



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 4 July 2021
Fifth Sunday after Trinity
11.15am Morning Prayer
Revd Paul Smith

Dear Friends

A warm welcome to St Nic's today for this service of Morning Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer.

In the gospel set for today we see what lies at the very heart of the mission of the disciples which is the call for them to do as Jesus did. He gives them power to do the same mighty works that he has done – they don't make the decision to become an extension of his ministry, he does. This is a clear reminder that before the church is an institution made up of committed volunteers, it is a community with a difference and distinction because of the call and commission of Jesus. This is the only reason it is able to fulfil what we might call its mandate to preach and heal in the name of Jesus.

Having said this, the reality of rejection must be taken seriously. Jesus talks about shaking off the dust from the sandals of their feet. The disciples have to live with the prospect that not everything they teach and preach in the name of Christ will be either heard or accepted. They should be neither surprised or discouraged when doors are slammed in their faces. It is, after all, what Jesus himself experiences from all sorts of people, even his own family. I wonder where that gospel reality leaves us in our own secular society where the church in all its effort works hard to keep going. Surely it brings us to our knees; to a reliance on God which underlines that he has always be in charge of the community which is called and commissioned by Jesus; to the truth that we must persevere in the power of the Spirit.

With love and prayers,

Fr Paul

READINGS & COLLECT

Ezekiel 2: 1 - 5

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12: 2 - 10

Mark 6: 1 - 13

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Next Week at St Nicolas'

Sunday 11 July

8:00am Holy Communion (1662) – The Revd SokHan Yong

11:15am Holy Communion – Bishop Henry Scriven

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

Jim Barker: over the next few weeks there will be a card for Jim at the back of church for congregation members to add their messages of thanks and farewell.

The July edition of 'A Candle in the Window' will be available to download on Sunday 4th July. No more until September. The usual rich mixture: priests, poets, a drummer, bell ringers, at least one walker and several forms of recreation. Oh and some maths homework. What is not to like as they say?

Download from: <https://www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk/downloads/Candle202106.pdf>

St Helen's Church is open from 11am to 1pm for **private prayer** on Tuesdays and Thursdays. **On Wednesday** Holy Communion will be in the South aisle of St Helen's at 10.30 am. No need to book.

On Thursday the Said Mass will be celebrated at St Michael's at 12.30pm (and will now take place weekly). No need to book.

Abingdon Mothers' Union: Tuesday 6 July, 10:30am Tuesday 6 July, Parish Centre, Literacy in Nigeria – Rebuilding Hope and Confidence. Speaker Mary Anderson.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Albert Lodge, Ock Street, Summer Party: Thursday 15 July 2-4pm. Come and visit. Places limited, booking needed on 01235 885330. A Churchill Retirement Living development.

The **Bible Reading Fellowship** is recruiting for a new full-time Editorial Assistant to join the Content Creation team. Home-based with regular visits to the BRF offices in Abingdon required; Full-time (37.5 hours per week); Closing date: Friday 9 July at 5.00 pm. [Read more](#)

Calling all Cake Makers: Now that the Cafe@35 is open, we will be needing more homemade cakes. If you would be prepared to join our loyal band of cake makers to

make a cake every one or two months, on a day of your choice, Rosemary Brown would love to hear from you: 01235 529261 or rosemary.annbrown70@gmail.com

The **Abingdon Passion Play** committee is due to meet on 18 July 2021 to keep alive the possibility of a new production in the not too distant future. Anyone interested in joining us is invited to contact the chairman, John Clare, at johnclare.blunsdon@gmail.com .

Step into Oxford: Not been out for a while? Feeling a little nervous about stepping out again? We have just the thing for you: a gentle 45-minute stroll through the stunning and uplifting sights of Oxford, led by a professional guide and, accompanied, if you wish, by a volunteer helper.

Age UK Oxfordshire has teamed up with the Oxford Guild of Tour Guides and the Oxford Hub to get you back 'out there'. The FREE morning or afternoon walk is followed by an opportunity to sit and chat with others over a cup of tea or coffee. What could be better? Walks are open to anybody over 50.

Forthcoming dates:

Tuesday 6 July 10.30 am	Thursday 15 July 10.30 am
Tuesday 20 July 2.00 pm	Thursday 29 July 2.00 pm
Tuesday 3 August 10.30 am	Thursday 12 August 10.30 am
Tuesday 17 August 2.00 pm	Thursday 26 August 2.00 pm
Tuesday 31 August 10.30 am	

For further information/to book your place, contact Petra (Age UK) on 01235 849434.

Abingdon Progressive Christianity Network: The next meeting will be on Tuesday 6 July 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom. At this meeting, we shall be considering a session from Living the Questions: An Introduction to Progressive Christianity - Thinking Theologically. This is a DVD resource that we might offer to people seeking to learn more about progressive Christianity.

We welcome new members to this group; you do not need to be a member of the Progressive Christianity Network but we hope you will be interested in exploring open and contemporary Christian understanding. For more information or/and to attend this online meeting, please contact Cliff Marshall at cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk .

Can you help The Abingdon Bridge (TAB)?: The Abingdon Bridge is a well-regarded Abingdon charity that supports young people aged 13-25. We are currently looking for more volunteers to act as a receptionist at our new premises at 3 Market Place, Abingdon. As we have a bank of volunteers, you may only do a slot once a week or fortnightly or monthly. Currently, our opening hours are Monday to Thursday 2-7 pm and Friday 2-6 pm, subject to change as we follow current government COVID guidelines. The work is not onerous and mainly involves buzzing clients in and showing them to the waiting room, but this is a vital role that supports the counsellors. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Sandy Kruger at sandy@theabingdonbridge.org.uk. Volunteers will be DBS checked.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Steven, Gavin, and Henry our bishops, especially at this time in the life of our diocese;

- The work of the PCC especially as it looks towards the Team Ministry Review with Canon David Tyler;
- All preparing for ordination to the diaconate and priesthood at this time;
- All those celebrating significant anniversaries of ordination at this time;
- All suffering in body, mind or spirit especially those in our own church community;
- For the family of Amanda Fordyce;
- 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

Although the live-streaming of a Sunday diocesan service has now ended, Church at Home is continuing to offer invitations to attend live-streamed services from churches around the diocese. See

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19-2/livestream/>

[Oxford Cathedral on-line services](#) - Sunday Sung Eucharist and Evensong, and weekday Services (includes service booklets and sermons). 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 open again Mondays to Thursdays, 10am-1pm (or 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***