



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 1 March
First Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
The Revd Canon Charles Masheder

11:15 am Mattins
The Revd Jen Brown

Welcome to St Nic's today on this First Sunday of Lent, especially to The Revd Jen Brown, Associate Priest, who officiates and preaches at 11.15am. In this season of Lent we are given the opportunity to look at the priorities of our lives, in the light of God's love for us: our relationship with him, others, ourselves and the opportunity to 'step back' and look for appropriate ways to spend more time in God's presence. It doesn't have to be about 'giving up', what we might expect. It could be about 'giving over' more time for him. With prayers for a joyful and Spirit-filled Lent. *Fr Paul*

Hymn 95 Forty days and forty nights

Venite

Psalm 32

1st Reading Genesis 2: 15 - 17; 3: 1 - 7

Te Deum

2nd Reading Matthew 4: 1 - 11

Benedictus

Collect Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ did fast forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to thy Spirit; and, as thou knowest our weakness, so may we know thy power to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Hymn 385 Be thou my guardian and my guide

Hymn 96 Jesu lover of my soul

CHURCH NEWS

Training Opportunity: 'Listening Well' to be held in *Radley Church Room Tuesday 31 March 2pm to 4pm*. Designed for 'informal listening' which is so valuable in church and community settings, the course is open to those who will find this useful in their roles around church or in the community. There will be a modest charge – probably £10 – to cover costs. Interested? Please email course convenor – Mary O'Brien at mfaobrien@gmail.com - with some indication of how the training would be relevant to you, by 13 March if possible. If the course is oversubscribed, another may be run later in the year.

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 28 March please.

The latest edition of **Pathways** – the Oxford Diocesan magazine is now available at the back of church. Do take a copy.

DIARY DATES

This afternoon, 3:00 pm, Abbey Chamber Concert, Nocturne: an original programme of French piano music, dance and song. Music by Faure, Debussy, Duparc, Hahn, Takemitsu. Diana Hinds piano, Rory Carver tenor, Joëlle Pappas dancer/choreographer. Tickets, £10, available from 07775 904626, online or on the door.

Monday 2 March – the first Church in Abingdon Lent Lecture
8pm in St Helen's Church, South Aisle led by the Revd Dr Charles Miller:
The Spiritual Adventure of Henri Matisse, Vence's Chapel of the Rosary.
Pilgrimage to Vence: Henri Matisse's 'Chapel of the Rosary' and the transformation of Christian art in the 20th century. Cards advertising the event are on the table at the back of church.

Tuesday 3 March, 10.30 am, St Helen's Parish Centre, Mothers' Union Meeting. Linda Hobbs will be speaking on the Abingdon Food Bank. Everyone welcome. Please bring items for the Food Bank

Tuesday 3 March, Blue Sky Eco Cafe welcomes you to another exciting environmentally friendly lunch. Long Furlong Community Centre noon - 2pm - last orders 1.30. No bookings, just turn up.
www.BlueSkyEcoCafe.org.uk

Stations of the Cross: St Michael's Wednesday March 4, 11 and 18 from 7.30 pm for about 40 minutes. These walks will be clergy and lay led. Entry is through the porch on the south side of the church. If you park in Park Road or Crescent, come in to get a parking permit, otherwise the parking is free in the surrounding streets.

Thursday 5 March Moving into Stillness at St Michael and All Angels: circle dancing to Taizé music with silent interludes on from 9.45 – 10.45 am, before the regular circle dancing session at 11 am. Elizabeth Mitchell will be the teacher. No prior experience/partner needed.

Friday 6 March, World Day of Prayer 2020 This year services will take place at Trinity Church, at 10.30 am and 7.30 pm. All welcome – men, women, children. The service this year has been written by the women of Zimbabwe.

CAN YOU HELP?

Fun in the Park – Face painting. Crafts. Laughter. Chatting. Churches united in mission. Fun in the Park is a free event organised by Abingdon Town Council aimed at families, on **Saturday 6 June** in the Abbey Grounds, 11 am - 3 pm. The Church in Abingdon has hosted a stall there to make the most of the outreach opportunity. Can you be part of the team? There's plenty of scope for using your gifts, even for just an hour: we need set up/clear up teams; face painters; crafty people; chatty people. We need to know who is onboard by 12 March to decide whether we can bring this together. So please contact Debra Mcknight, CiA Administrator, if you can be involved. dhmcknight@aol.com

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- That we grow in grace during this season of Lent;
- all called to a ministry of listening;
- those in our congregation who cannot be with us today;
- those affected by recent storms
- all those affected by the Coronavirus;

- those suffering from sickness of mind, body or spirit and those working to heal, support and comfort them;
- our ministers, and all who support the ministry of teaching, and welcome in this place;
- our troubled and divided world.

NEXT WEEK at St Nicolas

Mon 2 Mar	3:00 pm Communion by Extension	Bridge House
Sunday 8 Mar	8:00 am Holy Communion	The Revd David Bevington
	11:15 am Holy Communion	The Rt Revd Henry Scriven

& IN THE PARISH

Mon - Fri	StH	9:10 am Morning Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Mon - Fri	StH	5:10 pm Evening Prayer – The Lady Chapel
Thur	StM	12:30 pm Said Mass followed by lunch
Sun 8	StH	<i>8:00 am Holy Communion at St Nicolas' this month</i>
		10:30 am Sung Eucharist
		5:30pm Taize
	StM	joint Service at Trinity at 10:30 am this week

Team Rector	The Revd. Dr. C Miller	01235 520144
Team Vicar	The Revd. Paul Smith	01235 534654
Church Wardens	Mr Paul Rast-Lindsell	07876 277 363
	Mr Andrew Coker	01235 539929
Parish Office	Mrs Jenny Balshaw	01235 520144
Website:	www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk	
Facebook	www.facebook.com/stnicolasabingdon	

Please send information for next week's pew slip to eluned@hallas.org.uk by Wednesday

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