

Pews News



16 March 2025: Lent II

Today's Services:

8:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

**Welcome to
Guildford St Nicolas Parish Church**

Rector: Fr Neil Roberts

Curate: Fr Alistair Milne

01483 564526 parishoffice@saintnics.com

Children are welcome here

Please do not worry about children making noise or moving around. Junior Church's is taking place in the hall this morning, so they will return towards the end of the service to tell us what they've been doing.

Making yourself comfortable

Kneelers can be found in the narthex or under the back pews. If you need to use the toilets in the Parish Centre during the service, a sidesman will unlock the Centre for you. Please join us for coffee in the Parish Centre after Mass.

Safeguarding

St Nicolas' is committed to providing a welcoming, respectful and safe environment for all, including children and adults who may be at risk of abuse and neglect. The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of St Nicolas' Church. If you are concerned that someone is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please contact Jo Radley or Jill Sandham on safeguardingteam@saintnics.com

This week's services, readings & intentions/parish streets

M	16:30 Evening Prayer 17:00 Mass	Luke 6:36-38	Patrick Porridge Pot Alley Portsmouth Road
Tu	08:00 Mass 10:00 Morning Prayer	Matt.23:1-12	Cyril Priory Court River Wey Close Ludlow Road
W	16:30 Evening Prayer 17:00 Mass	Matt.1:18-end	Joseph of Nazareth Rookwood Court Rupert Road
Th	10:00 Morning Prayer	Luke 16:19-end	Cuthbert Sandy Lane Scholars Walk

F	10:00 Morning Prayer 11:00 Mass 13:00 Lent Study Group	Matt.21:33-43, 45-46	Thomas Cranmer St Catherine's Drive St Catherine's Hill Stakescorner Road Testard Road
Sat		Luke 15:1-3, 11-end	
Next Sun	08:30 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Mass 13:00 Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy	Luke 13:1-9	Lent III

Today's Services

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP): Fr Neil

10:00 Mass & Junior Church: President: Fr Neil, Preacher: Fr Alistair

Voluntary: Psalm-Prelude No.2 in E Flat – *Herbert Howells*

Processional Hymn Lord, who throughout these forty days

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger, bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! With us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering overpast,
An Easter of unending joy, we may attain at last.

Kyries: (choir) Harold Darke in F

Reader: Caroline Coleman **Reading:** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and

a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Gradual Hymn 76 Take up thy cross

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

Intercessions led by Shirley Aston

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

Diocese: The parish of St Paul's, East Molesey.

Those who have asked for our prayers: Anne, Margaret Colville, Rupert Williams, Holly Gregory, Edward Wild, Ian Sherman, Jenny Potter, Tarina More, Jeremy Pedrick and Frances Farmer.

The recently departed: Roger Nicholas.

The Year's Mind: Jack Waters and Lee Beasley.

Offertory Hymn 339 Be thou my vision

Mass Setting: New Plainsong Mass – *David Hurd*

Anthem: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem – *Herbert Howells*

Voluntary: Durch Adam's fall ist ganz verderbt – *Johann Pachelbel*

Live Streaming Links

Our YouTube livestream: <http://youtube.com/@SaintNics>

Our Facebook livestream:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintnicolasguildford/live/>



This Week / Next Week

This Week

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

On Duty @ 10am

Reader: Caroline Coleman

Intercessor: Shirley Aston

Chalice Assistant: Catherine Ferguson

*Sidespeople: Iain Ferguson, Angela &
Francesca Goodwin*

Coffee: Rory Fenner, Daniel Vines

Next Week

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

On Duty @ 10am

Reader: Shirley Aston

Intercessor: Rory Fenner

Chalice Assistant: Donald Thompson

Sidespeople: Patrick Andrew, John Vines

Coffee: Cath Anderson

This Week's Notices

Beer & Banter

How do we know Peter was a successful fisherman? By his net income! At Beer & Banter this week we will be discussing the question of hermeneutics (in what ways should we interpret the Church's scriptures). Join us at 7.30 pm on Tuesday the 18th in the Loseley Chapel for beer, banter, and a lot of "Cross" referencing!
Fr Alistair

Tuesday Group

You are particularly invited to the meeting this week when David Greenwood returns as guest speaker with the third and final part of his series of talks on *The Story of the Symphony* entitled *The 20th century and beyond*. Please arrive in time for a prompt 10am start.

