone who has been bereaved and wishes simply to remember, is most welcome to come, no matter how long ago a loved one died, or whether they lived locally. The names of all who are being remembered are noted down and read out, and there is the chance to light a candle in their memory.

If you would like to remember in this way, then please do come along to the next service on Sunday 5th November at 3 pm.

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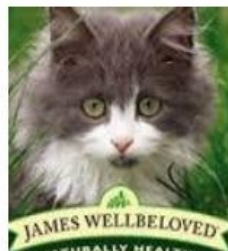


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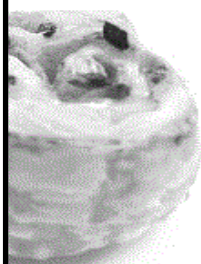
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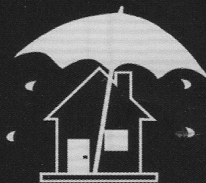
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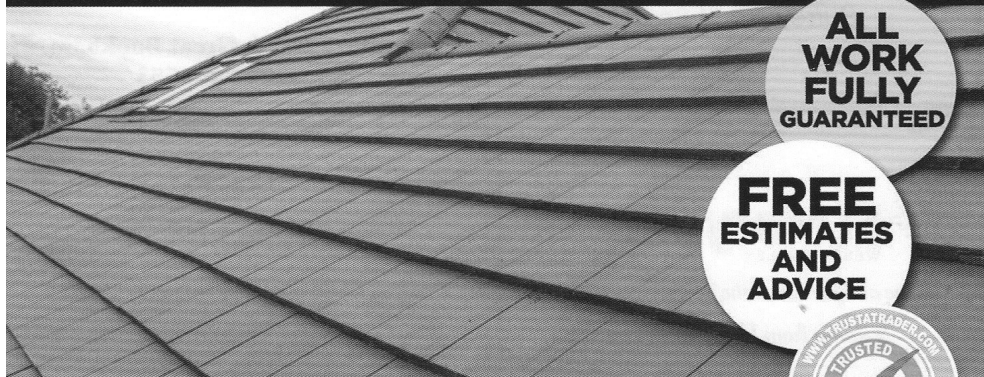
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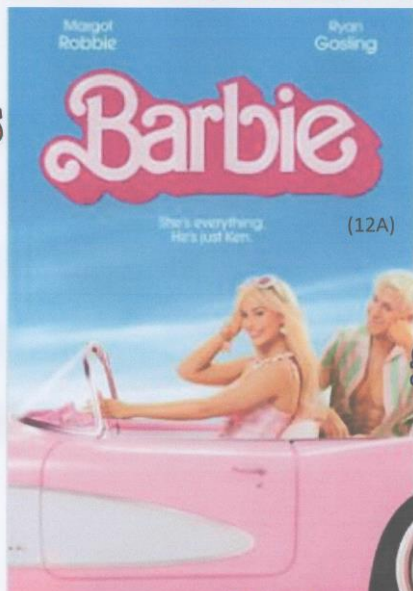
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Bookham Baptist Church on Saturday 10.00-12.00.

November 18th

December 16th.

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Meet the St Nicolas Servers Team

New members wanted

Would you like to join our small, friendly team of dedicated Servers who:

- assist the clergy and
- prepare and clear away the Altars and associated areas.



Details:

- Be willing to be rostered on one or two Sundays per month
- Full training and support will be given
- Online Safeguarding and DBS check required
- Be a confirmed member of the Church of England
- To find out more, please email the Parish Office (office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk) and your information will be forwarded to our Senior Servers, Joy, Jacqy and Carole who will contact you.



Top:
Romey Criswick & Angela Ireland
Left: **Zena Rose**

Below:
The 8am Sunday Servers
Chris Bridges & Graham Aslet



Tuesday Morning Coffee



A good time for chat, laughter and, of course, a cuppa.

Tuesdays 10am – 12,00 in the Pastoral Centre - all welcome.



Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday is on 29th October this year. Bible Sunday is an old Anglican custom dating back to the publication of the Prayer Book in 1549. Since then, a Sunday each year has been given over to the thanksgiving for scriptures. I pray this article will encourage us to read our Bibles daily in a way that might help us.

Reading the Bible is much easier if you follow some simple steps and get prepared. And, as you delve into it, you might find that you are more familiar with the Bible than you expected: it crops up in everything from Shakespeare to Hollywood movies.

The Bible is complex. It is not one book but a collection of 66 books, split into two sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Each one of these books is divided into chapters and verses. People often find it easier to begin at the opening of the New Testament, which starts about three-quarters of the way through.

