

Newsletter Sunday 16th December 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

A Warm Welcome to St Nicolas:

We are so glad you have joined us. If this is your first time here please introduce yourself to one of our host team who would love to welcome you personally.

8.00am: Holy Communion

Leader: Raymond Obin

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-end
Luke 3:7-18

10.00am: Morning Worship

Theme: Invest Wisely

Leader: Will Hunter Smart

Preacher: Pam McKellen

Reading: Matthew 25: 14-30

**3.00pm: Carol Service at
St. Mary's Speen**

Leader: Joy Mawdesley

6.00pm: St Nicolas Carol Service

Leader: Will Hunter Smart

Preacher: Andrew Wingfield Digby

The Church Office will be closed from 25th December through to 7th January 2019.

Children and Youth

StNicsKids and **Pathfinders** start in church for the beginning of the 10am service and then go to the church hall and St Nicolas House for their groups.

Ages 0 - 3: Sparklers (*Upper hall*)

Age 4 - Reception: Comets (*Upstairs balcony*)

Years 1 - 5: All Stars (*Lower hall*)

Years 6 - 9: Pathfinders (*St Nicolas Hse*)

The Firm (Years 10 -13) meet in the **Upper hall** at 7.30pm following the 6pm contemporary evening service.

Collect for the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

This Week: 17 - 21 December 2018

Monday

7:30 pm Bell Ringing practice

Tuesday

10:00 - 11:15 am Foundations (a group for women) in the upper hall for informal Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Pre-schoolers are also very welcome!

Wednesday

10:00 am Daybreak - a group for parents with young children

Thursday

10 am - 12 pm Charity Coffee Morning – **No charity** – late cancellation *St Nic's will serve refreshments and mince pies. Any money collected will be added to our Christmas Collection for West Berkshire Homeless.*

10:30 am Mid-Week Holy Communion Service

Friday

6:30 pm Junior Choir Practice in the Church

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice in the Church

7:30 pm TGI (Years 6-9)

Dates for your Diary

Charity Coffee Mornings There will not be a Thursday coffee morning on 27th December and 3rd January 2019.

Men's Breakfast - Our monthly informal men's breakfast will be at 8.30am on Saturday 13th January 2019 in the Hatchet Restaurant, Market Place. Just order what you want and join us at the rear! Mark Knight.

Deanery Deaf Church – The next service will be held in St Nic's on Sunday 20th January at 3pm. Primarily aimed at those who have hearing difficulties, anyone interested is most welcome - we even have someone offering signing tuition. Mark Knight.

Can you Help?

Food Bank - Thank you for responding to the shortages so generously. The warehouse has advised that they are short of the following items: **Urgently needed:** Long Life Milk (UHT). **Low stock:** Razors, Instant Mash and Custard.

For Your information

St Nic's Christmas Collections - This year at our Christmas services we will be collecting for our local charity, West Berkshire Homeless, which is very active in working with individuals to take them out of rough sleeping and to help them into accommodation and work.

Prisoners of Conscience Thank you from the world-wide prisoners of conscience and their families. Fifty-five greetings cards were signed at the Church Open Day and posted around the world. Other people took booklets in order to write at home. Thank you. Frances and David Hawkey.

Holy Communion services after Christmas Please be aware that there will not be a Holy Communion Service on Thursday 27th December nor at 8am on Sunday 30 December.

CTNA Community Christmas Day Invitation - This event, aimed at supporting and hosting the elderly and people who would otherwise have spent Christmas Day by themselves, will take place at St. George's Church from 10AM - 4PM. If you would like to be a guest at the event or volunteer to help, contact Marina Abraham on 07828244119 or e-mail: marinaoabraham@gmail.com. We are still very much in need of **drivers, music team including someone who could lead Carols.**

Prayer Support The prayer support team are available at the main Sunday services to pray with anyone who has prayer needs, always confidentially. Please come at any time during the service or after taking communion. In addition, again confidentially, the team pray regularly for people on a long-term sick list and run a prayer chain when emergency requests arise. If you have any particular needs that you would like the team to pray for, either write your request on the paper provided by the prayer box on the welcome desk, or email prayer@st-nics.org.

COINS (*Christian Outreach in Newbury Schools*) have an exciting job opportunity for a new Team Leader starting end April 2019. The role is for an average of 20 hours per week, term time only. Responsibilities include management of our team's activities (4 session workers and many volunteers) coupled with the ability to deliver assemblies, RE lessons and clubs. You will also be part of the Management Group and have input into policy. Strong interpersonal and organisational skills are key. Please contact Liz How, lizahow@btinternet.com for more details about the role and an application form. Applications will close on Friday 25 January.

Shoemakers Just a reminder that Shoemakers is here for all your last-minute Christmas purchases. Come and see us in The Arcade off Market Place or visit our website www.christophershoeemaker.org.uk. We have a range of charity Christmas cards and nativity sets, as well as Christian books, CDs, DVDs and gifts.

Biojemmss news: Many of you will have seen Sian Davies' harvest appeal thank you video. Thank you very much for supporting that! It's that time of year again when Biojemmss are holding their annual children's Bible camp in January. I have some vouchers to sell to enable children to attend the camp so do let me know if you would like to buy one. They are £20 (each buys 4 children a place) but you can also contribute a smaller amount towards one. Thank you, Bronwen

Our Christmas Services

Sunday 16 Dec

6.00pm St Nicolas Carol Service

Christmas Eve

3.00pm Children's Crib Service

11.00pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8.00am Traditional Holy Communion

10.00am Family Communion Service



Please ensure that items for the Newsletter reach the office by 10am Thursday Morning
No more than 80 words please!

Sunday 23 December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

No 6pm service in the hall

Contacts at St Nicolas Church, Newbury

Rector:	Will Hunter Smart	Tel: 285710
Curate:	Joy Mawdesley	Tel: 285715
Licensed Lay Minister:	Jane Sutton	Tel: 36466
Youth Minister:	Edward Carthy	Tel: 285717
Children's Ministry Admin:	Gemma Gaskin	Tel: 285714
PA to Rector:	Libby Lake	Tel: 285711
Church Administrator:	Mandy Maskell	Tel: 47018
Facilities Manager:	Belinda Bowrey	Tel: 07554 430621



/stnicolasnewbury



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Church Office Tel: 01635 47018 / Office Email: Office@st-nics.org

For prayer support contact the church office or email prayer@st-nics.org

For pastoral care support contact the church office or email pastoralcare@st-nics.org

Church Office normally open week days, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm.

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