



*St* **NICOLAS' CHURCH**  
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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**Easter 3**

**Sunday 30 April 2017**

*A warm welcome to all who join us to worship God  
in the love and peace of his Holy Spirit*

**11:15am Family Communion**

**The Rt Revd Henry Scriven**

<b>Hymn</b>	2	Christ whose glory fills the skies
<b>Collect</b>		Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Acts 2: 14a, 36 - 41</b>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b>	<b>1 Peter 1: 17 - 23</b>	
<b>Gradual</b>	201	Can we by searching find our God?
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Luke 24:13 - 35</b>	
<b>Hymn</b>	501	Light of the minds that know him (to a tune we know)
<b>Hymn</b>	294	Dearest Jesu we are here
<b>Hymn</b>	160	Thine be the glory

*No collection will be taken at this Service, but a plate for your donation is available at the back of the Church - thank you*

## NEXT WEEK at St Nicolas

<b>Sunday 7</b>	8:00 am Holy Communion	The Revd Roger Williams
	11:15 am Morning Prayer	The Revd Hilary Watkins

### & IN THE PARISH

Mon - Fri	<b>StH</b>	9:10 am Morning Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Mon - Fri	<b>StH</b>	5:10 pm Evening Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Wed	<b>StH</b>	10:30 am Holy Communion – South Aisle
Thurs	<b>StM</b>	12:30 pm Said Mass, followed by light lunch
Sunday 7	<b>StH</b>	10:30 am Sung Eucharist
		5:30 pm Vespers
	<b>StM</b>	9.30 am Family Mass

## WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT CHILDREN?

Have you looked around the congregation lately and wondered about the age profile? Where are all those young people living in our Parish that never or rarely set foot inside a church? Have they rejected church (or should that be Church) or do they just not know about it? Do they even know anything about the Bible?

What can we do about it? Well actually, quite a lot. We can do something very simple and enjoyable to take Bible stories to children – and I do mean TAKE! Children love stories – especially Bible stories when they're interactive and engaging. That's what Open the Book is all about. Teams of between four and eight storytellers tell Bible stories in primary schools using drama, props and costumes to bring the stories to life. There are currently about 13,000 volunteer storytellers from churches across the U.K. going into schools bringing the Bible to life to hundreds of thousands of children. NOT ONE OF THOSE STORYTELLERS IS FROM OUR PARISH GOING INTO OUR SCHOOLS! Why is that? Perhaps you haven't had the opportunity.

On 7th May, during the 10.30 service at St Helen's, instead of the Old Testament reading being read, it will be performed in an Open the Book style to give the congregation a flavour of what it is all about. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could have a brand new Abingdon-on-Thames Open the Book team going into one of our schools this Autumn?

What can we do about children? We can love them and introduce them to the excitement of the Bible. *Mary Williamson*

If you want to know more about Open the Book, see the leaflets at the back of church or contact Mary

## CAN YOU HELP?

**Church Stewarding:** with summer approaching we would love St Nic's to be open more often - for visitors and prayer. If you would be willing to help for an hour or two - occasionally or regularly - on Saturdays, Sunday afternoons and bank holidays (and on weekdays when Jim cannot be present), do please get in touch with Eluned, Paul or Andrew.

If you wish we could arrange for you to Steward with another. We would not be expecting Stewards to offer coffee / tea - just a smile and information about St Nic's (and possibly wider Abingdon). It's a pleasure to be able to talk to interested visitors - from Abingdon and around the world - so do please consider whether you might be able to help in this way. *Eluned*

**Christian Aid Week 14 - 20 May:** Donations of goods such as home-made cakes, plants, good second-hand books and bottles for the tombola for the **Market Place Sale on Saturday 13 May** will be much appreciated. If anyone can help man the plant stall for an hour or two this would be most welcome. The **House-to-House Collection** not only raises funds, but brings the plight of the dispossessed and homeless to everyone's attention. If you can help in any way please speak to Eluned.

## NOTICES

**The Abingdon Progressive Christianity Network Group:** Open Meeting to hear internationally renowned Australian theologian and writer, Dr Val Webb, speak on 'Celebrating doubt as a catalyst on the faith journey'. 7.30 pm, Thursday, 18 May, All Saints Church. Tickets (£5) from Cliff Marshall at [cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk](mailto:cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk) or 01235 530480 and include refreshments.

**Syrian Families Appeal:** we have received a request to complete the fitting out of houses for Syrian families who are arriving with only what they are wearing or what they can carry. Please do consider if you can donate any of the requested items (see list at back of church) or if you can donate some money towards the Oxfordshire resettlement programme:  
[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/RefugeeResettlementProgramme](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/RefugeeResettlementProgramme)

## DIARY DATES

**Saturday 6 May World Labyrinth Day:** St Michael's will be open from 10am – 3pm for people to walk and pray the Labyrinth. In particular we hope to have a good number of participants at 1 pm to join in the worldwide 'Walk as One at 1' which aims to 'create a peaceful wave of energy as the world turns'. At St Michael's this will be followed by prayers led by Father Paul. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

**Sunday 7 May: Faith Forum** 9.15 am, Parish Centre, with a talk by Professor John Barton in the series: The Bible in Christian Ethics.

**Sunday 14 May: Abbey Chamber Concert**, 3pm St Nicolas'. David Mears clarinet with Elizabeth Hayes piano. Bohuslav Martinů 'Sonatina' Stanford 'Caoine' Arthur Bliss 'Pastoral' Gerald Finzi 'Five Bagatelles' York Bowen 'Sonata. Tickets £10 (£9 concessions), accompanied children free. Available at door

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

- Our Parish's work with children and schools
- All Open the Book teams, and the schools they visit.
- Those suffering from sickness of mind, body or spirit and those working to heal, support and comfort them;
- The refugee, the lonely, the alienated and the afraid;
- Justin our Archbishop, Steven, Colin and Henry our Bishops, Charles, Paul, John, Jane and Mary, and all who serve in this Parish,
- All who support the ministry of teaching, healing and welcome in this place;
- The many visitors to St Nicolas;
- The Church in Abingdon, its leaders, projects and members, that we may work together to show God's love to the Town;
- Our Church family, especially those unable to be with us today;
- Our troubled and divided world.

***Please send information for next week's pew slip to Eluned Hallas,  
[eluned@hallas.org.uk](mailto:eluned@hallas.org.uk) phone below, by Wednesday***

Team Rector	The Revd. Dr. C Miller	01235 520144
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Church Wardens	Mr Paul Rast-Lindsell	07876 277363
	Mrs Eluned Hallas	01235 529462
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