



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 11 March 2018

Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday

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

8:00 am Holy Communion

The Revd Roger Williams

11:15 am Holy Communion

The Revd Paul Smith

The Beatitudes (4): Blessed are the merciful... (Matt. 5.7)

- Hymn** 238 For Mary, Mother of our Lord, (omit v 3)
- Collect** God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
- 1st Reading** Exodus 2.1-10
- 2nd Reading** Colossians 3.12-17
- Hymn** 449 God of mercy, God of grace
- Gospel** Luke 2.33-35
- Hymn** 598 There's a wideness in God's mercy
- Hymn** 535 O God in heaven
- Hymn** 362 Tell out my soul

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

Sunday 18 Mar 8:00 am Holy Communion
The Revd Professor Canon John Barton
11:15 am Third Sunday Service
The Revd Dr Jane Baun

& IN THE PARISH

Mon - Fri StH 9:10am Morning Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Mon - Fri StH 5:10pm Evening Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Thurs StM 11:00am Circle Dancing
12:30pm Said Mass, followed by light lunch
Sun 18 StH 8:00 am *at St N in March*
10:30am Sung Eucharist
5:30pm Evensong
StM 9.30 am Sung Mass

In the Diocesan E-news (8 March), the Bishop of Buckingham writes: Mothering Sunday comes halfway through Lent. Its formal name is 'Refreshment Sunday' (or Laetare — first word of its traditional Introit — 'Rejoice, Jerusalem...' [Isaiah 66:10].) It reminds us 'Lent' comes from an ancient word meaning not 'hair shirt', but 'spring'. In this springtime of the year, where are the green shoots of renewal in our churches, our homes and our hearts? + *Alan*

During **Lent at St Nicolas** the 11:15am Services will feature a series of Sermons on the Beatitudes - in response to Bishop Steven's Diocesan Vision to be a more Christ-like church where we are first Contemplative, then Compassionate, and then Courageous.

Also, during **Lent** there will be lay-led **Stations of the Cross** at St Michael's Church on Tuesday evenings 6, 13 March and Wednesday evening 21 March.

CiA Lent Lectures 2018: Let's Wait and See: Revd Dr. Paul W. Goodliff

Lecture 3: Waiting for the God of Surprises. Seeing the Damascus Road 19 March

Lecture 4: Waiting in the Silence. Seeing the Passion of Christ 26 March

All to be held at Abingdon Baptist Church at 7.30 pm.

Maundy Thursday shoe cleaning: A group of people from St Edmund's and Abingdon Community Church will be taking part in this event again this year, with the support of the CiA. If you would like to get involved, please contact Ed Evans at ede@occ.org.uk.

CHURCH NEWS

EASTER LEAFLETS: the Parish Easter Leaflets have been printed and the bundles allocated to St Nic's are awaiting collection at the back of church. Please do consider whether you can help with distribution. Please only deliver to the street(s) listed, other roads are being covered by other deliverers, and do make a note of any inaccuracies in the bundle quantities, or difficulties in delivering (eg barred flats) so that we know for next time. Ideally please deliver before Passion Sunday. *Thank you in anticipation.*

ELECTORAL ROLL: We will be revising the parish electoral roll during February and March, and would welcome anyone not on the register who worships with us to join. A lay person is entitled to have their name on the parish roll if they have been baptised, and are aged sixteen or more. At St Nicolas a simple application form is available from Eluned, or from the website, and should be returned by 22 March please.

Fairly Traded Easter eggs available from Jan (01235 203 144).

The **St Nicolas Annual Church Meeting** will be in church on Monday 9 April starting at 7:30pm, the **Annual Parish Meeting** will be in St Helen's on Thursday 19 April, also at 7:30pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 16 March, The Abingdon Progressive Christianity Network Group: special event The Abingdon PCN Group invites everyone to come and hear Revd Dave Tomlinson, Vicar of St Luke's Church, Holloway, North London, talk on the themes of his latest book *'Black Sheep and Prodigals: an Antidote to Black and White Religion'* at 7.30 pm in Trinity Church, Abingdon, OX14 1NY on 2018. Admission £5: tickets can be obtained in advance from Cliff Marshall (cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk or 01235 530480) or at the door.

Saturday 17 May Passion Play Fundraiser: African Cooking Masterclass - demonstration how to make a starter, a main course and a dessert. Peachcroft Christian Centre, 1-10pm. Tickets £15 in advance only (not available on the door) from The Bookstore or www.abingdonpassionplay.org.uk

Tuesday 20 March Silent Reflections, St. Michael and All Angels from 7.30 - 9.00pm. Enjoy prayerful activities in the quiet of the sanctuary with the option of coming together to share your journey at the end of the session. Open to anyone who wants to 'come and see'. Theme: Back to Basics

Saturday 24 March, St Michael's, 7:30pm, Abingdon Concert Band: Back to the Music Part I Music for wind orchestra from Space and Sci-Fi. Travel through

space and time with us as we bring you recognisable favourites including War of the Worlds, Star Trek, Doctor Who, and more...

Doors open 7pm. Tickets £9/£7 Under 16s free. Parking available at Carswell School, Bostock Road. Please don't park on Park Road.

Experiencing Resurrection An exhibition of paintings by Nick Mynheer and Robert Wright 14th April to 20th May St Giles' Church, Oxford. Weekdays: Noon to 2:00pm Saturdays: 2:00pm to 5:00pm (not available 12th & 19th May) Sundays: Noon to 4:00pm. Also, Reflections and Talks at 12:30pm on Thursdays during the Exhibition Please see <http://www.st-giles-church.org>

As some members will remember, Nicholas Mynheer designed our Nave Altar

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- That we may grow into a more Christ-like church;
- Our Sermon Series on the Beatitudes;
- John Lewis and his family;
- The deliberations of the independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse;
- The people of Yemen;
- All families, especially for those under strain or suffering as a result of breakdown;
- The many visitors to St Nicolas and all who support the ministry of teaching, healing and welcome in this place;
- Those who are suffering and in particular need;
- Our Church family, especially those unable to be with us today.

Key Contacts

Team Rector	The Revd. Dr. C Miller	01235 520144
Team Vicar	The Revd. Paul Smith	01235 534654
Church Wardens	Mr Paul Rast-Lindsell	07876 277363
	Mr Andrew Coker	01235 539929
Parish Office	Mrs Jenny Balshaw	01235 520144
Website:	www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk	
Facebook	www.facebook.com/stnicolasabingdon	

Items for Pewslip to Eluned Hallas 01235 529462, eluned@hallas.org.uk please