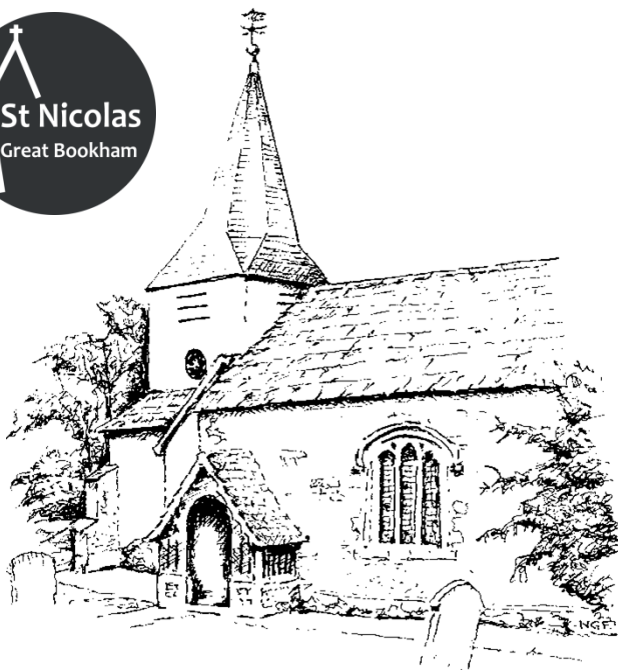


St Nicolas News

50p

October 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

When we are ordained, we clergy promise to pray daily, ideally morning and evening, and ideally using the daily office provided by the Church of England. But regular daily prayer isn't just for people like me – it's really beneficial for every Christian to make time for personal prayer and bible study on a regular basis. But, it's not always easy to know where to start or to make the time to do it.

For myself I find I need to be quite disciplined in making it the first item of the day so that it doesn't get squeezed out by busyness. It gets my priorities right and gives me the chance to offer my day and all it will hold to God. It is also time to pray for those in need who have asked for prayer, and some who I have met recently. I also pray for members of the church, and for family, friends and neighbours. It always includes a passage of scripture to reflect on, to be encouraged and challenged. Of course, prayer is not only about bringing needs before God – it is also time just to sit and be with God, to feel his love and enjoy his presence, that's why I like some music in there too.

There are lots of ways of structuring your prayer time and more aids to

help than ever before. There are still the books and daily study guides that we have been using for years – but now also apps, websites, podcasts, YouTube, and Facebook - the resources are endless. To help and encourage us all, I am compiling a list of such resources to go on our website later this month. I hope it will inspire you to try something new, to refresh your prayer life, or to maybe start a regular time of prayer for the first time.

And for those of you feeling guilty but wondering where on earth you will find time for this while juggling children, work, caring, etc please remember God understands and loves you anyway. But there really is something out there for everyone, however little time you have – and listening to an app while you commute, or wait to pick up the children from Brownies, or do the chores, is just fine.

Remember prayer is about building your relationship with God, your loving heavenly Father, who is waiting to hear from you. Enjoy spending time with him,





The Annual Review of Mothers' Union Diocese of Guildford for 2022 has now been published. It is quite an impressive document showing some of the ways that MU supports families and children throughout the diocese. Some members will have received an electronic copy but if not and you would like a copy, please ask. We would be happy to print some. This applies to those who aren't members too, of course.

Mentioned in the review are the parenting courses held throughout the year at the women's prison HMP Send, our nearest. Two of us from St Nicolas go there regularly to do card-making with the prisoners, something that those women who participate really look forward to, as a change from their daily routine.

The 'Away from it All' programme (AFIA) was able to restart after Covid and two trips were arranged in 2022. One was to a holiday cottage in North Wales for a family that had been unable to go away together for more than a decade. The second was a day out to Legoland for three generations of a family, a much-needed break after family illnesses and spells in hospital. If you know a family or an individual who would benefit from AFIA, please ask us for an application form.

The Summer Party in August 2022 was a great success with nearly ten times as many visitors as in previous years and it was equally well-attended this year. As well as members with their families and friends, there were refugee families and others from the five refuges in the diocese that we support with prayer and donations.

These, and the rest of the Annual Review, show just how busy the trustees and particularly the joint presidents were. This month they are organising a Quiet Day at St Giles, Ashted on Thursday 19th October as well as the regular zoomed prayer meeting on Tuesday 10th.

Two of us went to the AGM last month when the Annual Review and Accounts were presented and discussed. One point that was made was that the financial reserves seem unnecessarily high. Branches are invited to submit ideas for projects on which some of this money could be spent. If anyone, member or not, would like to make a proposition, do please let us know.

