



St Nicolas Church

Building Faith in the Community

Newsletter for Sunday 9th March 2025

First Sunday of Lent

8am: Holy Communion

Led by: Alan Jenkins

10am: Holy Communion

Led by: Barbara McDonald
Hymns: 707, 624, 437, 127, 506
Anthem: Farrant - Lord for thy tender mercies sake



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. When it comes to receiving communion, we recognise that some prefer not to receive from the chalice. Please note that at St Nicolas our practice is not to intinct (dip the wafer in the wine).



Today's Bible Readings

1 John 5: 1-5 (page 1228 in the church bible)
Matthew 22: 34-40 (page 991 in the church bible)

Today's Collect

Father God, help us to draw closer to you:
Fan into a flame the spark of faith you have seeded in our hearts,
that we might each come to love you
with the whole of our heart, the whole of our soul,
the whole of our mind and the whole of our strength.
We ask this in the power of your Holy Spirit,
and for the glory of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



This week we are praying for:

- * For LeatherHEAD START and our links Mary Railton and Barbara Holloway.
 - Please continue to pray for income: LeatherHEAD START have received some funding for staff posts that has halved their deficit for the coming year, but they still need to find around £40,000 this year to avoid depleting their reserves.
 - Please continue to pray for the staff team. They have an excellent new support worker but are still recruiting for a part-time post.
 - At the heart of everything are the clients and we thank God for those who leave LeatherHEAD START with a positive outcome and an improved state of mind. Please pray for those who leave unexpectedly, and in crisis. Let's pray that another link in the chain brings them closer to security and peace in their lives.
- * For the Church Magazine edited by Chris Bridges.
- * For our neighbours in Chrystie Lane, Dean Walk, Whiteway.
- * For Our Church Development Plan: focussing on 'Increasing our capacity to take forward the mission of the church'.
- * From our Electoral Roll: Peter, Ann, Clare, Pat, Stella, Audrey.
- * Family and friends of those who have recently died: (no new names).
- * Those who are ill: Pat Davidson, Jim Simpson, Chris Collins.

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

Love the Lord your God

Today, as we begin our 'Next Steps' sermon series, we'll consider what loving the Lord our God might look like in practice.

1. Why do you think Jesus declared the two commandments he refers to in Matthew 22:34-40 to be the greatest?
2. In what ways do you struggle most to love the Lord your God? How might John's words that God's commands are not burdensome (1 John 5:3) encourage you as you seek to love the Lord your God?

NEXT STEPS Last chance to sign up for a Lent Group: 8pm this evening via our website under 'Next Steps', contact the Church Office, or email nextsteps@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Resources: You can find the resources you need to follow our Next Steps program under 'Next Steps' on our website. These include our guide to Spiritual Reflection, and study notes for house-groups and personal use. Both are also available in hardcopy in church near the font.

Still to come: An opportunity to give your feedback. As the Next Steps programme develops throughout 2025 and 2026, new resources will also be posted here.



ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION This year you will need to re-apply for the Electoral Roll, even if you are already on it. This is because every six years the Electoral Roll is scrapped, and we start again! Please sign up for the new roll before 12th March, as the new Electoral Roll will be displayed in church from the 14th to 28th March, in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 31st March. Application forms are available in church, the church office or on the website. You only need to fill in a consent form if you are applying for the first time. The forms need to be returned either to Catherine Clark, placed in the white box entitled ‘ELECTORAL ROLL FORMS AND REVISIONS’ provided in church (the box is available only during services), or either taken or sent to the church office: office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

LENT LUNCH March 13th 12.30 in the Church Room. All are very welcome to enjoy this simple lunch of home made soup, cheese and ham. £5 will be payable on the day but please contact the parish office if you would like to attend. 01372 450709 or office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

BARNABAS MEN’S FELLOWSHIP Saturday 15th March 8.30am to 9.30am in the Pastoral Centre. All welcome to join us as we meet for coffee and discussion.