The New Testament begins with four accounts of the life of Jesus Christ, the founder of Christianity, known as the Son of God. These accounts are known as the gospels. They include eye-witness reports of what happened. Matthew and John were among Jesus' 12 closest followers. Here you can read about what Jesus did and said- His profound teaching, how He healed people of sickness and how He challenged the authorities. The Gospels also tell us about His death by crucifixion and how He came back to life and then returned to heaven.

The first Gospel, Matthew, opens with the story of Jesus' birth (the event which is celebrated at Christmas) and then jumps forward 30 years to when Jesus began travelling around what is now Israel and the Palestine territories telling people about God. Starting with a Gospel introduces you to the person of Jesus and the basics of Christian belief.

Early Christian teaching

A good next step is to read some of the teaching given to the early Christian Church. Much of the New Testament is a series of letters written by early Christian leaders such as Paul. He travelled around the lands of the eastern Mediterranean, telling people about Jesus. He then wrote to the various newly-established churches and individuals to encourage them in their beliefs. Letters such as Philippians or Colossians are short, bite-sized letters, full of advice about how to live a Christian life.

Getting to grips with the whole Bible takes some time, but it is worth the effort. In his second letter to a young leader called Timothy, Paul says the Bible is “inspired by God and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness”.

How reading notes can help

Many people find it helpful to find a quiet and comfortable place to sit and read the Bible and make sure that they read it every day. Take time to digest what it says. You could say a quick prayer – asking God to help you understand what you are reading and its relevance to you.

In conclusion, whenever we read the Bible we must look for Christ and we must go on looking until we believe. Only as we continue to approach by faith the riches of Christ which are revealed to us in scripture shall we grow in spiritual maturity and become the people of God who are completely equipped for every good work. Remember, reading Christians will be knowing Christians. Make sure you read your Bible, know what it says, and act upon it. You will have added to your life by reading your Bible and praying.

As someone has said, “You have your Bible and your knees - use them”.

A prayer for Bible Sunday

Heavenly Father thank you for giving us the Bible. Thank you that you reveal yourself and your glorious purposes in it and that we can come to know Jesus as our Lord and Saviour through it. Thank you for the power of the Holy Spirit enabling us to understand your word, to be shaped by it and to share it with others. **Amen**

Deborah Gallacher

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## **March 2024 Magazine**

An opportunity for someone to be able to finish off the magazine for March 2024, as I will not be around to do so.

If you are keen to explore new avenues or have a new experience, please contact me via the [editor@stnicolasebookham.org.uk](mailto:editor@stnicolasebookham.org.uk) email or 07979 786890.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Bridges



## Holiday at Home 2023

Over 2 days in August almost 50 people took a couple of virtual day trips around Scotland – on the 9<sup>th</sup> we visited Glasgow and Edinburgh and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> the Highlands and Islands. You have to be fit to manage Scotland in a day and so after a welcome with coffee and shortbread, Kim of “Move It or Lose It” led us in some exhilarating chair exercises, that made sure we were stretched physically, and with lots of laughter. Our tour of Edinburgh and Glasgow showed us some wonderful old buildings and the history that went with it. Robert Stephen led us in singing a song which humorously immortalised the loss of connections with the slum clearance.



A wee lad laments the fact that his mother can no longer throw down his “piece” (midday sandwich) from their eighth floor flat as it disintegrates and so he is fading away. The Highlands and Islands were captured in all their grandeur and beauty by John Leonard who also sang some memorable Scottish ballads. After a substantial meal there was afternoon entertainment.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> the Bookham Scottish country dancing group took us on a journey of dances from across the country. We learned how dances are still being composed to mark local events. After their demo we were invited to join in two dances, which was great fun, especially as Peter Leith and Jim Simpson joined the dancers in full Scottish attire. Two weeks later “Grace Notes” – a small orchestra from East

Horsley - entertained us with a somewhat less hectic programme of songs from Scotland and elsewhere.

Both days were really enjoyable and were rounded off with tea and cakes.

Our aim in Anna Chaplaincy was to organise two holiday days for those who find it difficult to get away, due to financial or health challenges. We had some really positive feedback and want to organise another one next year.



Please pray that we can find another Anna Chaplain, as Anne who has set all this up is retiring at the end of the year. We are

very grateful to her for all that she has done to put this ministry for older people on the map.

### **NEW ANNA CHAPLAIN FOR BOOKHAM AND DISTRICT**

Do you have a heart for working with older people? The Meeting Place (Great Bookham) is looking to recruit a Chaplain to join our thriving Anna Chaplaincy which was established in 2021 and serves the population of Bookham and district. You would be leading an active team of Anna Friends and volunteers, who offer befriending, worship services in the community and in the local Care Home, and social events to provide friendship and information. You would be building on the foundation laid by our first Anna Chaplain who is now retiring. The Chaplaincy is at a point where we wish to develop further services, particularly to address the needs of those with dementia and their carers. If you are interested, please contact Elaine Crutchley on 07792 178539 or email [annacoord@themeetingplace.org.uk](mailto:annacoord@themeetingplace.org.uk) Applications by 1st November. Interviews on 8th November.



