



St NICOLAS' CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 12 September 2021
Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity
11.15am

The Revd Helen Kendrick

Being a follower isn't a fashionable thing to be. At graduations students aren't congratulated on becoming the "followers of tomorrow." In most cultures followers are regarded as losers. So in my sermon this morning I will be exploring what it means to be a follower. What does it mean to take up our cross and follow Jesus? Does that make us losers?

Revd Helen Kendrick

The Reverend Helen Kendrick is Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish and Area Dean of Abingdon. She has served in the Deanery for over eighteen years and lives in Sutton Courtenay with her husband Christopher, two adopted adult children and a dog called Merlin.

READINGS & COLLECT

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Psalms 116.1-8

James 3.1-12

Mark 8.27-38

Collect: God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

Sunday 19 September

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) - the Revd Dr Charles Miller

11:15am Third Sunday: Harvest - The Revd Paul Smith

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

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'** is now available from the website -

<https://stnicolasabingdon.org.uk/downloads/Candle202107.pdf>

Do take a look

Pathways – the Diocesan Magazine – for Autumn 2021 is also out now. Look for a copy in Church or [read it online](#) If you'd like a hard copy posted to you – just ask.

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.

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>.

Heritage Open Days – 18 / 19 September in Abingdon.

St Nic's is hosting an Exhibition (open Thursday - Saturday 10am - 3pm) on Food - find out where food was grown and how it was distributed in the Abingdon of the past. Lots more going on – see <https://www.abingdonheritage.org.uk/>

Saturday 25 September Choral Concert I Was Glad 7.30 pm, St Helen's Church. The St Giles Consort directed by Julian Parkin Haig and accompanied by Peter Foster sing a programme of choral masterpieces, dedicated to the memory of Juliet and Peter Brooks. Tickets to go on sale online later this month.

Harvest Witness: Following the much-appreciated times before Christmas and Easter at the West Porch, we are planning a similar witness before Harvest to engage with those walking by St Helen's. It will run from Monday 27th September until the Harvest Festival

on October 3rd. (A short Harvest service is planned that day at 3:30pm). If you can help, contact Canon Charles ideally on chasmash@ic24.net or on 01235 520959. Thank you!

Music For A Sunday Afternoon: Autumn Concerts at St Michael's:

Sunday 3rd October: 3.00pm. Barbara Stuart (clarinet), Peter Willis (tenor) and Glynne Butt (piano) have chosen some of their favourite music for this concert. Songs by Handel, Mozart, Vaughan Williams, and Britten; Clarinet solos by Mendelssohn and Finzi and piano music by Chopin. Not to be missed! Something for everyone. Please bring your friends.

Sunday 17th October: 4.00pm. (Note later starting time) The Creation, Haydn. We are fortunate to welcome the East Oxford Community Choir together with their twin town choir from Grenoble, accompanied by a full orchestra to repeat for us a performance they are giving elsewhere the day before.

Sunday 14th November: 3.00pm Pavlova Winds with Glynne Butt (piano) will play trios by Poulenc and Glinka. Some exhilarating and tuneful music! We are delighted that all four players are available to repeat a concert they performed recently in Oxford.

We do hope you will come along to support and to help us in raising money for church funds – although the main reason for coming is, of course, to enjoy some good music.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Abingdon Library Language Café every Tuesday morning from 10 am to 12 noon, starting on 5th October. Practise English with other friendly people or learn a new language through conversation. Free drop in – no need to book.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Steven, Gavin, and Henry our bishops;
- The congregation of St Helen's Church keeping their Patronal Festival today;
- All affected by turmoil, natural disaster or climate change;
- 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.

WORSHIP

In the parish:

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

St Helen's Church is open from 10am to 3pm, Mon-Fri for private prayer and visitors.

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, or email administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk

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