

Pews News



8 March 2026: Lent III

Today's Services:

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church followed by Healing

**Welcome to
Guildford St Nicolas Parish Church**

Rector: Canon Neil Roberts

Children are welcome here

Please do not worry about children making noise or moving around. Junior Church is for children aged 4-11 and takes place next door during the service. Younger children are welcome to join if accompanied by their grownup or they are equally welcome to stay with us in church. If you haven't been to us before, adults please follow the Junior Church team out with your child and they will make you feel very welcome.

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 refreshments in the hall afterwards.

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

Please be aware that our services are generally live-streamed so if you do not wish to appear on camera, please sit in the designated rows. The congregation will not be filmed during the distribution of the Sacrament.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 13:30 - 18:00 * Thursday 08:30 - 18:00 * Friday 13:30 - 18:00

parishoffice@saintnics.com 01483 564526

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

M		Luke 4:24-30	Guildown Avenue Guildown Road
Tu		Matt.18:21-end	Henley Fort Hitherbury Close
W	10:00 Morning Prayer	Matt.5:17-19	Lawn Road, Littleton Lane, Ludlow Road
Th	10:00 Morning Prayer	Luke 11:14-23	Madrid Road Mareschal Road
F	10:00 Stations of the Cross 11:00 Mass	Mark 12:28-34	Millmead Millmead Terrace
Sat		Luke 18:9-14	Mount Pleasant Mountside
Next Sun	08:30 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Mass with Junior Church	John 9	Lent IV <i>Mothering Sunday</i>

Today's Services

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass Celebrant: The Rector; Preacher: Fr Nick Edwards

Voluntary: Prelude on What Wondrous Love is this? - *Daniel Burton*

Processional: Hymn 376 I heard the voice of Jesus say

Mass Setting (choir): Mass of the Quiet Hour - *George Oldroyd*

Reader: Rachel Chapman **Reading:** Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and

Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

For the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95: Anglican chant - *William Crotch*



0 COME let us ' sing unto the ' Lord : let us heartily rejoice in the ' strength of ' our sal'vation.

2 Let us come before his ' presence with ' thanksgiving : and shew ourselves ' glad in ' him with ' psalms.

3 For the Lord is a ' great ' God : and a great ' King above ' all ' gods.

4 In his hand are all the ' corners · of the ' earth : and the strength of the ' hills is ' his ' also.

5 The sea is his and ' he ' made it : and his hands pre ' pared the ' dry ' land.

6 O come let us worship and ' fall ' down : and kneel be'fore the ' Lord our ' Maker.

7 For he is the ' Lord our ' God : and we are the people of his pasture, and the ' sheep of ' his ' hand.

Reading: Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

For the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Hymn 379 In the Cross of Christ I glory

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his

word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

Intercessions

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

Diocese: The Parish of North Holmwood

Those who have asked for our prayer: Holly Gregory, Edward Wild, Jeremy Pedrick, John West, Chrissie Patterson, Ruth, Rodney More, Louis Remillard-Lam, Jeremy Whittaker and Andrew.

The Recently Departed: Bishop Andrew and Shirley Mackay

The Year's Mind: Jean Radley, Laurence Dixon, Ruth Elliott, Kenneth Bryant, Margaret Henwood, Fred Paul Clee, Judith Ellis and Cyril Kidder.

Offertory: Hymn 383 Jesu, lover of my soul

Anthem: Prayer to Jesus – *George Oldroyd*

Jhesu, since Thou me made and bought, be Thou my love and all my thought,
And help that I may to Thee be brought, withouten Thee I may do nought.

Jhesu, since Thou must do Thy will, and naething is that Thee may let,
With Thy grace my heart fulfil, my love and my liking in Thee is set.

Jhesu, at Thy will I pray that I might be,

All my heart fulfil, with perfect love to Thee.

That I have done ill, Jhesu, forgive Thou me, and suffer for me never to spill,
Jhesu for pity.

Richard Rolle, 1300-1349

Voluntary: Verbum supernum prodiens (High Word of God, who once did come)
– *George Oldroyd*

Live Streaming Link



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

This Week / Next Week

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church and
Healing after Mass

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

On Duty @ 10am

On Duty @ 10am

Celebrant: The Rector

Celebrant: The Rector

Reader: Rachel Chapman

Reader: Melissa Hume

Intercessor: John Varney

Intercessor: Jill Sandham

Chalice: Jana Phillips

Chalice: Jill Sandham

Sidespeople: David Greenwood, John Vines

Sidespeople: Philip Thomas, James Wix

Coffee: Helen Gould, Lizzie Evans

Coffee: Rory Fenner, Daniel Vines

This Week's Notices

A Prayer for Bishop Andrew

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for Andrew, our brother and bishop:
for his faith and faithfulness to you in life and in leadership.

As we mourn his death and commend him to your loving arms,
give us the same faith, hope and love rooted in the death and resurrection of your son, Jesus.

We pray especially for Beverly, Hannah, Sam, Joe, Lydia and the whole family.

Comfort them with your Holy Spirit and protect them in their grief.

