



St NICOLAS' CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 6 June 2021

First Sunday after Trinity

Dear Friends

Welcome to St Nic's today on this First Sunday after Trinity for this service of Morning Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer, It is a pleasure to welcome The Revd SokHan Yong to officiate and preach for us today and we look forward to what she has to say to us.

The Bishop of Oxford recently wrote to the clergy to encourage us at this particular moment in the pandemic. He was keen to point out on behalf of the bishops of the diocese that as a church he believes we must now be entering a *'...time of gentle regathering, of determined rebuilding, of God rekindling fire in our hearts, of nursing our communities back to health, of rebirth for our church'*. This is undoubtedly a big task after such a long haul, but with the help and grace of God we know we do not do this alone.

This will be very much a process when we have not only to remember that 'God is the strength of all them that put their trust in him' (from today's Collect), but that we have also to 'trust in the slow work of God' (Teilhard de Chardin SJ), whom I quoted last week.

I would like to leave you with three questions to ponder in light of the bishop's call to the churches of the diocese at this time:

- i) In light of what has been lost as a result of the pandemic, what do you believe we need to stop doing ?
- ii) In light of what may begin to start to feel familiar again, what do you think we should continue doing?
- iii) In light of what you have insights you have gained, what do you think we should do differently?

With love and blessings, *Fr Paul*

READINGS & COLLECT

Genesis 3.8-15

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4.13 - 5.1

Mark 3.20-35

Collect: O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace that, in keeping of thy commandments, we may please thee, both in will and deed; 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.

Next Week at St Nicolas'

Sunday 13 June

8:00am at St Helen's this month

11:15am Holy Communion – the Revd Jen Brown

Please remember, if you would like to attend a Service you need to register and book

8am Peter Penfold / Jan Lawrence (papenfold@aol.co.uk / jil129@outlook.com)

11:15am Paul Rast-Lindsell (07876 277363 / paulr.lstnics@gmail.com)

CHURCH NEWS

As the work on the tower comes to a close we are hoping to **re-open the Church for Private Prayer** and to visitors on **Monday mornings**. This will depend on the support of people being willing to act as stewards. If this is possible, then we may be able to extend the opening. Please contact Eluned if you are interested in helping to Steward on Monday mornings initially. **Thank you!**

A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW The June edition of 'A Candle in the Window' (2021 issue 5) will be available from this Sunday 6 June. Read about TS Eliot, about Macbeth, about Chance and Randomness, Street Pastors and Flower arranging etc! **Explore it!** It will be available from <https://stnicolasabingdon.org.uk/downloads/Candle202105.pdf>

Dr Jenny Metcalfe (Mrs Jenny Smith): I am pleased to announce that at our DCC last week, Jenny was elected as our DCC Treasurer, succeeding Dr Andrew Birks who has carried out this role with great dedication over many years. We are most grateful to Jenny for taking on this role. There will be an appropriate transition between Andrew's retirement from the role as Jenny takes up the reins. We look forward to working with Jenny as she becomes our Treasurer. *Fr Paul*

St Sigfrid's Pilgrimage: is currently being walked from York to southern Sweden, and will pass through Abingdon on Wednesday 16 June. More details on letter in churches, in the forthcoming "Candle" article, and at <https://www.stsigfridstrust.org/> For more details of hospitality/worship/walking opportunities, contact Gwen, 521133 or 07789 605 418 or gwenbev31@tiscali.co.uk

Liz Dixon RIP many congregation members will remember Liz who was a regular weekday visitor to St Nic's, helping Jim with Church sitting and the washing up. Her help on open days and the annual Extravaganza was especially welcome. Liz was seldom seen without her crochet and her blankets were much admired. She had been suffering from ill health, but we were saddened to hear of her recent death, in her sleep, from a blood clot. We

give thanks for Liz's life, and remember her family and friends as they mourn her sudden loss.

St Helen's Church is open from 11am to 1pm for **private prayer** on Tuesdays and Thursdays during May.

On Wednesday Holy Communion will be in the South aisle of St Helen's at 10.30 am. No need to book.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of The Abingdon Bridge will be held on Tuesday, 8th June at 19.00 via Zoom. To attend please contact Dick Richards, Hon Sec of TAB, (dick@theabingdonbridge.org.uk) and you will receive details of the Zoom joining instructions.

The Agenda, Annual Trustees Report and a Summary of the Annual Accounts are available from: <https://www.theabingdonbridge.org.uk/agm-2021>

Abingdon Artists' Exhibition 7 to 12 June, St. Helen's Church. Open Daily 10.00-4.30, Sat. To 4.00pm. New and original work by local artists, including sculpture, cards and unframed items. Card payment Covid-19 secure. Free Entrance

Concert by Oxford Baroque Players, Saturday, 12 June, 19:30 at Merton College Chapel (Merton Street, OX1 4JD). Featuring: J.S. Bach, Orchestral Suite no.1; J.S. Bach, Jesu meine Freude; A. Vivaldi : Gloria

Tickets available from :

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxford-baroque-players-summer-concert-tickets-157128636983>

Oxford Baroque Players was founded a few months ago by Kentaro Machida, director of music (senior organ scholar at Merton College, Oxford) and Jake Sternberg (choral scholar at Queen's College, Oxford). It is entirely led by students from the University of Oxford. Congregation members may remember Kentaro who played for some of our Services while studying for his A levels.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Steven, Gavin, and Henry our bishops, especially at this time in the life of our diocese;
- Jenny and Sam getting married in St Nic's on Saturday
- The common life of our parish;
- Our Prime Minister and Government, for wisdom to make the right decisions in the final stage of the road map out of the current lockdown;
- All troubled places in the world at this time and especially Israel and Palestine;
- The people of India in this time of pandemic;

- All suffering in body, mind or spirit especially those in our own church community;.
- The care homes in our parish, for all residents, families and staff at Bridge House and Old Station House, with whom we have special links;
- Our church school of St Nicolas, for Andy Spooner, Headteacher and all his staff, and Eluned Hallas, Chair of Governors

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Meeting God In The Silence will be starting again on the first Monday of each month from 7 June 2021 at Christ Church, Northcourt Road, for 30 min of silent prayer in the morning or evening: 9.30 am for 10 am start or 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. There will be no meeting in August.

[Oxford Cathedral on-line services](#) - Sunday Sung Eucharist and Evensong, and weekday Services (includes service booklets and sermons). Recorded archive available.

The [Parish resources](#) page contains links to Sunday's Service at St Helen's, plus an archive of Parish resources.

The [St Nicolas' website](#) has recordings of our 11:15 am Service sermons.

RESOURCES ACCESSIBLE BY TELEPHONE

Diocesan Eucharist Recordings of most of the Sunday services should be available from around 11 am each Sunday. Simply call 01865 920930 and, once connected, dial 0 for the full service or 1 for a shortened form. Standard call rates apply.

Daily Hope A Church of England resource offering hymns, prayers and reflections as well as full services via a freephone number 0800 804 8044.

CONTACT US

Team Rector	The Revd. Dr. C Miller	01235 520144
Team Vicar	The Revd. Paul Smith	01235 534654
Associate Priest	The Revd. Charles Masheder	01235 520959
Church Warden	Mr Paul Rast-Lindsell	07876 277363
Church Warden Elect	Mrs Eluned Hallas	01235 529462
Parish Office		01235 520144
Website	https://www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk/	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/stnicolasabingdon	

When the office is closed (Fridays until further notice) please contact the Revd Canon Charles Masheder on 01235 520959 for any **urgent pastoral issues**.

The Parish office is now open again Mondays to Thursdays, 10am-1pm until further notice (or other times by arrangement). To contact the office leave a message on the office phone 01235 520144, use the office mobile: 07395 943957 or email administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk

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