



St NICOLAS' CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 3 April 2022
Fifth Sunday of Lent/Passion Sunday
11:15am Morning Prayer
The Revd Jen Brown

Welcome to St Nic's today and to the Revd Jen Brown who will preside and preach. Jen will preach the last of our Lent sermons based on the context of the Lent book: 'Hope and the Nearness of God'. We consider the last chapter: 'The Holy Spirit: Source of Hope'.

Today we begin Passiontide and next week Holy Week is upon us. Our worship on Palm Sunday will contain the blessing of Palm Crosses and the celebration of Holy Communion. Our worship here at St Nic's (and throughout the parish) is listed in this pewleaflet. Please do acquaint yourself with what is happening and note that on Maundy Thursday we shall have a service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm. I encourage you to come to this pivotal service in Holy Week when we recall the night on which Jesus was betrayed and instituted the Lord's supper. Then follows a solemn act of worship on Good Friday when we recall the cross on which the Lord won our salvation. We cannot escape from the darkness of this day if, on Easter Day, we want to experience the new life of the hope of the resurrection and sing out our Alleluias with exultant joy!

Finally, those who wish to attend worship on Monday – Wednesday are warmly invited to St Michael's when the Revd Elizabeth Birch, formerly Chaplain at St Helen's and St Katharine's School will preach an address each evening. Elizabeth's theme: '*The Stuff of Salvation: Materials of Redemption and Hope*' will look at perishable materials which appear in the passion narrative, but which are transformed into what is imperishable and holy. They include: perfume, bread, metal, water and wine, linen, and stone, and are often missed because of our over familiarity with the text. Alternatively, there is also the opportunity to attend Compline with an Address at St Helen's at 8pm.

In whatever way you are able to participate in our keeping of Passiontide and Holy Week, I pray that God would draw you closer to himself through the self-giving love of Jesus.

With love and blessings, Father Paul

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43.16-21

Philippians 3.4b-14

Psalms 126

John 12.1-8

Collect: Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ hast delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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 10 April – Palm Sunday

8:00am Holy Communion – The Revd David Bevington (at St H)

11:15am Holy Communion – The Revd Canon Charles Masheder

We ask that you sanitise your hands on arrival and departure and wear a mask even for congregational singing. Thank you for helping to keep one another safe.

Walk the **Stations of the Cross** this Lent in St Michael's. The final opportunity is this Tuesday 5 April at 7.30 pm. Please enter church through the South Door

Holy Week and Easter in the Parish:

Mon-Wed:	St H	8:00 pm	Compline with Address
	St M	7:00 pm	Said Mass and Address
Maundy Thursday:	St N	7:30 pm	Holy Communion
	St H	8:00 pm	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper and Vigil
	St M	8:00 pm	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper and Vigil
Good Friday:	St N	10:00 am	Liturgy for Good Friday
	St H	2:00 pm	Liturgy of the Passion
	St M	10:00 am	Children's Liturgy
		2:00 pm	Liturgy of the Passion
Holy Saturday/Easter Eve:	St H	9:10 am	Morning Prayer
		8:00 pm	Lighting of the New Fire, Vigil and Renewal of Baptismal Vows
	St M	8:00 pm	Lighting of Easter Fire, Vigil of Readings, First Mass of Easter
Easter Day:	St N	11:15 am	Lighting of Paschal Candle, Holy Communion
		St H	8:00 am
		10:30 am	Festal Eucharist of the Resurrection
	St M	9:30 am	Sung Mass of the Resurrection

CHURCH NEWS

Contributions welcome to the Easter edition of the Candle in the Window. Email to: candle@abingdonparish.org.uk

Can you help? We now have some plans for the refurbishment of the Toilet Block, and would like to start discussions with contractors. If you can recommend a local builder who might be interested in the project please contact Gwyneth Lewis.

Easter Flowers: Donations are invited for Easter lilies and other flowers – please speak to Jenny Smith.

Green Fingered Help Wanted: is any one able to help with, or recommend someone to help, with some light gardening work? If so please speak to Eluned

The Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames has a **part time vacancy for a Personal Assistant**. The post requires a variety of administrative skills to enable support for the Team Vicar and his ministry in 2 Abingdon churches, also working closely with other clergy and lay members of the team. The post will be 6 hours per week, tba. over at least 2 days. Salary £9.45 per hour. Please contact Miss Joyce Kelly for more information and application details: joycek1956@gmail.com Telephone: 07883 535768 Closing Date for applications Wednesday 13th April 2022. Interviews Thursday 5th May

DIARY DATES

There will be no **Faith Forum** in April. It will begin again on May 1st when Professor John Barton will begin with a short service on “Wisdom”.

Tuesday 5 April, Mothers’ Union meet in The Parish Centre on at 10.30 am. The speaker will be Mandy Slater from the “Family of Hope”, featuring a special needs school in Uganda. Non members welcome. Refreshments from 10.15 am.

Thursday 7 April, Moving into Stillness: circle dancing to Taizé music with silent interludes at St Michaels 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. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Saturday 9 April, the choir and orchestra of Abingdon and District Musical Society and the Wantage Choral Society choir will perform the **St Matthew Passion** by J S Bach. School of St Helen and St Katherine, Faringdon Road and will start at 7.30 p.m. Tickets at the door cost £14 / £12 in advance.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ukraine Crisis Appeal Many charities have launched appeals to provide help in the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, including the British Red Cross - <https://www.redcross.org.uk>; UNHCR - <https://www.unrefugees.org.uk>; the Disasters Emergency Committee - <https://www.dec.org.uk>.

WORSHIP

Daily: Morning Prayer is said at St Helen’s each week day at 9:10am

Wednesdays: Holy Communion in the Parish Centre Hall / St Helen’s Church at 10:30am

Thursdays: Said Mass at St Michael’s at 12:30pm

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

The [Parish resources](#) page contains links to Sunday’s Service at St Helen’s.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- Steven, Gavin, and Henry our bishops and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;
- Her Majesty the Queen, and all the Royal Family;
- Our Government and nation and those seriously threatened by the cost of living crisis;
- The people of the Ukraine and for peace in that land and throughout the world;
- All Ukrainians migrants seeking refuge in the UK, in our locality, and throughout Europe;
- That we may be drawn closer to Jesus in his passion, death and resurrection;
- Any known to us suffering in body, mind and spirit, especially those among our congregations who are suffering with Covid at this time;
- 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;
- The schools in our parish, our church school at St Nicolas, for the Headteacher and all staff and pupils, especially as they prepare for the end of term on Friday;

Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen

*Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Revd Justin Welby
Archbishop of York, The Most Revd Stephen Cottrell*

CONTACT US

Team Rector	The Revd Dr Charles Miller	01235 520144
Team Vicar	The Revd Paul Smith	01235 534654
Associate Priests	The Revd Canon Charles Masheder	01235 520959
	The Revd Jen Brown	
Church Warden	Mrs Eluned Hallas	01235 529462
Parish Office	Mrs Jackie Cunningham	01235 520144
Website	https://www.stnicolasabingdon.org.uk/	
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/stnicolasabingdon	

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