And bring us, at the last, with Andrew and all your children,
to that eternal joy where you live and reign in glory forever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

150th Anniversary Lecture

We are delighted to be able to welcome **Canon Jeremy Haselock** FSA to St Nicolas this **Tuesday, 10th March at 7:30 pm**, to deliver the next in our series of anniversary lectures:

The theology of the Oxford Movement and its influence on church architecture.

Canon Jeremy is currently Associate Priest at St Bartholomew the Great in London. He has previously served as Diocesan Liturgical Adviser in the diocese of Chichester; Residentiary Canon, Precentor and Vice-Dean of Norwich Cathedral and Chaplain to The Queen. While a member of General Synod from 2000 to 2015, he was a member of the Liturgical Commission, the Cathedrals' Fabric Commission, the Council for the Care of Churches and the Church Commissioners' Bishops and Cathedrals Committee. He is a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and Warden Emeritus of the Guild of Church Musicians.

Fridays in Lent

You are welcome to come to all or some of our

Fridays in Lent:

Coffee Shop from 10

10 Stations of the Cross

11 Mass

12 Lent Lunch

1 Lent Study Group

A resource for use throughout the year is the Church of England app 'Everyday Faith'. It provides daily reflections, including selected Bible readings, a simple prayer to prepare you for the day ahead, and thoughts based on a weekly theme. See details here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/exploring-faith/everyday-faith#na>

Lent Study Group

'Living the Mystery of Faith' focuses on Matthew's Gospel and has been compiled by the Diocese of Chichester. The booklet is available on this link <https://www.chichester.anglican.org/documents/lent-course-2026/>

We live in an age that can feel saturated with information and advice. From podcasts to self-help books, everyone seems to have suggestions on how to live well. There's nothing wrong with good and helpful ideas. But it is easy to become a consumer of so much that nothing creates a lasting change.

As Jesus concludes his revolutionary Sermon on the Mount he gives a clear call to a new way of life in the form of a simple, powerful parable. He contrasts two kinds of people, both of whom hear his words: those who act on them and those who do not.

This week, at the third session of our Lent study group, we will consider via Matthew 7:24-29 the difference between a life built on a solid foundation and one built on shifting sand.

Join us at 1pm on Friday, 13 March as we continue our Lenten journey through Matthew's portrayal of Jesus and His ministry.

David Greenwood

150th Anniversary Composition

We are very excited to be commissioning a piece of music for St Nicolas' 150th anniversary by the Guildford composer and world renowned Will Todd. Music has played an important role in the very fabric of our church from hymn writing Rectors to the present. I am therefore inviting sponsorship opportunities for this important project which will be used, I am certain, for the next 150 years. If you would like to make a contribution to the estimated cost which will be around £6000, then please have a quiet word with me.

Fr Neil

Keeping the Church Open

Could you help to keep the church open to visitors? We need at least 2 people each weekday morning from after Morning Prayer at 10am until midday. Hilary has a rota and needs more volunteers, particularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you are able to help, even occasionally, please let her know or email parishoffice@saintnics.com

Rosary - an Introduction

If you would like to learn more about the Rosary and how to use it in prayer, then one evening after Easter the Rector will be leading a short introduction. If you would be interested, please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

Open Church Day - Wednesday 1st April, 11am-3pm

Is anyone able to help with our Open Church Day on Wednesday 1st April? If anyone has an activity they would like to lead, a short time slot would be great, eg tour of the church, learn to knit, bicycle maintenance, prayer activity, craft activity, Bible study Nicky is open to suggestions. Please get in touch with her if you would like to know more and have any ideas.

Nicky Geraghty missionenabler@saintnics.com 07903028299

Annual Church Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Sunday 22nd March. See the noticeboard in the narthex for all the notices relating to the meeting.

The Bishop of Guildford's Lent Appeal

The Bishop of Guildford's Communities Fund was first set up in recognition that pockets of poverty can exist in the most unlikely places – relational and spiritual poverty alongside physical deprivation. Our funding comes mostly from collections at special bishop-led services (confirmations, licensings and the like) and the Lent Appeal. Given that the Trustee body is voluntary and does all of the administration involved, all of the money that is given goes directly towards its charitable purposes.

Last year we raised around £28,000 in all, which enabled the Fund to support projects run by parishes or church-linked organisations providing real practical support to the communities they serve. Ten grants ranging from £500 to £3,000 helped fund meals for the vulnerable, cafés for the isolated, youth and community workers and other wellbeing initiatives.

We urgently need to continue this work, not least at a time when charitable funding in general has been on the decrease and community need on the increase. Your generosity can bring hope to those who are struggling - people living with disabilities, battling mental ill-health, facing financial hardship, or experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage. Even a small gift can make a big difference, offering dignity, hope, and a brighter future.

It is so important that we all make a special effort this Lent to remember those less fortunate than ourselves and to support a wide range of initiatives through which the Church lives out the sheer 'goodness' of the Good News of Christ. Thank you in advance for your support.

Bishop Andrew

Please support Bishop Andrew's cause by donating in the wallbox in the narthex, to our bank account (see below for details) or please ask to use the card reader.