# Upcycled Christmas cards

Our annual **Christmas card upcycling event** where we turn last year's cards into new ones for this year will be on **Saturday 4 November 2023** in **St Nicolas Pastoral Centre** from **10:00am-1pm**.



The cost is £3.00 payable on the day. This includes coffee and biscuits as well as access to lots of Christmas and other cards, materials and inspiration! Card blanks of various colours and types, with envelopes, will be available to purchase on the day.

To book a place, email us ([ecoteam@stnicolaschurch.org.uk](mailto:ecoteam@stnicolaschurch.org.uk)), talk to any member of the Eco Team or just turn up on the day.

There will also be a table of crafts and craft materials for sale.

**Do join us for a fun and relaxing morning - all welcome!**



Mole Valley

# Citizens Advice

## **Need help with benefits, debt or employment problems?**

We're here to help, whatever the problem.  
To get free, confidential and impartial advice, you  
can contact us on these channels:

### **Call Adviceline**

**0800 144 8848** (textphone 0800 144 8884) Mon-  
Fri: 9am – 5pm

### **Visit our website**

[www.citizensadvicemolevalley.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvicemolevalley.org.uk)

### **Email our offices**

[dorking@camv.org.uk](mailto:dorking@camv.org.uk) [leatherhead@camv.org.uk](mailto:leatherhead@camv.org.uk)



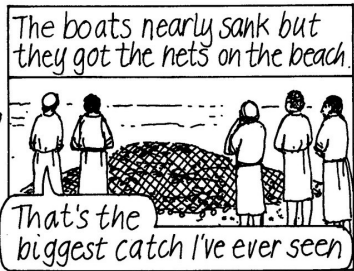
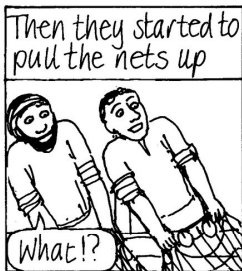
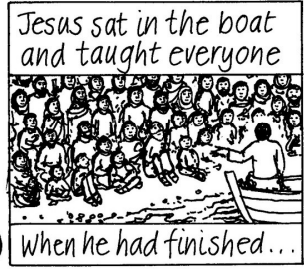
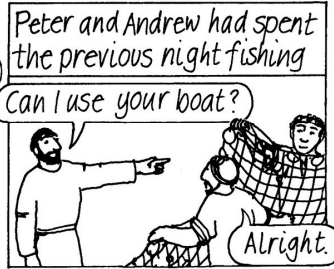
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# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Lk 5:1-11, Mt. 4:18-22, Mk 1:16-20

On the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus was trying to teach people but there were so many that he couldn't be heard.



## A Prayer for November

Gracious Lord, as we approach this time of remembrance, turn our eyes to look on the lives of the saints and remind us of your grace and the hope of your Kingdom;

help us to remember your comforting presence as we think of those loved ones who have died, and all that they meant to us; assist us to seek peace and justice, as we honour those who have given their lives for our freedom.

Sovereign Lord as we look forward to the victorious feast of Christ the King, may we also look forward to that day when you will come in glory to make all things new. **Amen**

This month of the Holy Souls is a particular time where we recall those who have gone before us from this life and have left their mark, directly or indirectly. It is good that we should have a season of the year for remembrance; a time when we feel that the veil between time and eternity is thin, and we can sense that a greater and wider communion of saints to which we belong. The Church has settled this feast on a time in the turning of the year when the pre-Christian Celtic religions were accustomed to think of and make offering for the dead. The Church kept the day, but it changed the custom.

### Prayer for All Souls

Eternal God, whose mercies cannot be numbered, accept our prayers for your servants and grant them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints, through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

Deborah Gallacher

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What do you think this means?

UBU



READINGS AT THE SUNDAY SERVICES
November 2023



5th Fourth Sunday before Advent

1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13; Matthew 24: 1-14

12th Remembrance Sunday

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end; John 15: 9-17

19th Second Sunday before Advent

Morning 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11; Matthew 25: 14-30
Evensong Psalm 89: 19-37; 1 Kings 1: 15-40; Revelation 1: 4-18

26th Christ the King

Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24; Matthew 25: 31-end



From the Parish Registers



Deaths

	Sheila Wishart	
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Baptisms

24 th September 2023	Ella and Charlie Gaunt
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St Nicolas Cycle of Prayer November 2023

Please remember the following missions, St Nicolas groups and residents of Great Bookham roads in your prayers

