



St Nicolas Church

Building Faith in the Community

Newsletter for Sunday 5th November 2023

Fourth Sunday before Advent

8am: Holy Communion

Led by: Carolyn Headley

10am: Morning Praise with Communion



Led by: Chris Holloway
Hymns: 677, 562 (omit vv. 3 and 4), 494
Sheet: Blessed be your name

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. You are welcome to use our kneelers and bibles in church: please do return them to the shelves or position after use, thank you.



Today's Bible Readings

1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13 (page 1186 in the church bible)
Matthew 24: 1-14 (page 993 in the church bible)

Today's Collect

God of glory,
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
that we with all creation
may rejoice to sing your praise:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen



This week we are praying for:

* On this International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church we pray for the work of Christian Solidarity Worldwide, all their staff and our links Val Lambert and Jenny Evans. We pray especially today for:

- The ongoing human rights crisis in Myanmar/Burma, where, since the military coup took place in February 2021, at least 4,137 people have been killed and more than 25,000 people arrested, the majority of whom are still incarcerated. We pray for the Rohingya people, an ethnic Muslim minority group, who have suffered from mass genocide and are some of the most persecuted people in the world. We pray that the thousands who were forced to flee their homes in Myanmar or be murdered by the Junta, would be helped and provided for by the International Community and will be able to return to their rightful homes soon.
- We pray for Tom Andrews, the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Myanmar, that he will be filled with wisdom and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.
- In China, we pray for an end to the persecution of Uyghur Christians who are being repressed, detained and sent to “re-education” camps.
- We pray for the immediate release of Pastor Lorenzo in Cuba, who has just celebrated his third consecutive birthday in prison.

* For ACT the 10am Children’s Group led by Celeste Rios.

* For our neighbours in Lower Road (West) and Church House.

* For Our Church Development Plan: focussing on the priority ‘Maximising the value of recent changes to our building for the benefit of all’, led by Chris Turner.

* From our Electoral Roll: Jenny, Sylvia, Catherine, Eldred, Peter, Alan, Chris.

* Family and friends of those who have recently died: Sheila Wishart, Anthony Rayner.

* Those who are ill: Eldred Clark; Tim Carlier; Cathryn Jobson; Nigel Fenner; Tim Reeder; Jenny Carlier; Sylvia Charles; Alison and Bruce Langford; Simon Phillips.

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

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH – QUESTIONS

Today we welcome Benedict Rogers from CSW (Christian Solidarity Worldwide) to address the topic of ‘The Persecuted Church’. CSW also advocate on behalf of other persecuted faith groups, and not only persecuted Christians. In the light of Jesus own teaching that we should love our enemies; and that we should bless and not curse those who persecute us, how would you answer these questions:

1. What is my attitude towards those I personally find difficult to get along with?
2. In the light of the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, how is Jesus’ teaching reflected in my own position and conversation with others?
3. How best can I pray in the face of such human inflicted suffering?

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ALL WHO HAVE BEEN BEREAVED Today, Sunday 5th November at 3pm in church. The service will include prayers, hymns and an address; the names of those who have died will be noted down and read out, and you will be able to light a candle. If you would like to remember someone in this way, then please come along to the service. All are welcome no matter how long ago a loved one died.

TAIZÉ PRAYER Sunday 5th November 6.00pm at St Lawrence, Effingham.

CRAFT GROUP There is no craft group this week on 6th November.

WHAT ALAN GOT UP TO On Tuesday 7th November, Alan is providing two opportunities for you to hear how he spent his Extended Ministerial Development Leave. Rest assured, this will not be a blow-by-blow account of everything he did; more a snapshot of some of the highlights and lessons learnt. Join him in the church either 2.30pm - 4.00pm or 7.30pm - 9.00pm. He would love to see you there.

FRIENDS OF ST NICOLAS - A LITTLE LIGHT LUNCH MUSIC Wednesday 8th November at 12 noon in church. Julie Beaven, a professional musician and teacher, will play the harp for us after a light soup and sandwich lunch. Tickets £7.50 from the Parish Office 01372 450709, via the church website or this QR code:



MOTHERS' UNION The MU meeting on 9th November is entitled 'Inspirations': please bring something to talk about which has inspired you in your life.

HEARING CHAMPIONS If you have an NHS hearing aid and you need help with simple maintenance, retubing or batteries there is a clinic at Bookham Baptist Church 10-12.00 on Saturday 11th November. There is also coffee, tea and yummy cake at the meeting place coffee shop. Drop in and catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

ST NICOLAS NOVEMBER MAGAZINE is in the Tower and on the church website [here](#)

The Week Ahead

Mon 6th	10:00 am 4:00 pm	Tots Alive – Church and Church Room BYouth – Pastoral Centre
Tue 7th	10:00 am 11:30 am 2:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tuesday Coffee Morning – Pastoral Centre Mothers' Union Prayers – Church Alan's EMDL Feedback – Church Alan's EMDL Feedback – Church
Wed 8th	12 noon	Friends of St Nicolas Lunch Music – Church
Thu 9th	10:00 am 10:40 am 2:15 pm 2:30 pm 6:30 pm	Holy Communion – Church (<i>Romans 14: 7-12; Luke 15: 1-10</i>) Thursday Coffee Morning – Church Room Mothers' Union – Pastoral Centre Thanksgiving Funeral Service for Sheila Wishart – Church Choir Practice
Fri 10th	4:00 pm	BYouth – Pastoral Centre
Sat 11th	11:00 am	Remembrance Gathering – War Memorial, Churchyard
Sun 12th	8:00 am 10:00 am	Holy Communion (<i>1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end; John 15: 9-17</i>) Remembrance Service (<i>1 Thess. 4: 13-end; John 15: 9-17</i>)

This week's duty Church Warden:

Nick Garrett

01372 458918

A COFFEE MORNING is being held in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship and Mission to Seafarers, two of the charities supported by St Nicolas Church, on Saturday 18th November from 10.00am to 12 noon in the Pastoral Centre. Come and find out more about these hardworking charities and help us raise funds for them whilst enjoying a social time together with coffee and cake.

NICKY GUMBEL is one of the speakers at the Diocese of Guildford Church Growth Conference on Wednesday 22nd November at St Paul's Howell Hill, 10am to 4pm. Cost: £10 incl. lunch. To book, search 'Church Growth Conference 2023' on Eventbrite or email gill.caldwell@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

COPING WITH DEMENTIA Anna Chaplaincy is hosting a session with Robin Thomson, writer of 'Living with Alzheimer's – a love Story' on Wednesday 22nd November from 10.30 – 12 noon at Bookham Library. Coffee and Tea provided, and there will be an information sheet to take away. Spaces are limited – contact Anne Milton-Worsell, the Anna Chaplain, email ac@themeetingplace.org.uk or telephone 07518 735729.

NATIVITY DISPLAY CAN YOU HELP? We are planning a display of nativity sets for the Spirit of Christmas event on Saturday 2nd December. Do you have a set that you could lend? The display will be manned. Contact gill.caldwell@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH 10th December. If you usually lunch on your own, you are most welcome to join us in the Pastoral Centre at 11.30 for 12.00. For this Christmas lunch the cost is £10. Lifts available on request. To book call the Parish Office 01372 450709.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR NEW PRAYER STATIONS? Please take a look around the pillars at the back of the church to find out more about Fruit of the Spirit, what they mean to different people in our church and to think about the questions posed.

BOOKHAM UNITED CHARITIES have a studio flat to let in their Almshouses in Flint Close. POA. Applicants should have some connection to the area. In the first instance please contact Vivien Hollingsworth, 07758 815902 or Dawn Owers, 07788 495162.

Useful Contacts

Rector:

Rev Alan Jenkins – 01372 635873
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