



St Nicolas
NEWBURY

Being Good News. Bringing Good News.

Newsletter Sunday 10 December 2017 2nd Sunday of Advent

A Warm Welcome to St. Nicolas:

We are so glad you have joined us. If this is your first time here please introduce yourself to one of our host team who would love to welcome you personally.

8:00am **Holy Communion**
Leader: Will Hunter Smart
Readings: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9
 1 John 1:1-10

10.00am **Holy Communion**
Theme: A gift to change the world
Leader: Will Hunter Smart
Preacher: Amba Kennedy
Reading: Luke 1:39-56

The Benefice Evenson services at St Mary's, Speen, have now moved to a 'winter' pattern, beginning at 3.30pm, taking place only on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

6.00pm **Contemporary Worship**
Leader: Will Briggs

Children and Youth

StNicsKids and Pathfinders start in church for the beginning of the 10am service and then go to the church hall and St Nicolas House for their groups.
Ages 0 - 3: Sparklers (Upper hall)
Age 4 - Reception: Comets (Upper room)
Years 1 - 5: All Stars (Lower hall)
Years 6 - 8: Pathfinders (St Nicolas Hse)

The Firm (Years 9 -13) meet in the Upper hall (until October half term) at 7.30pm following the 6pm contemporary evening service.

Collect for the Day

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

This Week: 11th – 15th Dec 2017

Monday

7:30 pm Bell Ringing practice

Tuesday

10:00 - 11:15 am Foundations (a group for women) in the upper hall for informal Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Pre-schoolers are also very welcome!

Wednesday

10:00 am Daybreak - a group for parents with young children

Thursday

10 am - 12 pm Charity Coffee Morning – Action Through Enterprise (ATE)

10:30 am Mid-Week Holy Communion Service

Friday

6:30 pm Junior Choir Practice in the Church

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice in the Church

7:30 pm TGI (Years 6-9)

Dates for your diary

This Sunday – Carol Singing and the Light Parade As part of the Light Parade organised by the town council this Sunday, our choir are carol singing. Anyone from the St Nic's church family is welcome to join with them – the more the merrier. The carol singing will take place from 5-6pm at the culmination of the procession in the Market Place. Turn up and sing!

Lantern Parade & The Six The Six service this Sunday is straight after the town's Festival of Light Lantern Parade. We are joining in with our celebration of Jesus, the Light of the World. This will include an illuminated installation in the churchyard. We have the opportunity to be present, talk to people, offer mince pies and a warm drink, inviting them to join us in the hall, or simply to talking about the meaning of Christmas. All welcome to help with this - setting up from about 3pm, serving and assisting from about 4pm, and talking and welcoming from about 4:30pm.

Encounter Prayer – with Mark and Ruth Zealey Encounter Prayer is this Tuesday, 12th December. This month, Mark and Ruth Zealey, our mission partners from Life Church in Istanbul, are joining us so that we can hear their recent news and pray for them. We will also be praying for all our events and many visitors over the coming weeks of our Christmas Celebrations. Please join us to pray. 8pm – 9.15 in the upper church hall.

Action Through Enterprise (ATE) is on Thursday 14 December, in the church Hall from 10am – 12 noon. Offers of cakes, raffle prizes or bric a brac will be gratefully received. A warm welcome to all who come. Thank you. Rosemary Collins.

Prisoners of Conscience letter writing - There will be a chance to send a greeting card to a prisoner of conscience somewhere in the world, carefully selected by Amnesty International. Sometimes the flood of cards embarrasses the authorities into releasing the person! Please stop and address a card at the table in Church between 11 and 3 on Dec 16th. Cards and pens will be provided.

Many thanks David and Frances Hawkey

8am Traditional Holy Communion Service This is a Holy Communion traditional (BCP) service running on Christmas morning, being taken by Margaret Yates. Unfortunately, this has been missed off our Christmas publicity and we apologise for this mistake. It is definitely taking place.

For your information

Cake Sale 17th December: Tom Kerry is selling home made cakes, fudge and preserves after the morning service on 17 December in aid of his World Challenge fundraising efforts. Please support him and purchase some delicious treats! CD's and DVD's are still also welcome to boost the fund and Tom has many time slots available to do odd jobs. See Tom or Lesley for details (0773 3213321). Thank you.

CTNA Christmas Outreach in the Kennet Centre We will be offering a free gift-wrapping service to the public again this year plus activities for their children while the presents are being wrapped and a listening ear for anyone feeling the stress of Christmas or feeling lonely. We need welcomers, gift wrappers and people to help with the children. The shifts are 9.30 - 1.30 and 1.30 - 5.30, but if you can only offer a couple of hours that could be helpful. Dates: Monday 18th - Saturday 23rd. Please contact Sue Elliott: 01635 33557 or elliottrosue@yalktalk.net.

Christmas Postcards There are post cards at the back which need to be delivered to our parish. If you are able to take a bundle and deliver somewhere near you, please do. Let's tell everyone where they can celebrate the true meaning of Christmas!

Room Required Local 25 year old lady looking for a double room to rent on a permanent basis. If you think you can help please contact Mandy in the office for more details.

Church lighting project We announced recently that the lighting in our church building is going to be completely renewed in the New Year. This is a significant project that the PCC have been working towards for a number of years, including more detailed and focused work over the last 12 months. The new lighting is required because our current lighting is unsafe. However, the new lighting scheme will also be a huge improvement – both to how the church looks and to how we can use it. The total cost of the project is approximately £150,000. We have been able to raise some of this already through fundraising from grant-making trusts and we are confident that we will be able to raise the current shortfall. If you would like to contribute towards this exciting project then please speak to the Rector, Will Hunter Smart, or to our Churchwarden, Nigel Freeman. We would be very happy to give you more details about the project if you would like them.

Thank you from the Zealey family for all your loving support in the past few weeks. Charles' Funeral last Tuesday was a fitting tribute and brought comfort. We appreciated all the food and service you provided. Thank you for all the messages and meals, hugs and prayers. France Mission Trust has received over £900 in donations in his memory. Extracts from the service will soon be on <http://zealey.org>

St Nicolas Christmas Collection During our Christmas Services this year we will be collecting money for the Rosemary Appeal. For more information see the poster and flyers at the back or on the 10am service sheet.

Church Open Day - Next Saturday



16 December, between 11am - 3pm

pop in to this free event

hot drinks, mince pies, face painting, adult crafts, children's crafts, conversation, dressing up, carols, selfie-in-the-stable, tower tours and more.

Always a lovely atmosphere and great fun!

Pop by during your busy shopping day
there is something for young and old.



Anyone that has offered to help will be contacted the beginning of next week with further details.

We will prepare a Christmas newsletter after 17th December. All info for the next two newsletters must reach the office by 10am Wednesday Morning
No more than 80 words please!

Next Week 17 December 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00am Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship

3.00pm St Mary's, Speen Carol Service

6:00pm St Nicolas Church Carol Service

Contacts at St Nicolas Church, Newbury

Rector:	Will Hunter Smart	Tel: 285710
Associate Rector:	Will Briggs	Tel: 07548 050 745
Curate:	Joy Mawdesley	Tel: 285715
Licensed Ministers:	Margaret Yates (Retired)	Tel: 01488 658 092
	Gill Briggs	Tel: 07490 439 529
Licensed Lay Minister:	Jane Sutton	Tel: 36466
Youth Minister:	Edward Carthy	Tel: 285717
Children's Minister	Amba Kennedy	Tel: 285714
PA to Rector:	Libby Lake	Tel: 285711
Church Administrator:	Mandy Maskell	Tel: 47018
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 [/stnicolasnewbury](https://www.facebook.com/stnicolasnewbury)

For prayer support contact the church office or email prayer@st-nics.org

Church Office normally open week days, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm.

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