

Open to God. Open to one another. Open to the community.

www.stnicolas.org.uk

office@stnicolas.org.uk 0118 9669080

St Nicolas
Church + Centre



*Grow
in Christ*

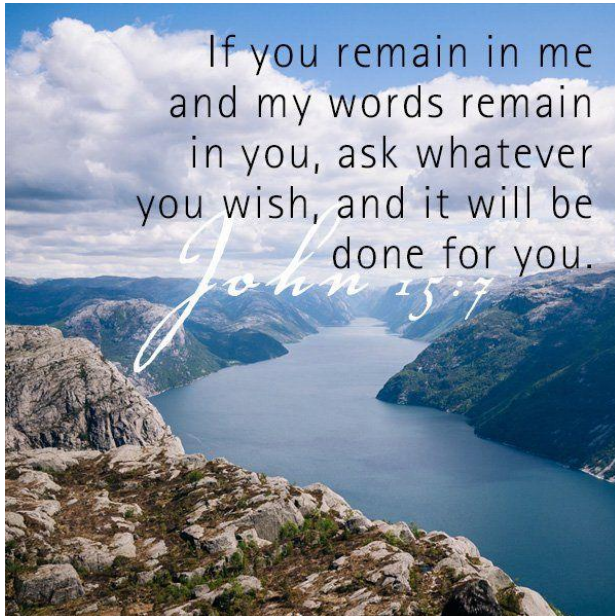
Sunday 2 May 2021
5th Sunday
in Easter

First Reading	Acts 8. 26-end
Second Reading	1 John 4. 7-end
Gospel Reading	John 15.1-8

**To phone in and listen to this week's 10am Sunday Service please call
01184 693023**

Week Commencing 3 May

Mon 3 May	John 14. 21-26
Tues 4 May	John 12. 20-26
Weds 5 May	John 15. 1-8
Thurs 6 May	John 15. 9-11
Fri 7 May	John 15. 12-17
Sat 8 May	John 15. 18-21



Notices:

St Nic's Open for private prayer: The church is now open for **private prayer from 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday** please continue to follow the covid safe rules when you visit.

Pastoral Care at St Nicolas - If you feel like a chat on the phone or wish to pray with someone please give us a call. We are also able to help with essential shopping, collecting prescriptions. Contact **Jenny Bryce 0118 926 8561** or **Parish Office 0118 966 9080**.

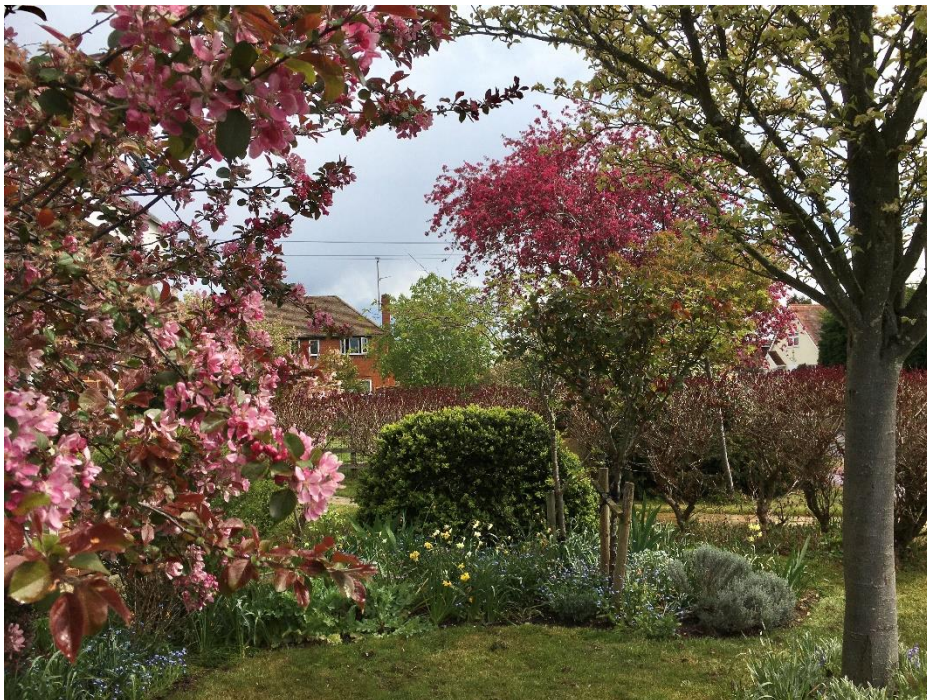


Christian Aid Week 9th - 15th May

This year instead of doing a door to door collections, Christian Aid will be asking you to donate online. We will be having a special service next Sunday but the St Nicolas Christian Aid online envelope is already set up for donations as follows:

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/stnicolasearley>

St Nics Garden looking beautiful- for anyone that hasn't been able to make it up to St Nics recently I just wanted to share how beautiful it's looking. Thanks you to the St Nics Garden team and the The Conservation Volunteers for your continued hard work.



PRAYER

Prayer Chain Requests can be sent to Janice Williams at office@stnicolas.org.uk or 07453 859159

Collect: Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

JPEG's Pray for Three Things in May

JPEG (St Nicolas Justice, Peace and Environment Group) would love it if you joined us in prayer for the following items. You can click on the links to find out more.

- Boris Johnson has announced a new target of cutting carbon emissions by 78 percent before 2035 (15 years earlier than previously pledged). Let us pray that his policies now match the rhetoric.
- May 9th-15th is Christian Aid week. Let us pray and give generously as they celebrate their 75th anniversary and let us thank God for all the work they do on our behalf amongst the most vulnerable.
- Pray for peace and justice in Israel/Palestine. A new report published by Human Rights Watch claims that Israel is committing “apartheid” against Palestinians. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/israel-apartheid-human-rights-watch-b1838075.html>. In this HRW joins a growing number of rights groups to accuse Israel of crimes against humanity.



