



St NICOLAS' CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 5 September 2021
Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
11.15am
The Revd Canon David Tyler

Good Morning,

I am David Tyler, the Associate Archdeacon of Dorchester and it is my pleasure to be leading you in worship this morning and to be preaching. Prior to moving to Abingdon as I took up my post as Associate Archdeacon, I was Rector of Hanborough and Freeland and Area Dean of Woodstock. I trained for ministry in Oxford ahead of serving my curacy in Ashby de la Zouch in Leicestershire. Prior to ordination I worked as a Chartered Accountant in London for a large professional services firm called KPMG. Catherine and I have been married for 25 years this month and Josh our son is working in Cambridge for a year as part of his Masters from Bristol, whilst Charlotte our daughter is in her last year of A levels at OLA. That just leaves Poppy our Tan Cocker Spaniel who is almost 9, very wilful, but also very cute and gets away with more than she should!

In preparing my sermon today I was particularly drawn to our gospel reading in Mark where we are reminded that Christ has come for all people. In a week of Paralympics it is good to remind ourselves that Christ has come for all people, whatever race, whatever abilities, whatever gender, whatever cards life has dealt us. As Jesus heals first the daughter of a gentile woman from an unclean spirit and then a man who is deaf and mute we are powerfully reminded that Jesus has not just come for the religious, wealthy, healthy, educated or powerful, but that he has come for all people. In my words today we will explore this theme and think about the implications of Christ coming for all. I very much look forward to being with you.

READINGS & COLLECT

Isaiah 35.4-7a

Psalms 146

James 2.1-10[11-13] 14-17

Mark 7.24-37

Collect: Almighty God, whose only Son hath opened for us a new and living way into thy presence: grant that, with pure hearts and constant wills, we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; 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.

Sunday 12 September

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) - the Revd Canon Charles Masheder

11:15am Holy Communion - The Revd Helen Kendrick

Following the relaxation of Covid regulations on 19 July, there is no longer any requirement to register in advance for Services.

We will still be observing some covid mitigation measures during Services.

CHURCH NEWS

Faith Forum: First Sunday of the month - 9:15am in the Parish Centre

The four Faith Forum sessions this year will look at aspects of *'Living in Love & Faith'* - a church-wide learning together, listening to one another, and listening to God as part of discerning a way forward for the Church of England in relation to matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. The topic is large, so the FF approach will be limited but focused:

September 5 – Content and rationale of LLF

October 3 – looking at Part 2 'What's going on?'

November 7 – looking at Part 3 'God's story and ours'

December 5 – looking at the Cultural context: Hearing God

See <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith> for further resources and information.

We will celebrate **Harvest Festival on Sunday 19 September**. We would welcome donations of tins etc to be taken to the Abingdon Food Bank, and will be donating the loose plate collection to help combat hunger around the world.

Currently the Foodbank is asking for: sauces for rice eg curry, sweet and sour etc; small tinned baked beans or spaghetti hoops etc; shampoo; shower gel for men; dog food; sturdy carrier bags; empty egg boxes; washing up liquid; crackers, crisps and other savoury snacks; cartons of long life fruit juice; bottles of squash and food that can be prepared using only a kettle.

There will be a **'Harvest Lunch'** following our Harvest Festival on **19 September**. This will be at Pizza Express when we can share fellowship, pizzas etc. We hope the weather will be nice enough to allow us to sit outside. Cost £15 / head, children free, there is a sign up list in church or let Hildegard or Eluned know if you would like to join us.

The next issue of **'A Candle in the Window'** should be available from the website on Thursday 9 September. *Thank you*

Autumn Reading groups: The ***Desiring Life Reading group*** will start meeting in the lounge of the Parish Centre to read Richard Harries book ***Seeing God through Art*** at 2.30pm on Tuesday September 14th and fortnightly thereafter. The Rector will lead the discussions. Open to everyone.

The ***Online Reading Group*** will start meeting on Zoom to read Martyn Percy's book ***The Humble Church*** at 4pm on Thursday September 23rd and fortnightly thereafter. Ros Rutherford will lead the discussions. To join please contact Susan Scott on 01235 522960, or susan.scott21@btinternet.com to receive the Zoom code. Open to everyone.

Church Stewarding: We are hoping to be able to open St Nic's to visitors on Saturdays 11 September (OHCT Ride & Stride) and 18 September (Heritage Open Days). Support with Stewarding would be most welcome – please contact Eluned. Covid precautions will be maintained.

The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride + Stride Saturday 11 September following current COVID guidelines. Philippa is planning (weather permitting) to visit Churches around Abingdon and would welcome sponsorship (of which 50% will come to St Nic's) – please see the form at the back of Church. Further information from <https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride>.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TODAY: Abbey Chamber Concert: St Nicolas Church, 3pm

Pavlova Winds present Dvorak Serenade Gounod Petite Symphonie for Winds
Tickets: £10 on the door.

Abingdon Progressive Christianity Network: The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7 September at 7.30 pm via Zoom. At this meeting, we will be looking ahead to the coming year and exploring how we might engage with 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.

Afghan refugees - a chance to help Since 2016 St Ethelwold's House has provided accommodation for refugees and asylum-seekers, and we anticipate a huge increase in demand in the wake of the crisis in Afghanistan. Plans are afoot to raise £3,100 to top up the Host Abingdon Sanctuary Fund over the next 12 months. All of us could help by making a standing order, and/or a one-off donation to Host Abingdon, Sort Code 40-35-34 Account No 34134214, or by sending a cheque (made out to Host Abingdon) to St Ethelwold's House, 30 East St Helen St, Abingdon OX14 5EB. We need to email the treasurer at ruth.sillitoe@gmail.com so that she knows who made the donation. If anyone is thinking of organising a fundraising event (coffee morning, concert, ...), please contact Adrian at adrianrance220@gmail.com
Many thanks. Mary Anderson and Gwen Bevington

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Steven, Gavin, and Henry our bishops;
- All affected by turmoil, natural disaster or climate change;
- All suffering in body, mind or spirit especially those in our own church community;
- All those preparing to return to school / university in the next few weeks, and staff preparing to welcome them;

- 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.

WORSHIP

In the parish:

St Nicolas' is now open for private prayer on Mondays 10-12noon.

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.

On Thursday the Said Mass will be celebrated at St Michael's at 12.30pm (

Morning Prayer will not be said publicly in St Helen's until October.

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	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 (on Fridays) please contact the Revd Canon Charles Masheder on 01235 520959 for any **urgent pastoral issues**.

The Parish office is open 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***