

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



**First Reading**  
**Second Reading**  
**Gospel Reading**  
**Psalm**  
**Hymns**

## SEASON OF CREATION

**Sunday 3 September 2023**

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Isaiah 43 18-21

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:21-end

Psalm 26 :1-8

62 Be still for the presence of the Lord

169 Father hear the prayer we

337 I the Lord of sea and sky

52 At the name of Jesus

	Bible Readings	Activities
<b>Mon 4 Sept</b>	Luke 4:16-30	10am Babies and Bumps 2.30pm Tea and Tinies
<b>Tues 5 Sept</b>	Luke 4:31-37	10am-12pm Board Games Café
<b>Weds 6 Sept</b>	Luke 4:38-end	11am Service 7.30pm Scriptural Reasoning <i>further details inside</i>
<b>Thurs 7 Sept</b>	Luke 5:1-11	2pm Over 50s - Bingo
<b>Fri 8 Sept</b>	Luke 5:33-end	10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm SNAC
<b>Sat 9 Sept</b>	Luke 6:1-5	

To watch the live stream of our Sunday service please go to:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@stnicolasearley1496/featured>

***“But let justice roll on like a river,  
 righteousness like a never-failing stream!”  
 Amos 5:24***

# prayer

**Collect:** Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Haiku poem from The Lectionary in 17 Syllables by Andy Campbell, Emma Major & Rachel Summers

(Matthew 16:21-28)

*It's a paradox.*

*The more we let go of life,*

*The more we will live*

## Prayer for Climate Justice from Christian Aid

Creator God,

You have created us, and the world, because you are love.

The world is hurting through climate change.

It hurts us and our global neighbours, but it is hurting the poorest people in our world the most.

God, change our world, our communities, and us with your love.

We want to journey with you, to create a better future for everyone.

God, to love you is the same as loving your world.

To love you is the same as loving our global neighbours.

Help us to love others, and all of creation, so your world can be what you want it to be.

Amen.

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**Prayer at St Nicolas** There are a group of people who love to pray for anything which is on your mind. You can contact Jenny Bryce at 07963 905663 or the office on [office@stnicolas.org.uk](mailto:office@stnicolas.org.uk) or write a card and put it in the prayer box in church. All requests in the box are prayed at Morning prayer at 9am Monday - Thursday.

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Please feel free to join our 6pm Prayer group every Sunday on [Zoom](#) Meeting ID 872 7137 1558 Or join us in person Monday -Thursday at 9am in Church

2023

# SEASON OF CREATION PRAYER



## **Creator of All,**

From your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river and the whole cosmos came into being.

On this Earth of overflowing love, the Word was made flesh and went forth with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice for all creation.

You called human beings to till and keep your garden. You placed us into right relationship with each creature, but we failed to listen to the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most vulnerable. We broke with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you by not safeguarding the conditions for life.

We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats, we grieve the loss of human cultures, along with the lives and livelihoods that have been displaced or perished, and we ache at the sight of an economy of death, war and violence that we have inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.

Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation. Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the Creator Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and overflow into all creation.

Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and peace, and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all creatures around us, and all creation.

Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the many streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace may become a mighty river all over the Earth.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**



A Mighty River  
Amos 5: 24

## Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

### Let Justice and Peace Flow

We have just begun this year's Season of Creation. We'll mark the season by starting all our 10 o'clock Sunday services with a

prayer for creation and by lighting a candle. The season ends with our Harvest Festival and Brunch on 8 October.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow" and its focus is Climate Justice. The UN states: "The impacts of climate change will not be borne equally or fairly, between rich and poor, women and men, and older and younger generations."

Many of the communities who are most vulnerable to climate change are poor and have few resources to mitigate against it. Until recently, there has been little talk of loss and damage for these countries who have done little to contribute to climate change but are already feeling its effects.

Historical emissions from the richest countries have made the greatest contributions to human-caused climate change. We in the Global North, have not "done justly". Could we do more to limit global temperature rises?

Climate change will affect future generations much more than it affects us today. A joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury states, "Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children."

The issues we are facing are not only biodiversity loss and sea level rises, but ones of human rights. Let's join our prayers with the river of peace and justice this year.

To find out more, visit the [Season of Creation webpage](#).

## Notices



On **September 12th at 2.15** in the Church we will be having our next Mothers' Union meeting. At this

meeting **the speaker will be Kimble Earl from the charity REMAP** who make items that help with those who struggle with independent living. This should be a most interesting meeting. All are welcome.

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Peter Durrant will be doing his annual sponsored walk in aid of the Berkshire Historic Churches



Trust if you would like to sponsor him his just giving page is

<http://www.justgiving.com/page/peter-durrant-1693>

Half of any money I raise will go to the Trust; and half of any sponsorship from the St Nics community will go to St Nics!

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**CARE 4  
CALAIS**

### Donations please!

We are collecting the following items of Men's Clothing for Care for Calais: **Men's hoodies, Men's t-shirts, Men's joggers and jeans, Men's coats and jackets; sizes 30 up to 36 and trainers or casual shoes size 41 to 45 (UK Size 7 to 11)** you can drop them off at the Parish Office. All donations will be gratefully received. Many thanks

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**WOKINGHAM  
ARTS TRAIL**



**Wokingham Arts Trail** will take place on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th September 2023. With our own Emma Major exhibiting her amazing art along with other local artists so don't miss your chance to enjoy their brilliant work. For more information please see the website

<https://www.wokinghamartstrail.co.uk/>

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**Woodley  
Food Bank**

Thank you all so much for the donations to the foodbank. They are very short of **tins of baked beans, tinned tomatoes and tinned potatoes** so if you are able to donate any of these and drop them in the collect basket in the Church lobby that would be lovely. Thank you.

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**St Nics Pub Night - Thursday 7 September**  
at 7.30pm at the Three Tuns Pub, 191  
Wokingham Road RG6 1LT. Come along for  
a chat and a drink. The first Thursday of  
every month. For more details please

contact Eleanor 07879 820367 Everyone welcome



## **Men's Curry Club**



**because  
we're  
worth  
it!**

**Usual first Wednesday of the month,  
at 8pm on Weds. 06 September 2023.**

Rajmoni Restaurant, Maiden Place, Lower Earley

**Come along and enjoy the welcome!**

*ca. £30 for a poppadum, 2 courses, 2 drinks & tip.*

*Contact David Pooler for details*

*☎ 0741.379.5050*

*✉ -7 dave@poolers.co.uk*





DIALOGUE  
SOCIETY

# Scriptural REASONING

Scriptural Reasoning aims to bring together Muslims, Christians & Jews to reflect on short passages from their scriptures together as they discuss particular topics, with a view to fostering friendships

MEETING MONTHLY – NEXT DATE:

Wednesday 6th Sept

7.30-9pm at St. Nicolas Church, RG6 7JN

If you'd like to join please email  
[reading@dialoguesociety.org](mailto:reading@dialoguesociety.org)

OR CONTACT 07387 258604

**Open to all**

Fancy a spot of gardening? Please feel free to join us on  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September



# Green Saturday Gardening

SUTCLIFFE AVENUE EARLEY RG6 7JN



**9AM-12PM**  
2ND SATURDAY OF  
EVERY MONTH

**NO EQUIPMENT  
NEEDED!**

**EVERYONE  
WELCOME!**



[Stnicolas.org.uk](http://Stnicolas.org.uk)



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CHARITY NO: 1138037



[Earleystnics](https://www.facebook.com/Earleystnics)