Christian Aid Week

9th-15th May

Join us for our Treasure Hunt in Earley and Lower Earley

This year we are planning a Treasure Hunt around 5 of the churches in Earley and Lower Earley, with a piece of treasure for all who successfully find it. To enter, you will need a map with instructions. These are available here:



<http://www.stnicolas.org.uk/event/christian-aid/>

It is designed to be done as a socially-distanced activity, and you can follow the trail at your own speed over 3 days, **Friday-Sunday May 14th-16th** There will be links for donations on the map.

Christian Aid is a relief and campaigning organisation which champions the struggle for a fairer world, especially for Climate Justice. It helps people of all faiths and none and Christian Aid week is their big fundraising time

Rotary clubs of Maiden Erlegh and Reading Thames Zoom Quiz Night



**Saturday
May 22nd
at
7.30pm**

In aid of
Alexander
Devine
Children's
Hospital
Services



£15 per team
Maximum 8 people
per team

To take part please register by
clicking the link below
[Charity quiz night](#)

In aid of St Nic's Centre



Follow the link below to book your place:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/charity-quiz-night-for-alexander-devine-childrens-hospice-st-nicholas-tickets-152004977981>

Notices:

CAP Job Club 'Steps to employment' course

Free 6 week course covering areas such as finding your strengths, CVs (including CV reviews), covering letters and interviews. Friendly practical support to help you in your job search. This is an online interactive course using Zoom. Details of how to join the course along with course materials will be sent prior to the course.

Starts Weds 26th May 2021 and runs every Weds for 6 weeks from 10:30 - 12:30

For more details and to register contact George Mullen tel 07795 424714 email georgemullen@capjobclubs.org

CAP Money Course online

Online Christians Against Poverty Money Course, this is a free course to teach you budgeting skill and to help you to manage your money more effectively. The course starts on Tues 25th May 2021 from 10:30 - 12:30 and for 3 consecutive Tues. This is an online interactive course using Zoom.

Details of how to join the course along with how to download the course guide and other material will be sent prior to the course. For more details and to register contact: George Mullen tel 07795 424714 email georgemullen@capjobclubs.org



An invitation to enjoy an afternoon in conversation with Hugh Dennis

Join the National Churches Trust online for this special one off event as award-winning actor, comedian and writer Hugh Dennis talks about his life, growing up in a vicarage and why he loves

churches. Known to many as Pete Brockman in the BBC One's *Outnumbered*, Hugh has also appeared in the long-running sitcom *Not Going Out*, as well as *Mock the Week* and is also host of *The Great British Dig*. So, sit back, relax and take part in an entertaining conversation with Hugh as he talks about his life with Revd Lucy Winkett, Vicar of St James's Piccadilly. Reserve your place at this online event

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/in-conversation-with-hugh-dennis-tickets-146618328367> it is free but you can make a donation at the time of booking your ticket.

Notices:

The Week of Guided Prayer | A personal daily half-hour meet with a prayer guide to help you find God's call.

The Chaplaincy at Reading University is hosting The Week of Guided Prayer starting May 9th and they'd like to invite their local friends to benefit from the online workshops that are happening throughout the week. These will be on Zoom, 7-8.30pm on the topics listed below:

- Monday 10 - Ways of Praying 1: Imaginative Contemplation
- Tuesday 11 - Ways of Praying 2: The Examen
- Thursday 13 - Ways of Praying 3: Doing Art

The workshops are free and open to all. Please email

chaplaincy@reading.ac.uk to register and for the Zoom link.

Café Théologique is now online and is open to all.

Monday 17th May, 7.30pm-9pm

Interview with Emeritus Prof John Barton: *A History of the Bible*

On Zoom. Shortcut: <http://u.nu/cafetheo> (full

details: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVRIQT09> Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443. Passcode: 511541)

Prof Barton is the Oriel & Laing Emeritus Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture at the University of Oxford. *A History of the Bible* was featured on Radio 4's *Book of the Week* read by Hugh Bonneville.

Monday 14 June, 7.30-9pm

Interview with the Revd Dr Andrew Davison: *Mars, Theology and Astrobiology*

On Zoom. Shortcut: <http://u.nu/cafetheo> (full

details: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVRIQT09> Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443. Passcode: 511541)

Dr Davison is the Starbridge Senior Lecturer in Theology and Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, and Canon Philosopher of St Albans Cathedral. He has doctorates in both Natural Science and Theology. His forthcoming monograph will explore the significance of exobiology on Christian faith.

<https://www.facebook.com/Reading.Cafe.Theologique>

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/chaplaincy/cafe-theologique.aspx>

Notices:



Bishop Olivia speaks out on knife crime The Diocese of Oxford, Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) and Reading Football Club Community Trust have sponsored a new music video as part of the No More Knives initiative. It's a must listen and we're keen to get it widely

shared across the diocese to view go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXDMUfQm9EU>

“Many of our young people live in fear of becoming a victim of knife crime. We have to ask ourselves why our young people are carrying knives? What is it telling us about ourselves and our society? This powerful song, which we were delighted to help fund, carries the powerful message that we are all born for greater things. It deserves to be seen widely, so please do share it.”

**COME
AND
EAT**

Come and Eat podcast episode 2: Jesus, the bread of life
Feeling spiritually hungry? Listen to the latest episode of Bishop Steven's podcast on Holy Communion. There's a new episode once a fortnight. <https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/>

HM Government

NHS

Enjoy the Bank Holiday safely.

Groups of 6 people or two households can meet outdoors. Try to minimise travel, where possible.

HANDS FACE SPACE
FRESH AIR