



St Nicolas Church

Building Faith in the Community

Newsletter for Sunday 31st July 2022

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

8am: Holy Communion

Led by: Alan Jenkins



10am: Holy Communion

Led by: Gill Caldwell

Hymns: 739, 601, 581 (omit v4), 152, 502

Anthem: Lloyd – View me, Lord, a work of thine

We're pleased you're here

Welcome to St Nicolas! There's no need to say or do anything during a service; feel free to sit and listen. We're delighted to have children here and we know children can be noisy – please don't worry! Church is a family, so be yourself.



Today's Bible Readings

Colossians 3:1-11 (page 1184 in the church bible)

Luke 12:13-21 (page 1044 in the church bible)

Today's Collect

Generous God,
You give gifts and make them grow:
Though our faith is small as mustard seed,
Make it grow to your glory
And the flourishing of your kingdom;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.



This week we are praying for:

- * For Christians Against Poverty (CAP) and our links Val Lomax and Catherine Clark:
- We pray for families facing enforcement action and that the agents themselves would treat people with compassion and understanding. Debt can happen to anyone, those in work as well as the unemployed. We pray for greater understanding, compassion and empathy about debt and its varied and complex causes. We also pray for those hesitating to seek support, often for a long time while their problems spiral. May God break down any barriers or fears that are preventing them from moving forward.
- Currently, almost one in three children in the UK live in poverty, with numbers set to continue to rise in the coming years. Let's pray for these children. May they know Jesus as their best friend and protector in the midst of everything they're facing. We also pray that MPs would have compassion and empathy when reviewing policies and making decisions, considering the impact on real people's lives.
- Growing up in poverty increases the likelihood of experiencing mental health issues such as depression and anxiety. NHS mental health support for children has been described as a 'postcode lottery', with those living in areas of greater disadvantage less likely to be able to access the treatment they need. Pray for children experiencing mental ill-health and for the services in place to support them, many of which are overstretched and struggling.
- School is a significant part of every child's life, and it is important that they get the support they need there. We pray that God would strengthen the support systems that exist in schools for parents and children living in poverty, such as the provision of free school meals, support during holidays and emotional support or counselling for children affected. We also pray for this provision to become available in schools where it isn't currently.
- According to the Office of National Statistics, only 51% of people in England and Wales now identify as a Christian. Pray that God would make himself known to those who don't yet know him and we thank and praise God for every person who is no longer trapped in debt and poverty and now living with hope.
- * For our Servers and Chalice Assistants led by Carole Vaux, Jacqy Faull and Joy Lord.
- * For our neighbours in Oakdene Road.
- * For our Church Development Plan: Building for the Future led by Neil McDonald.
- * From our Electoral Roll: Jean, Alexandra, Angela, Deborah, Tom, Nick, Heather.
- * Family and friends of the deceased: John Berry, Jean Muggerridge, Jack Widdowson.
- * Those who are ill: Eldred Clark; Tim Carlier; Cathryn Jobson; Valerie Goode; Elizabeth Finucane, Deborah Gallacher.

If you have a prayer request please contact a member of the ministry team. You can also raise a prayer request by email at pleasepray@stnicolasbookham.org.uk or via our website 'prayer page' at <https://www.stnicolasbookham.org.uk/prayer>

Notices

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BASED ON THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

Theme: Bigger Barns

Jesus said: "Life does not consist in an abundance of possessions" (Luke 12:15), and "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich towards God" (Luke 12:21)

1. How do Jesus' two statements make you feel?
2. What attitude do you think Jesus is encouraging you to take towards your wealth?
3. How might you learn increasingly to practice such an attitude?