5 th	Christian Solidarity Worldwide <i>Val Lambert</i> <i>Jenny Evans</i>	ACT 10am Children's Goup <i>Celeste Rios</i>	Lower Road (West) Church House
12 th	Mission Aviation Fellowship <i>Julia Watts</i> <i>Sue White</i>		High Street
19 th	LeatherHEAD START <i>Mary Railton</i> <i>Barbara Holloway</i>	Traidcraft <i>Margaret</i> <i>Hibbert</i>	Griffin Way
26 th	The Mission to Seafarers <i>John Adie</i> <i>Eldred Clarke</i>		Hawkwood Dell Hawkwood Rise

Occupation for November: Public Sector, Governance, Law

Church Development Plan Prayer Focus

5 th November	Changes to our building	Chris Turner
12 th November	Growing a diverse families' and children's ministry	Celeste Rios
19 th November	Effective Communications Strategy	Vicki Dixon
26 th November	Confident in our witness and service	Alan Jenkins

Calendar November 2023

Please note that although the calendar has events scheduled, these may happen in different forms. Please check beforehand (see 'Contact' person on the back page or the St Nicolas website).

October			
28 th	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (Online)
29 th	Sun	1200	Daylight Saving ends Baptism of Joshua Vicary (Church)
30 th	Mon	0830 1030 1330 1530	Morning Prayer (Online) Tots Alive (Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
31 st	Tues	1000	All Hallows Eve Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
November			
1 st	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
2 nd	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
3 rd	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
4 th	Sat	1000 1000	Eco Team Card Making (Pastoral Centre) Church Development Prayers (Church Room)
5 th	Sun	1000 1500	Morning Praise (Church) Memorial Service (Church)
6 th	Mon	0830 1000 1330 1530	Morning Prayer (Online) Tots Alive (Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
7 th	Tues	1000 1130 1430 1930	Morning Coffee (Pastoral Centre) Mothers' Union Prayers (Church) Alan's EMDL Feedback (Church) Alan's EMDL Feedback (Church)
8 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayer (Online))
9 th	Thurs	1000 1040 1330	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room) Mothers' Union (Pastoral Centre)
10 th	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
11 th	Sat	0900 1900	Saturday Prayers (online) Bookham Choral Society Concert (Church and Church Room)
13 th	Mon	0830 1000 1400	Morning Prayer (Online) Tots Alive! ((Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre)

		1530 2000	BYouth (Pastoral Centre) PCC Meeting (Church Room)
14 th	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
15 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayer (Online)
16 th	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
17 th	Fri	1530 1800	BYouth (Pastoral Centre) Next Level – Youth Worship Night (Church and Church Room)
18 th	Sat	0745 1000	Barnabas Fellowship (Church Room) MAF Coffee Morning (Pastoral Centre)
19 th	Sun	1830	Evensong (Church)
20 th	Mon	0830 1000 1400 1530	Morning Prayers (online) Tots Alive (Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
21 st	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
22 nd	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
23 rd	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church Room) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
24 th	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
25 th	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (online)
26 th	Sun	1200	Baptism of Dylan Case (Church) Baptism of Matilda Dienn-Surnassee (Church)
27 th	Mon	0830 1000 1200 1400 1530	Morning Prayer Tots Alive! (Church and Church Room) Silent Prayer Group (Pastoral Centre) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
28 th	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
29 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (Online)
30 th	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
December			
1 st	Fri	0900 1530	Eastwick Junior School Christingle Services (Church and Church Room) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
2 nd	Sat	1000 1330	Church Development Plan Prayers (Church Room) Spirit of Christmas (Church, Pastoral Centre and Church Room)
9th November			
Copy for December 2023 and January 2024 magazine to Chris Bridges			

Parish Contacts

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RETIRED CLERGY	Rev David Ireland rev.ireland43@btinternet.com		
ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER	Rev Barbara McDonald	454187	
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Chris Holloway	877079	
FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MINISTER	Celeste Rios celeste.rios@stnicolasbookham.org.uk	07707 439799	
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ASSISTANT WARDENS	Bob Searle Nick Garrett	456861 458918	
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Electoral Roll Officer		Catherine Clark	451503
Friends of St Nicolas		Angela Stevens	456713
Guiding	Bookham and Effingham	Barbara Abbott Christine Moss	800381 368362
House Groups		for information contact Jean Forward	450709
Mothers' Union		Branch Leaders – Julia Watts and Chris Collins	450709
Samaritans	in distress or despair?... (24 hour service) ring Freefone		116123
Scouting		1st Bookham Group GSL Christine Whale 3rd Bookham Group - Mrs Karen Wheeler Karen.wheeler@3rdbookham.org.uk	800712
Sunday Groups		GLOW at 10am – Celeste Rios	07707 439799
Tots Alive!		Celeste Rios	07707 439799
Help Your Neighbour Scheme (Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30)			0798 6 177234