Additional Midweek Services

For the next two weeks, there will be the following additional services:

Monday: 4:30pm Evening Prayer & 5pm Mass

Tuesday: 10am Mass

Wednesday: 4:30pm Evening Prayer & 5pm Mass

Lent Brunch

For those who cannot make the Friday Lent Studies, we are offering The **Big Lent Brunch** – from 10:30am to 12:30pm next Saturday 22nd March in church - to explore a little of each of these topics in our Lenten discipline of Learning and Praying with Brunch! If you are planning on coming, please sign

up on the list at the back of church or email parishoffice@saintnics.com - we don't want to run out of rolls and pastries!

Curry & Questions

We are delighted that Bishop Paul will be joining us for our next Curry & Questions on Tuesday 8th April at 7:30pm. Continuing our Lent theme, he will lead our discussion on Vocation. Please sign up on the list at the back of church or email parishoffice@saintnics.com - the cost of the meal is £10 and you are welcome to bring your own drinks.

Vocation, Ministry and Service

Last Sunday we launched phase 2 of our Stewardship Campaign. Through Lent in our worship and Lent groups we are exploring Vocation, Ministry and what it means to be disciples. There is also something active and reflective for each of us to do through Lent – that is to look at our own ministries – what we bring and contribute to being the church in this place and in the world beyond.

In the Narthex/porch there is a new display which explains this more – please take time in the coming weeks to pause and look at it. Beside it there are many leaflets on a stand, which explain a very wide range of individual ministries – what each involves, what is needed to fulfil them, and who to talk with to find out more. Some require a big time commitment, but many require very little time. Some (headed blue) apply specifically to Sunday worship ministries. Please help yourself to as many of the ministry leaflets which interest you and ponder on the skills and experiences which you bring to this place, and the time you have to give. You may want to let go of some of the things you currently do – or explore new ministries – or simply carry on with what you currently give.

When you are ready, fill in the back page of one of them, tear it off and put it in the box. Please fill one in, even if you are carrying on as before. After Easter the right person will contact you to explore with you how to take forward your offers of service. At our Pentecost worship, all of our ministries will be celebrated and blessed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held after Mass on 6th April. Please see the board at the back of church for details of elections that will be taking place at that meeting. All those on the Electoral Roll will be emailed a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts a week before the meeting, so a very good reason to make sure you have your name on the **Electoral Roll by the deadline of 21st March.**

We all have to reapply to join the Electoral Roll – have you done your application yet?

It's an important way of confirming your commitment to St Nicolas' community and to the vision of the church. It means you can vote on church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC or Deanery Synod.

This year the Electoral Roll has to be completely renewed – **no names are carried over** from the old Roll and everyone must make a new application to be included.

To join the Electoral Roll you must be aged 16 or over (or due to turn 16 this year), you must be baptised and a member of the Church of England and EITHER living in the parish OR have attended St Nicolas' regularly for at least 6 months.

Forms are available from church and from the parish office and an easy-to-fill online form which you'll find by following this link:

<https://guildfordstnicks.myknowchurch.co.uk/form/load/bkFkd m4xc2pybkIpeml4RE5PL3JxcXcrQ2JIU0NBMFI0L2JTSXVNBz FiSWdkeHJsQ0QIa0UvRI dTZHMI>



or scan this QR code.

Paper forms should be returned to the parish office or to Fr Neil.

Can you help?

Would be you be able to help keep the Church open one weekday morning each week from 10am to 12pm? The task is not arduous, but your help would be much appreciated, especially in the early part of the week. With the imminent arrival of the Zero Carbon fridge on Monday mornings, we will particularly need help that day when the food is on offer.

If you are interested, please speak to Hilary Fletcher who can tell you more.



Lilies for the Altar of Repose

On Maundy Thursday we plan to adorn the Altar of Repose with lilies and are asking for your donations towards these. This is a lovely way to remember your loved ones who are no longer with us. Donations can be made by cash or cheque, directly into the bank account (ref LILIES) or using the card reader. With many thanks.

This Week's Lent Diary

Today's homily theme – The Eucharist as the nourishing of our vocation

Friday

10:30 am Coffee Shop

11:30 am – 1:30 pm Lent Lunch in aid of the Bishop of Guildford's Community Fund Lent Appeal.

1 pm Lent Study on Sunday's homily theme – led by Fr Alistair

Saturday

10:30 am – 12:30 pm The Big Lent Brunch

Looking Ahead in Lent

There will be another opportunity to enjoy **Stations of the Cross & Benediction** on Friday 11th April at 11am.

Good Cause

Our Good Cause for March & April is the Bishop of Guildford's Community Fund Lent Appeal. Last year the Fund supported projects run by parishes or church-linked organisations that reach out into their local communities and provide real practical support. Grants helped fund meals for the vulnerable, cafes for the isolated, youth and community workers etc.