THE MEETING PLACE AGM is on Saturday 15th March at 12.30pm in Bookham Baptist Church Hall. All are welcome for a review of 2024 and to hear about future plans.

SILENT PRAYER GROUP Monday 24th March from 12 noon to 12.45pm, with a silent time of 25 minutes, plus some prayers and readings. This group is now meeting in homes, contact Jean Forward for details (housegroups@stnicolasbookham.org.uk). All welcome to enjoy peace and stillness.

DO YOU ENJOY MEETING AND GREETING PEOPLE? We are looking for someone to join our team of Sidesmen on 2nd Sundays, a Welcomer for alternate 1st Sundays and reserves to join our coffee rota. No previous experience needed. Please chat to one of our team or contact Vicki Dixon if interested:
vicki.dixon@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

The Week Ahead

Mon 10th	10.00 am 4.00 pm 8.00 pm	Tots Alive – Church and Church Room BYouth – Pastoral Centre PCC Meeting – Church Room
Tue 11th	10.00 am 1.30 pm	Tuesday Coffee Morning – Pastoral Centre Lent Study Group – Pastoral Centre
Thu 13th	10.00 am 10.40 am 12.30 pm 6.30 pm	Holy Communion (<i>Isaiah 55: 6-9; Matthew 7: 7-12</i>) Thursday Coffee Morning – Church Room Lent Lunch – Church Room Choir Practice – Church
Fri 14th	4.00 pm	BYouth – Pastoral Centre
Sat 15th	8.30 am	Barnabas Men’s Fellowship – Pastoral Centre
Sun 16th	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion (<i>Revelation 3: 14-22; John 10: 1-5, 14-16</i>) Holy Communion (<i>Revelation 3: 14-22; John 10: 1-5, 14-16</i>)

This week's duty Church Warden:

Bob Searle

01372 456861

MIGHT YOU CONSIDER JOINING ST NICOLAS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)?

On 31st March we will hold the St Nicolas Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). It will start at 8pm and all are welcome to attend although to participate fully you need to be on the electoral roll. The APCM page on our website is now up and running and can be found on the church website [here](#). At the meeting we elect new members of our PCC. Would you consider serving as part of the overall decision-making body of the church? We'd be very pleased to hear from you. The PCC meets six times a year for two hours on a Monday evening as well as occasional additional meetings and considers many of the matters involved in ensuring the smooth running of St Nicolas Church. If you would like more information please do speak to Alan Jenkins or get in touch with our PCC Secretary, Amanda Rowland on 07702 678480 or pcc.secretary@stnicolasbookham.org.uk We look forward to hearing from you.

PARISH OFFICE COVER We are looking for volunteers to help keep the parish office open on 31st March and 1st April. If you can help, or for more details, please contact the office on 01372 450709 or office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

These roles will require DBS checks and follow the Safer Recruitment Procedure.

Open the book. Acting out Bible stories in schools. Commitment up to 3 times every half term during the week on school hours.

Tots Alive helpers. Help with refreshments, set up, take down and engage with carers and children. Commitment Mondays 9:30 to 12:15 term time.

Glow helpers and leaders Help with set up, take down and engage with children, Leaders prepare and lead a session. Commitment 1/2 Sundays a month 9:45 to 11:30.

Family fun & other events. Refreshments, help with crafts/ games, set up/ take down. If you are interested, or for more details, please contact Celeste on 07707 439799 or Celeste.rios@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Useful Contacts

Rector:

Rev Alan Jenkins – 01372 635873
alan.jenkins@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Curate:

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

PCC Secretary:

Amanda Rowland
pcc.secretary@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Parish Office:

David Gatland - 01372 450709
office@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Ordained Local Minister:

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

Families and Children's Minister:

Celeste Rios – 07707 439799
celeste.rios@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Roland Martin – 07747 563634
safeguarding@stnicolasbookham.org.uk