Dates for October

Tuesday 3rd 11:30am. Prayers in the Lady Chapel.

Thursday 12th 2:15pm. Vicki will talk on “My Work as a Magistrate” in the Pastoral Centre.

Everyone is welcome.



Coming in 2024

Think about who you could pray for, encourage and invite on our next Alpha course.



For more information, contact Gill Caldwell –
gill.caldwell@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Barnabas



Fellowship

WOKE - what does this mean to you? I heard on the radio that the Archbishop of York said that this country's favourite prayer - THE LORDS PRAYER - should reconsider starting without reference to "OUR FATHER"as Father causes a WOKE feeling with many that don't have one or identify with one.

WOKE is increasing into our lives. Teachers are being fired for misusing terms of gender at pupils and company HR teams are increasing the nouns that could be used. Just 2 examples.

I came across this first hand.....Isabell has changed her name as a 15 year old girl to JAX and identifies at school as a Badger? Have you come against anything as Woke as this?

DISCUSSION NOTES:

Woke: loss of Christian identity.

Limits freedom of speech and thought.

How do the teachers construct the thoughts of today?

Woke cut ties with tradition and the way we think.

Politics in the classroom can or could cause unwanted discussion.

Same-sex parents - how do we cope today?

God is the Father!!

A lively discussion with no real conclusions but plenty of thoughts.

Come to a special fashion show

– where everything is from charity shops!

St Nicolas will be hosting a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Fashion Show on Friday, 27 October, 7.30-9.30pm to raise awareness of how we can reduce the amount of clothing that goes to landfill.

Local Councillor, Monica Weller, is leading the event as part of Mole Valley Arts Alive Month and our own ECO Team will also be involved. You can



expect a colourful fun fashion parade with models from the local community, including Rawlings Opticians, England's House Dental Practice, Roxley Models - and St Nic's! You'll also hear short talks on recycling from:

- Jim Malynn, of Rawlings Opticians, about recycling specs
- Andrew at Debra, on "a day in the life of a charity shop"
- QEFD staff on the

subject of donated items - what sells, and what happens to what doesn't!

Everyone is welcome including older children. Please bring any old spectacle or frames on the evening and Rawlings will reuse them.

More information: <https://www.arts-alive.co.uk/events-listing/>



Friendship Lunch

If you usually lunch on your own

You are warmly invited to join us

At the St Nicolas Pastoral Centre

On 15th October at 11.30 for 12.00

Please contact the Parish Office

01372 450709

For more details and to book

£5.00 payable on the day

(please bring your own plates/cutlery)

Lifts available on request





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
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Sponsored by East Court Fund & Supported by Churches Together in Effingham and Little Bookham

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.**



Hearing Champions

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October 21st
November 18th
December 16th.

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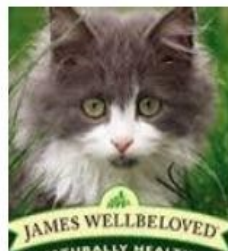


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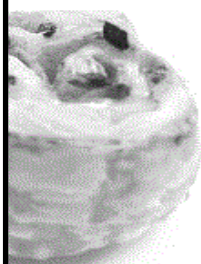
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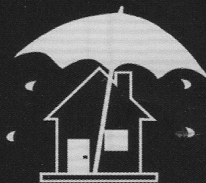
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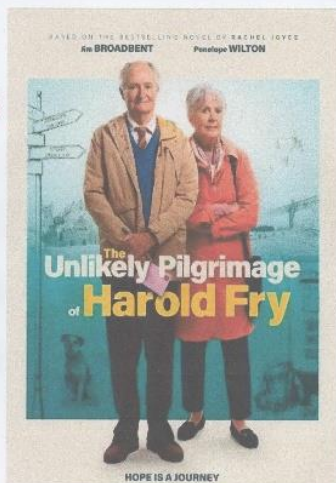
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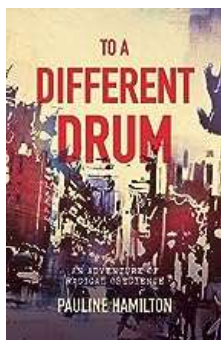
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To a Different Drum: An autobiography by Pauline Hamilton An adventure of radical obedience



“As I was tearing down the road with the accelerator pushed to the floor, familiar landmarks flashing by me, a kind of mad exhilaration possessed me. I had neither the time nor the inclination to reassess things now. I just wanted to reach my destination”.