Bishop Andrew asks: "Please prayerfully consider giving this Lent. Together we can reflect God's love and compassion, bringing light to those in darkness."

Donations can be made in cash in the wallbox in the narthex, direct to our bank account (see below for details) or please ask to use the card reader.

Salvation Army Food Bank

Any donations are very welcome. Please put them in the box at the back of church.

Support

To support St Nicolas' Church, please make a bank transfer using the details below and use the reference 'St Nicolas'. Donations to our Good Cause can also be made direct, using the reference 'Good Cause'. Thank you.

PCC of St Nicolas Sort Code: 60-09-21 Account No: 59904003

We are members of the **Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)**, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. The service allows you to:

- Give One-Off amounts by Credit/Debit cards & Apple/Google pay wallets
- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually

- Enhance your gift by having Gift Aid at 25% added to your giving
- Give securely and donate anonymously, if you prefer
- Scan the QR Code which will take you direct to our page on their website <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/guildford-st-nicolas-guildford/>



The
Chantry
singers

Peter Hicks - Conductor

A Legacy's Echo

Celebrating beautiful Renaissance choral music from 500 years ago by Palestrina and his contemporaries Victoria, Byrd, Tallis and others

Con brio
||HRTCT
The Humphrey Richardson Taylor
Charitable Trust

Saturday 5th April
St Nicolas Church
Guildford GU2 4AW

Tickets: £16 (16 and under: £2)
Click below or phone **07969 906 439**

Drop off your children's old clothes and toys to the church foyer from 23rd-28th March (please make sure they are clean and in good condition)

Then come to our spring swap shop event on Saturday 29th March to help rehome the second-hand clothes and toys that have been donated and enjoy tea, coffee and cake.

There will be no set prices for clothes or refreshments, please donate as you are able.

Donations will be in aid of the Cherry Trees children's charity

SPRING SWAP

SATURDAY 29TH MARCH
2-4PM

**LOCATION: LOWER HALL,
GUILDFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**



SATURDAY

5TH APRIL

4-6PM

EASTER

at Guildford United Reformed Church, GU2 4BS

Faith based fun as we reflect on Easter.

Followed by tea for everyone.

*Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer for the duration of this event

THIS IS A FREE EVENT.

**DONATIONS ARE
WELCOME.**



**ST NICOLAS
GUILDFORD**

in partnership with

**Guildford
United
Reformed
Church**

For more information contact Nicky on families.worker@guildfordurc.org.uk
www.saintnics.com www.guildfordurc.org.uk

CURRY AND QUESTIONS

IN THE PARISH HALL AT ST NICOLAS CHURCH,
BURY STREET, GUILDFORD, GU2 4AW

Vocations

Bishop Paul leads our discussion

Tuesday 8th April
7:30pm
£10

Contact the parish office to let us
know you're coming & notify of
any dietary requirements

parishoffice@saintnics.com
www.saintnics.com



Looking Ahead

Sunday 23rd March : Lent III

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass with Junior Church

Sunday 30th March : Lent IV *Mothering Sunday*

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass with Junior Church

Saturday 5th April

4 - 6 pm Messy Church @ GURC

7:30 pm Chantry Singers Concert

Sunday 6th April : Lent V

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass,

followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Fridays until 11th April Lent Lunches (11:30-13:30)

BEER & BANTER (Tuesdays)

18th March

1st April (social @ Wetherspoons)

13th May

10th June (social @ Wetherspoons)

15th July

FIZZ & FRIENDS (Fridays)

9th May

11th July

CURRY & QUESTIONS

Tuesday 8th April with Bishop Paul

THIS WEEK

16th – 23rd March 2025

Sunday	LENT II 8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 am Mass with Junior Church 1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy
Monday	4:30 pm Evening Prayer 5 pm Mass
Tuesday	8 am Mass 10 am Morning Prayer 10 am Tuesday Group – <i>Guest Speaker – The Story of the Symphony – the 20th Century and Beyond</i>
Wednesday	10 am Café Play 4:30 pm Evening Prayer 5 pm Mass
Thursday	10 am Morning Prayer
Friday	10 am Morning Prayer 10:30 am – 1:30 pm Coffee Shop & Lent Lunch 11 am Mass 1 pm Lent Study Group
Saturday	10:30 am – 12:30 pm The Big Lent Brunch
Sunday	LENT III 8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 am Mass with Junior Church 1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy