

# Pews News



**10 May 2026: Easter V**  
**Today's Services:**  
08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)  
10:00 Mass with Junior Church

**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.



**Fr Neil says "Who have you invited to church lately and who are you going to invite next?"**

## **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 Parish Centre 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](mailto: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.

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

M		John 15:26-16:4	Rogation Day Lawn Rd, Littleton Lane, Ludlow Road
Tu		John 16:5-11	Rogation Day <i>Gregory Dix</i> Madrid Road Mareschal Road
W		John 16:12-15	Rogation Day Millmead Millmead Terrace
Th	10 am Morning Prayer	Luke 24:44-end	<b>Ascension Day</b> Mount Pleasant Mountside
F	9:15 am Pilgrims' Itinerary Service 10 am Morning Prayer	John 15:9-17	<b>Matthias the Apostle</b> Nether Mount New Pond Road
Sat		John 16:23-28	<i>Caroline Chisholm</i> Old Portsmouth Road Park Street
<b>Next Sun</b>	10:00 Mass with Junior Church	John 17:1-11	<b>Sunday after Ascension Day</b>

### Today's Service

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

### 10:00 Mass & Junior Church

Celebrant: The Rector; Preacher: David Greenwood

**Voluntary:** Solemn Prelude – *Alec Rowley*

**Processional: Hymn 466** Thou whose almighty word

**Mass Setting:** (choir) Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena - *Healey Willan*

**Reader:** Donald Thompson      **Reading:** Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and

everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.” Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

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

### **Reading: I Peter 3:13-22**

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

### **Gradual: Hymn 341** Blest are the pure in heart

### **Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

## Intercessions

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Pakistan (United).

Diocese: Runnymede Deanery.

Those who have asked for our prayer: Holly Gregory, Edward Wild, Chrissie Patterson, Ruth, Andrew, Julia Wake, Jerry Floyd, Rodney More, Jeremy Whittaker and Steve Reeds.

The Recently Departed: David Mottley

The Year's Mind: Rita Thompson, Mary Painting, Bill Christmas, Dorothy Turley, Peter Wansey (priest) and Ada Greenaway.

**Offertory: Hymn 439** Praise to the holiest

**Anthem:** God is a Spirit - *William Sterndale Bennett*

**Voluntary:** Processional – *Ernest Bloch*

## Choral Music in our Anniversary Year

Orders of Service and Music lists from the early years of the present St Nicolas Church are scarce; and unfortunately almost all the choir library prior to the 1990s no longer exists here. In the late 19th Century, St Nic's choir mainly led the congregation in hymns and simple service music, accompanied by our Fr Willis organ. But by some time in the 1880s the practice was for the choir to sing an anthem once a month at evensong. Probably a little later the choir provided a choral Mass setting most weeks (and in 1902 the then Rector wanted to revert to a 'simpler' setting once a month). In observance of the 150th Anniversary of our present church building our choir will occasionally sing music associated with our history.

Most of the anthems used more than a century ago are long forgotten, as are many of the composers. The anthem used this morning was used as early as May 1890 and then remained in the repertoire until 2011. Like most Victorian church music, the Sterndale Bennett anthem is quite straight-forward, and may sound dated to our modern ears, but it represents worship in that era and was once commonplace, even popular.

## Live Streaming Link

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



## This Week / Next Week

08:30 Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

10:00 Mass with Junior Church

On Duty @ 10am

On Duty @ 10am

Celebrant: The Rector

Celebrant: Fr Nicholas Edwards

Reader: Donald Thompson

Reader: Rory Fenner

Intercessor: Cath Anderson

Intercessor: John Varney

Chalice: Jonathan Neil-Smith

Chalice: David Greenwood

Sidespeople: Jill Sandham, Daniel Vines

Sidespeople: Phil Thomas, Angela Goodwin

Coffee: John Vines, Rory Fenner

Coffee: Cath Anderson, Pauline Oldroyd

Dear brothers and sisters

## 150th Anniversary Musical Commission

As you may know, we are very excited to have commissioned Will Todd, an internationally accomplished composer, to write a motet to celebrate this year's 150th anniversary of the third church on this site. Will has spent time with me in church to talk about what it is we want to achieve and we shared a vision of the space, light and holiness of the building which should be reflected in the music. We spoke, too, about the text which should be the basis of what will be, I am sure, a fabulous choral piece to reflect our tradition. We settled upon the words of Psalm 96 memorialised in the hymn sung around the world written by a predecessor of mine, John Samuel Bewley Monsell, O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. These words are beloved of Catholic Christians throughout the world and will be recognised as a suitable offering from our tradition.



The purpose of this commission is two fold. First, to express the desire of the human heart beyond words in this place in an important year; and secondly for it to be then shared with the wider church as an anthem dedicated to St Nicolas Guildford and sung for generations to come.

I am writing, therefore, to ask for your help.

The cost of this piece is some £5000 and we are required to pay the deposit of £2500 in the next month or two for the work to begin. If you would be so inclined to make a donation to St Nicolas church for this important work, I would be most sincerely grateful. If you would rather remain anonymous, then, of course, I shall respect that if you make that clear when making your donation.

You might wish to write a cheque (made payable to the PCC of St Nicolas) or electronically.

Thank you for your ongoing support to St Nicolas and I am most grateful to you for taking the time to prayerfully consider making a donation towards this milestone opportunity.