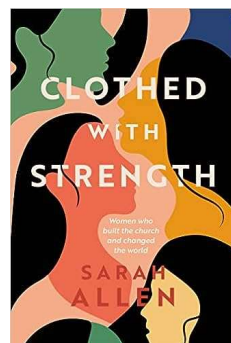
Kicked out of college and hooked on drink and drugs, Pauline Hamilton drove recklessly towards a cliff near her home to end it all. At the last moment, her tire blew out, leaving her stunned in the stationary car.

Pauline’s life changed forever. She turned at once to God who had rescued her and in grateful amazement, offered her whole life to Him. This dedication would eventually take her to China, where she would serve for over thirty adventure-packed years as a missionary. Through many trials Pauline never lost sight of the God who had promised

never to let her go.

Clothed with Strength by Sarah Allen Women who built the church and changed the world

It is easy to imagine that Christian women of the past were shrinking violets who were side-lined and excluded from making a difference in the church and in the world. The truth is that God always has always raised up strong and courageous women to do his work. You might never have heard of Rebecca Protten, Hannah More, Ellen Raynard and Josephine Butler, but you will never forget how God used these four very different women to fight against injustice and poverty and to transform lives. These eighteenth and nineteenth century women worked in partnership with men to shape the evangelical church. Let their stories challenge you and fuel your faith today.



Deborah Gallacher

Harvest.....a short history

Autumn is that mellow season of the year. Summer is over and winter not yet upon us. Strangely, although it comes towards the end of the year, for me it always feels like a new beginning and for many teachers and children, this is indeed the case. These days, as we rely less on local, home-grown produce, we may not take much notice of the farming year, although in rural towns it may be more apparent than in a big city or urban area. In days gone, by the culmination of the growing season by gathering in the crops and produce was of vital importance if the community was to survive the winter months, so it is no surprise that a time of great celebration, rejoicing and thanksgiving would follow.

The term 'Harvest' comes from the Old English word *Haerfest* meaning simply, autumn, and has been celebrated since pagan times. The very early Harvest Festival was celebrated on August 1st and was called Lammas, meaning 'loaf mass. Farmers would make loaves from the fresh wheat crop to give to the local church to use as communion bread in thanks to God for the harvest. In pre-Christian times there was a belief that a corn spirit resided in the last sheaf to be harvested. It was chased out by beating the grain to the ground. Sometimes, 'corn dollies' were made by weaving blades of corn, to be kept safe for good luck, until the seeds were sown the following year when they would be ploughed back in to bless the new crop.

By the 16thC established traditions were in play. For example, the reapers would follow a laden cart, asking for money from the onlookers. Or a special cake would be distributed to celebrating farm workers. Perks of the job! Bonuses, even then early pilgrim settlers took the idea of harvest thanksgiving with them when they settled in North America in 1621 and what a fine tradition they established.

Right up to the 20th century and in many villages and churches still, a big part of the Harvest celebration was the Harvest Supper, a wonderful chance for the whole community to get together over a big celebratory meal. This idea is thought to have originated in Cornwall in 1843 by the Rev Hawker.

Victorian hymns were sung such as *Come ye Thankful People Come*, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, and *We Plough the Fields and Scatter*. In 1854 the Rev Dr William Beal in Brooke, Norfolk, held a Harvest Supper aimed at ending the 'disgraceful scenes he perceived at the end of the harvest. We can only imagine the enormity of the situation! He went on to promote Harvest Homes throughout Norfolk.

In my youth our church always held a Harvest Supper which was eagerly anticipated. Trestle tables were set out in the church hall where a ham salad

followed by apple pie was served. The ladies of the church all competed to make a good apple pie and I must admit, I always hoped for a slice of my mother's which was better than most!

So, you see there is nothing new about the Harvest Festival. Even the Romans had their *Ludi Cereales* or feast in honour of Ceres, the goddess of the corn. We don't really celebrate much apart from the church service these days, removed as we are from the farming seasons and it is mostly tinned produce which is requested for the easy distribution to the needy. Maybe we should revive some of the tradition.

Reaping and harvesting

Sowing a law of nature is very similar to the law of the spirit. Take the process of harvest, or 'sowing and reaping'. The Bible tells us: A farmer who plants just a few seeds will only get a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much (2Cor 9:6)

It has been said that probably the most sensitive nerve on our body is the one that runs to our cheque book! Money represents our time, our security and our hard work. It gives us independence and power. So, when God begins to talk to us about giving more of our money to Him – sowing it in His service – we can feel alarmed.