Salvation Army Food Bank

The Salvation Army welcomes your donations which can be left in the box near the font. If you are able to contribute, it will be very much appreciated. They particularly ask for:

Long-life semi skimmed milk; Fray Bentos pies; Tinned carrots; Porridge pots; Tinned potatoes; Tinned soup; Tinned meat; Baked beans; Shampoo.

Support

To support St Nicolas' Church, please make a bank transfer using the details below. 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 funding of our 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/>

GREATlittle ORCHESTRA
VIENNESE WHIRL
Great Classics associated with Vienna, City of Music

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J. STRAUSS II - ADELE'S LAUGHING SONG
Featuring soprano Hannah McKay

<https://buytickets.at/greatlittleorchestra/2020817>

 **7.30pm, Friday**
March 13th
2026
St. Nicolas' Church
Guildford, GU2 4AW



"GLO...such a high standard"
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 UK Specialists in Premium Wine

"The GLO were shockingly good"
 Susan

Guildford Chamber Choir
Principal Conductor Tristan Weymes

Jonathan Dove

THE PASSING OF THE YEAR

Works by Finzi, Ireland and Judith Weir

Saturday 14th March 2026
7.30pm
St Nicolas Church,
Bury Street,
Guildford GU2 4AW

  

The Chantry Singers
Peter Hicks - Conductor

IHRCT
 The Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust

Lo, the full, final sacrifice
Choral anthems for Lent

Saturday 21st March 2026 7.30 pm
St Nicolas Church
Guildford
GU2 4AW

Tickets: £18 (16 and under: £2)
 Scan the QR code or phone
 07969 906 439



Registered Charity No. 1128357

GUILDFORD USA SINGERS

Make a Joyful Noise

Songs for Easter
 on
Wednesday 25 March
2.00 p.m.
 at
ST NICOLAS CHURCH
Bury Street, Guildford GU2 4AW

Entry is free
 Voluntary retiring collection towards Church funds

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150th Anniversary Programme

A few highlights - more dates to follow

- Tuesday 10th March** Lecture: Canon Jeremy Haselock FSA
7:30pm The theology of the Oxford Movement and its influence on church architecture
- Holy Week & Easter** We will be joined by The Right Reverend Peter Hancock
- Thursday 7th May** Lecture: Dr Michael Shapland, senior archaeologist
7:30pm University College, London
The Hill of the Dragon: A medieval wayside shrine and regional assembly site by St Catherine's Chapel (in the Parish Centre)
- Thursday 4th June** Corpus Christi Mass - preacher, Fr Victor Stock, former Dean
8pm of Guildford Cathedral
- Saturday 20th June** Midsummer Dinner with comedian Paul Kerensa
- Thursday 8th Sept** Lecture: Charles O'Brien FSA
7:30pm "The Ugliest Church in Surrey?" - a reassessment of St Nicolas' and its Victorian designers
- Friday 25th Sept** Gospel Choir Concert as part of Guildford Jazz Festival
- Sunday 4th October** Dedication Festival Mass & Lunch
- Tuesday 10th Nov** Lecture: Canon Nicholas Thistlethwaite
7:30pm Victorian Church Music

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday 10th March

7:30 pm 150th Anniversary Lecture: Canon Jeremy Haselock FSA
The theology of the Oxford Movement and its influence on church architecture

Friday 13th March

from 10 am Coffee Shop
10 am Stations of the Cross
11 am Mass
12 pm Lent Lunch
1 pm Lent Study Group
7:30 pm Great Little Orchestra Concert

Saturday 14th March

7:30 pm Guildford Chamber Choir Concert

Sunday 15th March : Lent IV *Mothering Sunday*

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10 am Mass with Junior Church

Friday 20th March

from 10 am Coffee Shop
10 am Stations of the Cross
11 am Mass
12 pm Lent Lunch
1 pm Lent Study Group
8 pm Fizz & Friends

YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Fizz & Friends Fridays	20th March 26th June	24th April 17th July	22nd May
Curry & Questions	Thursday 23rd April		

THIS WEEK

8 - 15 March 2026

Sunday	LENT II 8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 am Mass with Junior Church & Healing after Mass 1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy
Monday	10:30 am – 12:00pm Zero@St Nics Community Fridge
Tuesday	8 am Meditation 10 am Tuesday Group <i>Carpet Bowls - Tuesday Group rules</i> 7:30 pm 150th Anniversary Lecture Canon Jeremy Haselock FSA <i>The theology of the Oxford Movement and its influence on church architecture</i>
Wednesday	10 am Morning Prayer 10 am Café Play
Thursday	10 am Morning Prayer
Friday	10 am Stations of the Cross 10 am – 12:30 pm Coffee Shop 11 am Mass 12 - 1:30 pm Lent Lunch 1 pm Lent Study Group 7:30 pm Great Little Orchestra Concert
Saturday	7:30 pm Guildford Chamber Choir Concert
Sunday	LENT IV <i>Mothering Sunday</i> 8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10 am Mass with Junior Church 1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy
