# St Nicolas News

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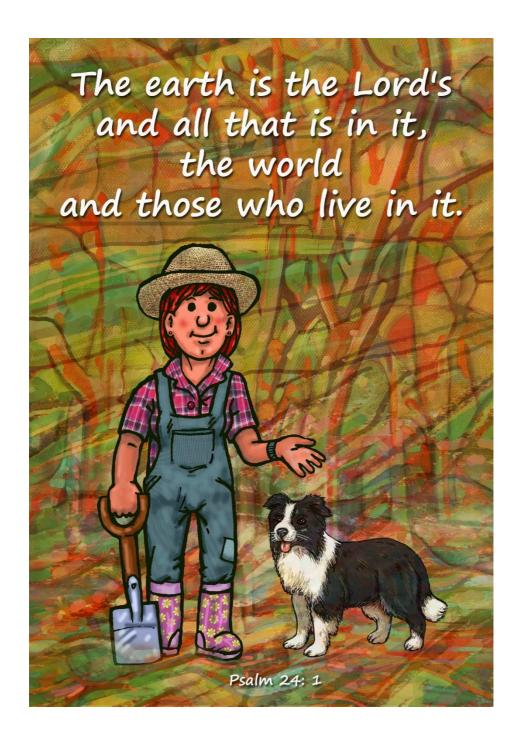
October 2024







www.stnicolasbookham.org.uk
Building Faith in the Community



#### **Services at St Nicolas**

#### **Sundays**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion - 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th

Sundays

Morning Praise - 1st Sunday, GLOW - Children's Provision

6.30pm **Evensong** - 3rd Sunday - with choir

#### **Weekday Services**

8.30am Bible Reading and Open Prayer

Monday and Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion (Said) Thursday

9.00am **Prayers for our church** - 2nd and 4th Saturdays

10.00 am Church Development Plan Prayers –

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday



**Tots Alive!** (term time) - Monday 10.00am in church with social time afterwards

For other services please see Notice Board by the Lychgate

#### **Letter from the Ministry Team**

In November 2016 I found myself in conversation with an American bishop. It was a day or two after their election. We chatted about the dilemma he faced. Specifically, whether to vote for someone for whom he had little respect but whose party's policies aligned better with his own convictions, or whether to vote for someone who he had much greater respect for but whose parties' policies were not so in keeping with his own views.

As our American neighbours vote for their next President on Tuesday 5 November, we might expect some of those who vote to once again face exactly that same dilemma.

In the UK we have some experience of this, although I can't help thinking that for us perhaps the choices are not so stark. On the whole, and particularly when it comes to moral and ethical issues, the ground separating our political party's tends to be smaller. That said, even here in the UK we may find ourselves saying, "I like that parties' leader but not their policies, but I don't like that leader but I prefer what their party is offering".

In such a situation, what to do?

In the end, under God we cast our vote as best we can. However, what is clear is that once a new government is in place, our Christian calling is generally to be one of support for our government

rather than working against it. To quote the Apostle Paul's famous words, "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established." (Romans 13:1)

I think that has to be right, doesn't it? After all, to be in government is not easy. Often, there are no simple answers and decision-making is a tough call, as I have been reminded again watching BBC4's recent series, Corridors of Power: Should America Police the World? (Hugely informative even if a hard watch due to its focus on human suffering.)

That all said, we also recognise that there will be times when it is right to challenge decision-makers, and that sometimes there is a place for legitimate protest. Occasionally, although rarely, our calling may even be to civil disobedience. After all, and as the Apostle Paul reminds those to whom he writes, "For the one in authority is God's servant for your good."

For your good! That is the assumption which underpins everything Paul teaches here. And so whilst our responsibility is to be good citizens, our government's responsibility is to lead with integrity.

In Christian love

Manjenkin

#### Barnabas



#### Fellowship

# Barnabas Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September KINDNESS

Richard Harpin writing in the TIMES business paper – "Don't forget the simplest rule for success: be kind"

He said that "we talk a lot about purpose, but kindness is the secret ingredient for building strong, mutually rewarding relationships. So, teach kindness and learn it, improve on it, set aside your own ego for other people, situations and partners, and show others how to display it. Do at least one kind thing a day and it becomes a habit.

Showing kindness means that when you look back, you'll be proud not just of your achievements but how you went about them".

We had a very enthusiastic discussion about this, and noted that other people who were not in fact Christians were good and kind to others, including the young and that good manners instilled Kindliness – Fruit of Spirit. There are a lot of kind people about – Jesus said "love one another."

Is being kind – soft? No, it shows respect and helps get things done, if you are an employee and your Company Management are unkind to you then that is likely to cause resentment in the work place, increasing staff turnover and reluctance to go the extra mile.

How can you be kind? Smile, say hallo, make a stranger's day better. Show respect and help one and other.

If you would like more details or to join us for a meeting please contact: - David King 07844 116556 or at e-mail david.king@uwclub.net



#### MOTHERS' UNION JULY MEETING

Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity that aims to support families throughout the world. The organization is open to both men and women, widows, singles and grandparents.

Mothers' Union is one of the first women-led organizations, helping change local lives and those around the world, since 1876. It was started by Mary Sumner, the wife of a rector in Hampshire.

The MU today is made up of hundreds of MU charities, spread throughout 83 countries, making up four million members around the world.

Globally Mothers Union focuses on:

- 1. Creating a peaceful and safe environment for all
- 2. Fighting for gender injustice
- 3. Building individuals' self-reliance

At St Nicolas we meet regularly, one afternoon a month, generally with a speaker on varied topics, in addition to Mothers' Union-led church services at St. Nicolas Church and Guildford Cathedral.

We have two exciting events planned for October and hope that many of you will be able to attend one or the other...or even both!

Grandparenting: What does it mean to be a grandparent with faith?

For all grandparents and honorary grandparents

Be affirmed, encouraged and equipped!

Thursday 10th October 10.00am to 2.00 pm - at the Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath, Fleet GU51 1HA

There is no charge for this event and non-members are welcome!

Go to: www.churchontheheath.org.uk to book your place.

You should bring a packed lunch; the church coffee bar will be open.

QUIET DAY Wednesday 16th October 10am to 2.30pm

Led by Rev'd Prof. Linda Morgan Coordinator of Spiritual Directors

at St. Thomas on the Bourne Frensham Road, Farnham GU9 8HA

**Cost: £15** - To book: Telephone: 07742 867786 or

email: guildford.mothersunion@gmail.com

Bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee provided

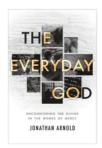
Non-members very welcome.

Please contact the MU office for more information or if you have any queries.

Vivien Hollingsworth and Chris Collins

#### he Everyday God By Jonathan Arnold, BRF, £9.99

Jonathan Arnold, a seasoned community
engagement expert, delves deep into the heart of
the biblical mandate to love one's neighbour. Through
a tapestry of real-life stories, he unveils the power of
practical faith, illustrating how it can ignite transformation
among the homeless, refugees, the poor and vulnerable,
imprisoned and marginalised, as well as those living with dementia, disability



and disease.

In these pages, you'll witness how acts of social and environmental justice, intertwined with mercy, have the potential to reshape lives, offering a vivid portrait of the profound impact of embracing the everyday God. As he reflects upon Jesus's teaching in Matthew 25:34–40, Arnold challenges us to discover God's presence in the most unexpected places and join in with where He is acting, whether inside or outside our churches.

#### Baby's Little Bible By Sarah Toulmin, SPCK, £7.99

This baby Bible is a treasured gift and a perfect starter Bible to share with a much-loved child.

Written by Sarah Toulmin, who shared the Bible stories she loved with her own little ones. Her ultra simple retellings of 20 favourite stories, from creation to the resurrection, are filled with a sense of wonder, expressing God's love for creation.

BABY'S

Combining with Kristina Stephenson's heartwarming illustrations, this delightful little Bible offers lots to look at, and point to, on the page, to create the perfect focus for parent and child. *Baby's Little Bible* is now also available in this small format gift edition, presented with gilt edges and a ribbon marker.

#### Film night 2025 March 14th

A lot of you, possibly, remember my son Alan ,who used to sing in the choir as both a boy and young man. He married Anna from Merrow and 20 years ago Anna developed breast cancer, all appeared well and with their family they emigrated to Australia. A few years later the cancer returned again and she had further surgery. Anna has taken up running and does park run most weeks along with marathons and half marathons, all while in Australia. She has been very fortunate to obtain a place in 2025 London marathon for Breast Cancer Now and I am organising a fund-raising film show on her behalf in March next year. Please book the date and I shall be asking for help nearer the time

Chris Collins

#### HOUSEGROUPS

Our Housegroups continue to flourish! There are now nine groups, meeting on various days and at different times, some in the day, and others in the evening. Some meet weekly, some twice monthly and some monthly. Most groups regularly study the Bible, and several also study various other topics, including such things as prayer, forgiveness and friendship. Most also have regular socials, with friendships within the groups being very strong and supportive.

There is a new leaflet at the back of the church with up-to-date details of all groups, most are willing and able to welcome new members.

If you have not tried a housegroup before, then the autumn is an excellent time to start. It is quite all right to change to another group if your first choice doesn't work out, or to try several before deciding. Why not give it a try? – you won't regret it!

More information on the leaflet, or e mail Jean Forward: housegroups@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

#### **MEMORIAL SERVICE, 3rd November 2024**

#### for all who have been bereaved.

Each year we hold two services, in May and November, where those who have died are remembered by name. The relatives of all whose funeral services have been taken by our Ministry Team are invited by letter to these, for the first year. However, anyone who has been bereaved and wishes simply to remember, is most welcome to come, no matter how long ago a loved one died, or whether they lived locally. The names of all who are being remembered are noted down and read out, and there is the chance to light a candle in their memory.

If you would like to remember in this way, then please do come along to the next service on Sunday 3rd November at 3 pm.



The harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows

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#### **Making Christmas cards**

Our annual Christmas card upcycling day where we turn last year's cards into new ones for this year will be on Saturday 9 November 2024 in St Nicolas Pastoral Centre from 10:00am-1pm.

The cost is £3.00 payable on the day, which includes a set of card blanks (recycled card) and envelopes, access to



lots of Christmas and other cards and materials, and refreshments.

To book a place, email us (<a href="mailto:ecoteam@stnicolaschurch.org.uk">ecoteam@stnicolaschurch.org.uk</a>), talk to any member of the Eco Team or just turn up on the day.

If you're short of time or aren't sure if card-making is for you, just drop in, have a coffee and make one card for £1.

There will also be a table of crafts and craft materials for sale.

Do join us for a relaxing morning - all are welcome!

#### SMALL KINDNESSES

#### Danusha Laméris

I've been thinking about the way, when you walk down a crowded aisle, people pull in their legs to let you by. Or how strangers still say "bless you" when someone sneezes, a leftover from the Bubonic plague. "Don't die," we are saying. And sometimes, when you spill lemons from your grocery bag, someone else will help you pick them up. Mostly, we don't want to harm each other. We want to be handed our cup of coffee hot, and to say thank you to the person handing it. To smile at them and for them to smile back. For the waitress to call us honey when she sets down the bowl of clam chowder, and for the driver in the red pick-up truck to let us pass. We have so little of each other, now. So far from tribe and fire. Only these brief moments of exchange. What if they are the true dwelling of the holy, these fleeting temples we make together when we say, "Here, have my seat," "Go ahead-you first," "I like your hat."

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# A monthly singing group for people with dementia or Parkinson's



with their carer or partner

# Connect in Song

St Alphege Church Hall, Lower Road, Effingham KT24 5JP 2.30pm First Tuesday of the month

For more information contact Gill Walker 01372 457987 or gillconnect1@gmail.com

Supported by Churches Together in Effingham & Little Bookham



An opportunity to meet together for refreshment, fellowship and encouragement.

Our theme is:

# Making a difference

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of October 9:am-10:30 am Pastoral Centre at St Nicolas Church Bookham

Tickets £5

To book your space please e-mail ali.sangwine@stnicolasbookham.org.uk Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Babes in arms are welcome





cuisine. Our passionate chefs create tasty nutritious meals every day, from traditional favourites to fine dining dishes.

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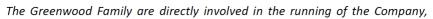
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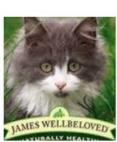
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#### **Holy Days**

#### 28 October - Simon and Jude - warning against moral infections

Jude the apostle and martyr (1st century) warns us in his epistle that not all 'evil' comes in the form of obvious ghosties and ghoulies. He writes instead to warn the Christians of the greater danger of people who infect others with heresy and moral failure. He writes that they are nothing more than .... "blemishes on your love-feasts...feeding themselves. They are waterless clouds carried along by the winds; autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame, wandering stars, for whom the deepest darkness has been reserved forever." Such dangerous people can be frightening, but Jude also encourages his readers to remember "...him who is able to keep you from falling and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing...the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power and authority, before all time, now and forever..." According to Western tradition, Jude and Simon went to preach the gospel in Persia, where both were martyred.

## 3 October - Hewalds the Black and White – martyred because they were different

With Islamic State's current savage persecution of Iraqi Christians in mind, here are two saints for this autumn: Hewald the Black and Hewald the White (d.c. 695). These 7<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-Saxon priests were living peacefully in Frisia among the Old Saxons, worshipping the Christian God by daily Mass on a portable altar, and reverently devoting themselves to the Divine Office.

Over time, the Old Saxons came to resent these two priests who did not serve their gods. Then the Old Saxons began to fear that Hewald the Black and Hewald the White might even manage to convert some of their people to Christianity. That was unthinkable, and so they took brutal action: they killed them both and threw their bodies into the Rhine. Both bodies were recovered and then later enshrined in the church of St Cunibert in Cologne, where they still remain. It seems that wherever Christianity shines out, there is always the danger of attack from those who give allegiance to a different god.

.







# Hearing Champions

A Guildford Diocese initiative, in partnership with the **NHS** and St Nicolas Church,

Bookham



A FREE service for people with NHS hearing aids includes:

Basic maintenance Battery supply Cleaning & re-tubing Trouble-shooting Advice

#### **Bookham Baptist Church on Saturday**

10am-12.00

November 2nd December 21st

Bring your brown NHS Battery Book (which includes your settings and requirements) and wear your hearing aid.

All our volunteers have been trained by the audiology departments of Epsom & St Helier Hospital or the Royal Surrey County Hospital and hold training completion certificates.



#### **Need Help with Information Technology?**

If you are over 50 and live in the Mole Valley area, you can get help by using Age Concern's IT/Digital Learning sessions in either Dorking or Leatherhead. The sessions run on Tuesdays for 6 weeks.



Topics covered will include: browsing on the internet, keeping in touch, setting up and using your own email or Skype/Zoom accounts and how to shop on the internet, plus staying safe - all using your own Laptop/Smart phone/ iPad/Tablet, etc.

To register your interest please call 01306 899104 or 07442 017169, or by email <a href="mailto:info@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk">info@ageconcernmolevalley.org.uk</a>



With climate change resulting in excessive wet periods or extended hotter weather resulting in planting delays and crop failures, it is not an easy time for farmers, agriculturalists and market gardeners. Surely many in our congregation will have been planting and nurturing



vegetables in gardens and allotments so we can all

help in different ways.

Here are just a few tips from the eco charity, A Rocha, about purchasing from garden centres, which could be useful

- 1. Use peat-free compost.
- 2. Read the plant label. Was it grown in the British Isles or imported? Imported plants carry a greater risk of introducing pests and diseases.
- 3. What is the pot made of? Is it plastic or something biodegradable?
- 4. How long will it last? Is it worth buying annuals or could you fill your garden with perennials which last longer?
- 5. Is it good for insects? Choose plants with simple flowers ones without lots of petals. They are more likely to attract bees and butterflies. Val Lambert Eco Team



Bookham's very own PCSO,

Marion Hawkins, will be holding a Surgery at The Meeting Place Warm Space in Bookham Baptist

Church on::

Tuesday 1st Oct

Tuesday 29th Oct

She is happy to talk about any issues you may have, and just generally. She looks forward to meeting you.





# Citizens Advice

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#### Visit our website

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THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
HM Government COMMUNITY FUND

Church Development Plan Prayer Focus			
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Effective Communications Strategy	Vicki Dixon	
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Confident in our witness and service	Alan Jenkins	
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Changes to our building	Chris Turner	
27 <sup>th</sup> October	Growing a diverse families' and children's ministry	Celeste Rios	

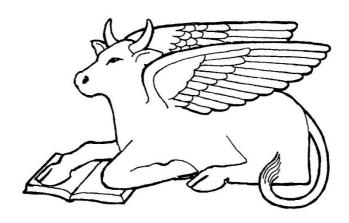
	From the Parish Registers	
Deaths		
17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	June Root	Aged 92
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	David Matanle	Aged 89
8 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	Yvonne Davey	Aged 87
25 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	Joan Johnson	Aged 99
31st August 2024	Maureen Reaveley	Aged 95



#### St Nicolas Cycle of Prayer September 2024

Please remember the following missions, St Nicolas groups and residents of Great Bookham roads in your prayers

6 <sup>th</sup>		The Choir and all involved in sung	Squirrels Green
13 <sup>th</sup>	Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Val Lomax Catherine Clark	worship. Prayer for a new organist	The Park
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mission Aviation Fellowship Julia Watts Sue White	The Bereavement	Park View Park Way
27th	The Mission to Seafarers John Adie Eldred Clark	Team Jean Forward	Murrells Walk Parklands



St Lukes Feast Day – 18<sup>th</sup> October



# READINGS AT THE SUNDAY SERVICES October 2024



6<sup>th</sup> Nineteenth after Trinity

2 Kings 4: 1-7 and Luke 7: 36-50

13th Twentieth after Trinity. MAF speaker

Hebrews 4: 12-end and Mark 10: 17-31

20<sup>th</sup> Twenty-first after Trinity

2 Corinthians 1: 12-22 and Matthew 21:28-32

27<sup>th</sup> Last Sunday after Trinity. Bible Sunday

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 and John 5:36b – end

This month we continue our sermon series on the parables

Occupation for October: Social Care, Health Care, Education



#### A Funny Old Lady

I look in the mirror And who do I see? A funny old lady Looking at me

I don't know her Who can she be? That funny lady She isn't me

A little like my Nan A lot like my Mum A face that shows A life well run

Lines and wrinkles Are all I see That tired old face Can't be me

I am young With a life to live Full of hope And love to give

I can skip
And dance and run
The life ahead
Has just begun
The joys the pain
Are yet to come

I look in the mirror And who do I see? I see the young woman I used to be.

By Hilda

#### Calendar October 2024

Please note that although the calendar has events scheduled, these may happen in different forms. Please check beforehand (see 'Contact' person on the back page or the St Nicolas website).

Septe	mber		
28 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (online)
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	1200	Harvest Lunch
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
		1000	Tots Alive (Church and Church Room)
		1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
Octob	er		
1st	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
		1130	Mothers' Union Prayers (Church)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Thurs	1000	Holy Communion – Mothers' Union (Church)
		1040	Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
		1300	Eastwick Schools Harvest Festival (Church and Church Room)
4 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1530	BYouth ((Pastoral Centre)
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	1000	CDP Prayers (Church Room)
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	1000	Morning Praise (Church)
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
		1000	Tots Alive (Church and Church Room)
		1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
8 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
9 <sup>th</sup>	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
10 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	1000	Holy Communion (Church)
		1040	Thursday Coffee (Church Room
		1415	Mothers' Union (Pastoral Centre)
11 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
12 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (online)
		0900	Bloom Breakfast (Pastoral Centre)
14th	Mon	0830	Morning Prayers (Online)
		1000	Tots Alive (Church and Church Room)
		1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
15 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
16 <sup>th</sup>	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
		1145	Leatherhead Deanery Chapter (Pastoral Centre)
17 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	1000	Holy Communion (Church)
		1040	Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
18 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	0830	Barnabas Mens Fellowship (Pastoral Centre)

21st	Mon	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
		1000	Tots Alive (Church and Church Room)
		1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
24 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	1000	Holy Communion (Church)
		1040	Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
25 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
26 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	0900	Saturday Prayers (online)
		1000	Mothers' Union Coffee and Cakes (Pastoral Centre)
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	0830	Morning Prayers (Online)
		1000	Tots Alive (Church and Church Room)
		1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
29 <sup>th</sup>	Tues	1000	Tuesday Coffee (Pastoral Centre)
30 <sup>th</sup>	Weds	0830	Morning Prayers (online)
31st	Thurs	1000	Holy Communion (Church)
		1040	Thursday Coffee (Church Room)
Nove	mber		
1st	Fri	1530	BYouth (Pastoral Centre)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sat	1000	CDP Prayers (Church Room)
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sun	1000	Morning Praise (Church)
		1500	Memorial Service (Church)
9th O	ctober 202	<b>4</b> - Copy f	or November 2024



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