With my best wishes and thanks for your partnership in the gospel.

Fr. Neil

PS Do you have anything musical that you no longer need? Instruments, sheet music, etc. We are happy to accept donations to sell these and the money to go towards the commission. Do speak to me or Cath.



**A FUN EVENING WITH  
COMEDIAN**

# **PAUL KARENZA**

British Comedy Award-winning co-writer for BBC's Miranda, Not Going Out, Top Gear, ITV's Royal Variety, C4's TFI Friday, CBBC and much more!  
Paul brings his unique blend of stand-up, stories, music and faith



**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE  
7:30PM**

**TICKETS £20**

includes finger buffet & first drink  
Licensed bar

Limited tickets - book early!  
[parishoffice@saintnics.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintnics.com)



# **GREAT**little **ORCHESTRA**

## **RODERICK WILLIAMS OBE SINGS AND CONDUCTS MAHLER SONGS OF THE WAYFARER SYMPHONY No1**

**Wednesday  
June 17th  
7.30pm  
St Nicolas'  
Church  
Guildford**



**Thursday  
June 18th  
7.30pm  
St Gabriel's  
Church  
Pimlico**

[www.tickettailor.com/events/greatlittleorchestra](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/greatlittleorchestra)



[GREATLITTLEORCHESTRA.COM](http://GREATLITTLEORCHESTRA.COM)

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## This Week's Notices

### The Rosary - an Introduction

Do you want to learn more about the Rosary and how to use it in prayer? The Rector will lead a short introduction at 7:30pm on Thursday 11th June. It's not too late to sign up on the list at the back of church.



### Good Cause for May



Each year we arrange a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham (the pilgrims are setting off this Friday) and we like to encourage those who have never visited before. The PCC took the decision some years ago to pay for first-time pilgrims. Our Good Cause for this May, Mary's Month, is the St Nicolas' Pilgrim Fund. This will allow us to continue offering this benefit to our members who would like to make the visit.

Please support this good cause by donating in the wallbox in the narthex, to our bank account (see below for details using the reference GOOD CAUSE) or please ask to use the card reader.

**Pilgrims 2026:** For those who would like to leave for Walsingham from St Nics on Friday 15th May, we will meet at 09.15am and have the short Itinerary Service in St George's Chapel. The service lasts 10-15 minutes. We will then depart for the Shrine. All very welcome. *Donald*

### 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 Baked Beans, Soup, Tinned Veg, Tinned Tomatoes, Teabags, Small Jars of Coffee, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Custard, Cereals and Tinned Meat Meals.

### 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/>

# HOLIDAY CLUB

## PLANET PROTECTORS: WILDLIFE EDITION

27<sup>TH</sup> – 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY  
At Guildford URC

£15 PER  
CHILD  
FOR SCHOOL  
YEARS R-6

FAITH-BASED  
FUN AS WE  
EXPLORE THE  
WORLD OF  
WILDLIFE

STORIES

GAMES

CRAFTS

SONGS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE  
INFORMATION AND BOOKING

[www.guildfordurc.org.uk](http://www.guildfordurc.org.uk)  
[www.saintnics.com](http://www.saintnics.com)

**CRAFT MATERIALS NEEDED - please bring in from 1st June**

**Cardboard boxes (flat packed and tape removed for storage please)**

**Cereal boxes (also flattened please)**

**Toilet roll centres**

**Odd socks (washed and without holes please!)**

# LOOKING AHEAD

## Friday 15th - Monday 18th May

Friday 9:15 am Pilgrims' Itinerary Service before Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham

## Sunday 17th May : Easter VI

10 am Mass with Junior Church

## Thursday 21st May

7:30 pm Walsingham Cell Mass

## Friday 22nd May

8 pm Fizz & Friends

## Sunday 24th May : Pentecost / Whit Sunday

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass

## Sunday 31st May : Trinity Sunday

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass

## Thursday 4th June

8 pm Corpus Christi Mass - Preacher: Fr Victor Stock

## Sunday 7th June : Trinity I

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Mass

## YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

### Beer & Banter

Saturdays - Loseley Chapel      30th May      25th July      26th September      28th November

Saturdays - The Britannia      27th June      29th August      24th October      19th December

**Fizz & Friends** Fridays      22nd May      26th June      17th July

**Monthly Lunch** Fridays      29th May      26th June

**Midsummer Evening**      Saturday 20th June

**Summer Fayre**      Saturday 4th July

# THIS WEEK

10 - 17 May 2026

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**Sunday**

**EASTER V**

**8:30 am** Holy Communion (BCP)

**10 am** Mass & Junior Church

**1 pm** Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy

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**Monday**

**10:30 am – 12:00pm** Zero@St Nics Community Fridge

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**Tuesday**

**8 am** Meditation

**10 am** Tuesday Group

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**Wednesday**

**10 am** Café Play

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**Thursday**

**10 am** Morning Prayer

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**Friday**

**9:15 am** Itinerary Service before Pilgrims Depart

**10 am** Morning Prayer

**10 am – 12:30 pm** Coffee Shop

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**Saturday**

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**Sunday**

**SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**

**10 am** Mass & Junior Church

**1 pm** Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy

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**PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK**

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

[parishoffice@saintnics.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintnics.com) 01483 564526