The seed a farmer sows in a field may sometimes be lost, but not the seed that we give to God. What we sow with regards to our time, gifts and money in service to others God will make sure we one day reap – in a harvest of spiritual riches that we never can lose.

Evensong this Autumn

Sunday 15th October - Full Choral Evensong. For this service the choir of St Mary's, Fetcham have been invited to join us.

Peter Lutton

A Prayer for Harvest

The earth's is the Lord's and all that is in it. (Psalm 24:1)

Creator God and loving Father,
we thank you for all you have given
and all that is safely gathered in –
here today and all around the world;
for harvested grain and ripe, juicy fruit,
for tins and packets and all good,
nutritious food.

Creator God and loving Father,
we thank you for everyone you have
made and all who are safely gathered in
homes and churches – here today and
all around the world; for old and young,
boys and girls, for those we love and
those we don't know.

Creator God and loving Father,
we thank you for giving to us so
abundantly that we can help to safely
gather in those who aren't yet enjoying a
rich harvest – by generously sharing ours,
as you always intended, with those who
are hungry or have been forced to flee
their homes.

Amen

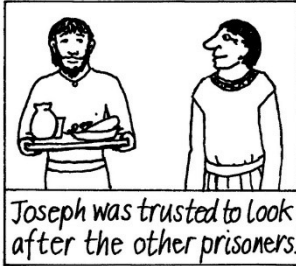
Deborah Gallacher

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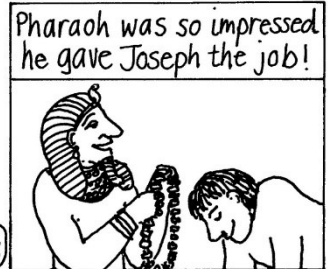
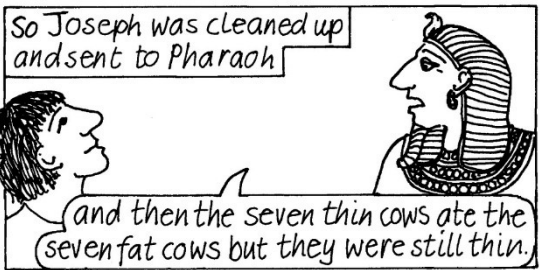
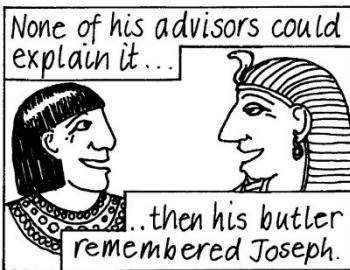
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapters 39:20-41:44

Joseph's brothers had sold him as a slave and he had ended up in Egypt. Then he was wrongly accused and was sent to prison.



Then Pharaoh's butler and baker were sent to the prison. One night they had strange dreams.





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READINGS AT THE SUNDAY SERVICES October 2023



1st Harvest

Psalm 104:1,10-28; 1 John 3:16-end

8th Eighteenth after Trinity

Ephesians 4: 1-16; John 17: 20-26

15th Nineteenth after Trinity

Morning Ephesians 4: 17-5: 2; Matthew 22: 1-14

Evensong Psalm 139: 1-18; Proverbs 3: 1-18; 1 John 3: 1-15

22nd Twentieth after Trinity

Ephesians 5: 3-20; John 3: 16-21

29th Last after Trinity

Ephesians 6: 10-24; Matthew 12: 22-37

This month we continue our sermon series on Ephesians



From the Parish Registers



Deaths		
21 st August 2023	Joan Hatcher	Aged 94
4 th September 2023	Eileen Hatton	Aged 88
Baptism		
20 th August 2023	Evelyn Marretta Lord	
3 rd September 2023	Cameron Greenwood	
Weddings		
1 st September 2023	Andrew Townsend and Rebecca Jones	
2 nd September 2023	Will Harris and Abi Childs	



St Nicolas Cycle of Prayer October 2023

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

1 st	LeatherHEAD START <i>Mary Railton Barbara Holloway</i>	Barnabas Men's Fellowship <i>David King</i>	Milton Way Smith Grove
8 th	The Meeting Place <i>Margaret Hibbert Val Lambert</i>	The Choir Organist and all involved in sung worship <i>Peter Lutton</i>	St Nicholas Avenue
15 th	Bible Society <i>Alan and Suzie Jenkins</i>		East Street Fairfield Close Fairfield Cottages
22 nd	Fairtrade and Eco Team <i>Margaret Hibbert and Team</i>	The Bereavement Team <i>Jean Forward</i>	Pine Walk
29 th	Christians Against Poverty (CAP) <i>Val Lomax Catherine Clark</i>		Lower Road (East)

Occupation for October: Social Care, Health Care, Education

Church Development Plan Prayer Focus

1 st October	Confident in our witness and service	Alan Jenkins
8 th October	Changes to our building	Chris Turner
15 th October	Growing a diverse families' and children's ministry	Celeste Rios
22 nd October	Effective Communications Strategy	Vicki Dixon
29 th October	Confident in our witness and service	Alan Jenkins

Calendar October 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).

September			
28 th	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
29 th	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
October			
1 st	Sun	1000	Morning Praise (Church)
2 nd	Mon	0830 1000 1330 1530	Morning Prayer (Online) Tots Alive (Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
3 rd	Tues	1000 1130	Morning Coffee (Pastoral Centre) Mothers' Union Prayers (Church)
4 th	Weds	0830 0900	Morning Prayer (Online) Eastwick Infants Harvest Festival (Church and Church Rook)
5 th	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
6 th	Fri	0930 1530	Eastwick School visit (Church and Church Room) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
7 th	Sat	1000	CDP Prayers (Church Room)
9 th	Mon	0830 1000 1400 1530	Morning Prayer (Online) Tots Alive! ((Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
10 th	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
11 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayer (Online)
12 th	Thurs	1000 1040 1400	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room) Mothers' Union (Pastoral Centre)
13 th	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
14 th	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (online)
15 th	Sun	1200 1830	Friendship Lunch (Pastoral Centre) Evensong (Church)
16 th	Mon	0830 1000 1400 1530	Morning Prayers (online) Tots Alive (Church and Church Room) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)

17 th	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
18 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
19 th	Thurs	1000 1040 1400	Holy Communion (Church Room) Thursday Coffee (Church Room) Mothers' Union (Pastoral Centre)
20 th	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
21 st	Sat	0745	Barnabas Fellowship (Church Room)
23 rd	Mon	0830 1000 1200 1400 1415 1530	Morning Prayer Tots Alive! (Church and Church Room) Silent Prayer Group (Pastoral Centre) Craft Group (Pastoral Centre) Mothers' Union Committee (Pastoral Centre) BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
24 th	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
25 th	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (Online)
26 th	Thurs	1000 1040	Holy Communion (Church) Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
27 th	Fri	1000	Reuse, Reduce, Recycle Fashion Show (Church and Church Room)
28 th	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (Online)
29 th	Sun	1200	Daylight Saving ends Baptism of Joshua Vicary (Church)
30 th	Mon	0830 1330 1530	Morning Prayer (Online) 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)
9th October			
Copy for November magazine to Chris Bridges			

Parish Contacts

RECTOR:	Rev Alan Jenkins, The Rectory, 2a Fife Way, KT23 3PH (Day off: - Friday) alan.jenkins@stnicolasbookham.org.uk	635873
CURATE	Rev Gill Caldwell gill.caldwell@stnicolasbookham.org.uk	450709
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
PASTORAL ASSISTANTS	Contact Parish Office Sylvia Solarski, Margaret Hibbert, Valerie Lomax, Ali Sangwine, Cathryn Jobson, Chris Bridges, Heather Gerrard, Jan Williamson	450709
PARISH OFFICE	David Gatland - 2a Fife Way office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk Office hours Monday to Friday- 9.00 am to 12.00 noon	450709
CHURCHWARDENS	Joy Lord Heather Gerrard	459717 07885 591361
ASSISTANT WARDENS	Bob Searle Nick Garrett	456861 458918
PCC SECRETARY	Amanda Rowland pcc.secretary@stnicolasbookham.org.uk	
PARISH TREASURER	Neil McDonald	454187
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Roland Martin safeguarding@stnicolas.org.uk	07747 563634
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Peter Lutton	020 8393 1126
COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER	Jenny Coffin jenny@leatherheadyouthproject.com	383345
MAGAZINE	Editor (editor@stnicolasbookham.org.uk)	Chris Bridges 458820
	Distribution	Carole Cotton 750552
	Advertising	Contact Parish Office 450709
Barnabas Fellowship	David King	452342
Bereavement Team	Contact Parish Office	450709
Giving Secretary	Richard Scrase	458131
Church Room Bookings	Parish Office	450709
Electoral Roll Officer	Catherine Clark	451503
Friends of St Nicolas	Angela Stevens	456713
	Barbara Abbott	800381
Guiding	Bookham and Effingham Christine Moss	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 3rd Bookham Group - Mrs Karen Wheeler Karen.wheeler@3rdbookham.org.uk	Christine Whale 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