BUILDING WORKS ABOUT TO START Our Building for the Future (BftF) works start on Monday – 1st August. The first piece of work will be moving the font to its new position closer to the door to the tower. This will free up space in the middle of the church and put the font where it should be – by the entrance as baptism is about joining the church. We intend to continue worshipping in church on Sundays but, apart from those services and a wedding, the church will be closed until the end of November. The Thursday communion service will be in the Church Room as will refreshments after the Sunday service. To find out more and keep in touch with progress go to the BftF page on the church website at www.stnicolasbookham.org.uk/buildingforthefuture

HOLIDAY AT HOME During August the Anna Chaplaincy will be running a 'Holiday at Home' for those who can't get away on holiday in the Summer. It will be two whole day events Wednesday 10th August at the ERC and 17th August at Bookham Baptist Church, the theme is Going to the Seaside, and there will be entertainments of various kinds, coffee lunch and tea – with a real chance to meet and get to know others! There will be a charge of £10 which will cover all the food and entertainment. Forms to register are available in church. For further details email or phone Anne, the Anna Chaplain, on ac@themeetingplace.org.uk or telephone 07518 735729.

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH Sunday 21st August 11.30 for 12.00 in the Pastoral Centre. You are welcome to join us if you usually lunch on your own. Please let the Parish Office know (450709) if you would like to attend and if you require a lift, as numbers are limited. Please BYO plates, cup & cutlery (but not glasses). £5.00 is payable on the day.

The Week Ahead

Mon 1st	10:00 am 1:30 pm	Tots Alive – Pastoral Centre and Garden Craft Group – Pastoral Centre
Tue 2nd	10:00 am	Tuesday Coffee Morning – Pastoral Centre
Thu 4th	10:00 am 10:40am	Holy Communion – Church Room (<i>Jer.31:31-34;Matt.16:13-23</i>) Thursday Coffee
Sun 7th	8:00 am 10:00 am	Holy Communion (<i>Hebrews 11:1-3 and 8-16; Luke 12:32-40</i>) Morning Praise (<i>Hebrews 11:1-3 and 8-16; Luke 12:32-40</i>)

This week's duty Church Warden:

Catherine Jager

01372 878523

QUIZ AND CURRY Friday 7th October 6.30pm for 7pm start at the Dawnay School, £15 per person, tables of 8, including curry supper (vegetarian and non-curry options available). It's now time to get a team together! Booking opens in August. This is a fundraising event for St Nicolas church 'Building for the Future Fund'.

THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS Many thanks to all who made donations to The Mission to Seafarers following the Sea Sunday service, from John Adie and Eldred Clark, your Parish Links.

PLEASE COULD YOU OFFER YOUR HELP? A lady at The Grange is ready to return to our Sunday, 10.00am service but needs a lift. Would you be able to join a small team of drivers to offer this help? For further details please contact Val Lomax on 450747.

SPARE PLASTIC BAGS? Do you have any unwanted plastic shopping bags that you can spare? The Focus on Prayer Group need a supply of variously coloured bags for an activity we are preparing. If so, please give them to any of the group, that is Carole Vaux, Julia Watts, Veronica Taylor, Chris Bridges or Vicki Dixon. Thank you.

JACK WIDDOWSON We have heard from the family (Andrew Widdowson, Julia Field and Roger Widdowson) that their father Jack Widdowson died on Tuesday 12th July. Jack and his wife Mary attended St Nicolas between 1968 and 2002 and they were very involved in the life of St. Nicolas. Both were Chalice Assistants and Mary was a Pastoral Assistant. Mary was a founder member of the Credo Housegroup. Jack was a church warden and was always very involved in our 'stewardship campaigns'. He also headed up the team that raised the money to build the Pastoral Centre and played a key part in project managing its building. Mary passed away in 2019. Jack's funeral and cremation will be on Friday 5th August at St Nicholas, Hardwicke, Gloucester. His ashes will return to Sheffield to be with Mary's.

Useful Contacts

Rector: Rev Alan Jenkins - 635873
alan.jenkins@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Curate: Rev Gill Caldwell
01372 450709
gill.caldwell@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Director of Music: Peter Lutton
07972 774417
peterlutton52@gmail.com

OLM: Rev Barbara McDonald
barbara.mcdonald@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Families and Children's Minister:
Celeste Rios – 07707 439799
celeste.rios@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Parish Office: David Gatland
01372 450709
office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk