

## NUNEATON FOODBANK

Due to restrictions with warehouse space and social distancing needs, Nuneaton Foodbank is asking us to consider financial donations to enable the purchase of specific items that are needed. You can donate via the website

[www.nuneaton.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.nuneaton.foodbank.org.uk)

## PASTORAL CARE

As the pandemic continues there is an increasing likelihood of people becoming isolated or needing support. Pastoral care is the responsibility of us all. In addition we have a team of people who can visit or offer support. Please contact Revd Kelly if you would value a visit from a member of the team.

## THANK YOU

A huge thank you to Maggie and Myra who have started to do some church cleaning on Wednesdays after the morning service. What a wonderful act of service. Please help them to keep the space tidy by not leaving litter and taking all your belongings home with you.

## WRAP UP

Church heat is on for services but we still need to keep the space well ventilated. Wrap up!

## STAYING IN TOUCH

### Websites

[www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk](http://www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk)  
[www.stjamesweddington.org.uk](http://www.stjamesweddington.org.uk)

### Email

[office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk)  
[office@stjamesweddington.org.uk](mailto:office@stjamesweddington.org.uk)

### Telephone

St Nicolas Office 02476344553  
St James Office 02476325718

### Vicar

[revkells@gmail.com](mailto:revkells@gmail.com)  
02476346900

### Associate Minister (St James)

[revadrian@stjamesweddington.org.uk](mailto:revadrian@stjamesweddington.org.uk)  
07434663084

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMME

For Zoom the meeting ID is 2476344553 and the password is 'Shekinah'. For Facebook the link is <https://www.facebook.com/stnicolaschurchnuneaton/>

### Sundays 10am

**WORSHIP SERVICE** via Facebook.

### Mondays 8.45am

**MORNING PRAYER** on Zoom.

### Tuesdays, 10am

**SWANS** on Facebook; you need to be a group member to access this.

### Wednesdays 7-8pm

### WORD & WORSHIP

Online discussions, input and Bible study via Zoom.

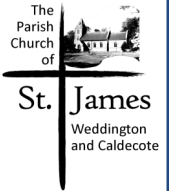
### Saturdays 4-5pm

### CHURCH QUIZ

A quiz for all ages via Zoom



*Going Deeper  
Sowing Younger  
Growing Community*



# November

## Services

### Sunday 1st November **ALL SAINTS**

**Revelation 7:9-end, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12**

10am MORNING WORSHIP at St James

10am HOLY COMMUNION at St Nicolas (also via Facebook)

4pm MEMORIAL SERVICE by invitation (also via Facebook)

### Sunday 8th November **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**Amos 5:18-24, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end, Matthew 25:1-13**

10am HOLY COMMUNION at St James

10am MORNING WORSHIP at St Nicolas (also via Facebook)

with Act of Remembrance at the war memorial at 11am.

### Sunday 15th November **2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**

**Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:31-end**

10am MORNING WORSHIP at St James

10am HOLY COMMUNION at St Nicolas (also via Facebook)

### Sunday 22nd November **CHRIST THE KING**

**Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Ephesians 1:15-end, Matthew 25:31-end**

10am HOLY COMMUNION at St James

10am MORNING WORSHIP at St Nicolas (also via Facebook)

### Sunday 29th November **ADVENT SUNDAY**

TBC

Continuing in November, there will be a midweek service at St Nicolas at 10am with an alternating pattern of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. This service will be traditional and reflective in nature and may appeal to those who find Sunday mornings a little too busy or informal!

## COLLECTS FOR NOVEMBER

### ALL SAINTS

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### CHRIST THE KING

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

## FROM THE VICAR



Sometimes in services we read a psalm or a piece of liturgy in unison—it's called choral reading.

When it works well our voices sound as one but it is quite a difficult thing to do. Often some of us rush ahead, others of us take our time. Some of us speak softly and are barely heard, others like to try and hear their own voice.

Only perhaps in the Lord's Prayer, that we are more used to saying together, do we achieve a more harmonious sound.

When I was at college preparing for ordination we were taught that one of the important disciplines for reading in unison is to listen to other voices and try to match their pace and rhythm. If your voice is heard above all others perhaps you need to listen more! If you are rushing ahead—slow down! Only when everyone listens carefully does a blend of voices become possible and unity was achieved.

It is quite a good practice for life! There are always times when a single voice has to be heard not least when something needs leading or instructions have to be given. But what would happen if

## ECO TIP FROM ECO CHURCH



A Rocha UK's *Living Lightly* initiative has some great tips for making Christmas more eco-friendly. Here are a couple of examples and you can find more on the A Rocha website:

1) **Ten million turkeys are killed each Christmas.** If you're eating one of them, make sure it's lived a happy life by buying free-range or organic from a local farmer or independent retailer.

2) **Christmas trees are a thorny problem.** They mostly come from monoculture farms requiring high levels of chemical input. Artificial trees encourage production of oil-based plastic. Buy a Christmas tree that's organic or FSC-certified and/or locally grown. Visit British Christmas Tree Growers Association. [www.bctga.co.uk/](http://www.bctga.co.uk/)

Find our more here:

<http://arocha.org.uk/our-activities/living-lightly-take-action>

## WORD & WORSHIP

This programme of group discussion, study and topical input continues on Wednesday evenings at 7pm via Zoom—meeting ID 2476344553. The password is 'Shekinah'. Newcomers are always welcome.

November will include two

sessions on Reconciliation with Alice Farnhill, project workers for the Community of the Cross of Nails. Join us on 4th and 11th November at 7pm to find out more.

## SINGING GROUPS

At the time of going to print, choirs and singing groups are able to meet to rehearse for services and participate in services although congregational singing is prohibited. If you are interesting in being part of a small group of vocalists involved in our services please speak to Sally-Ann.

## MARK ON THE MOVE

As some of you will be aware Mark's contract with St Nicolas is finishing this year as the *Acceler8* project comes to an official end. We will say our good-byes and thank yous nearer the time and we are grateful to Mark for all he has been and done amongst us.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service at St Nicolas Church on Sunday 1st November at 4pm. Numbers will be restricted and we will be inviting guests who have had funerals in our churches this year. The service will also be live-streamed via Facebook.

## Pray

### For remembrance

Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ  
we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
hear our prayers and  
thanksgivings for all whom we  
remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your  
love and bring us all, with them,  
to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### For those grieving

Lord, have mercy  
on those who mourn  
who feel numb and crushed  
and are filled with the pain of  
grief, whose strength has given up  
You know all our sighing  
and longings:  
be near to us and teach us to fix  
our hope on you  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### For ourselves

Keep us safe in the midst of  
trouble, and complete your  
purpose for us  
through your steadfast love and  
faithfulness,  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

## NEWS & INFO



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all those celebrating or marking  
'one year older' during November!

### DIGITAL CLINIC

Matthew Gibson (of St Nicolas and the person who has created the new website for St Nicolas Church) is offering his IT expertise in a session at St Nicolas Church on the morning of Friday 6th November. The session will be split into 4, 45 minute one-to-one slots so that individual needs can be addressed. Each slot will be conducted with Covid safety measures in mind—i.e. equipment will be cleaned between sessions, hand sanitiser will be used, participants will be masked, etc.

If you need help to with a getting started with email or Zoom, using the internet, understanding what might be possible, etc. why not book a slot by calling St Nicolas Office on 02476344553)? We will take your contact details and Matthew will give you a call to assess what is needed in your session... just like an appointment with a GP. There is no charge but a recommended donation of £5 is suggested.

we tried to keep in step with each other in the church and worry less about everyone fitting in with us? I don't think that is exactly what Paul had in mind when he wrote to the church in Rome, '*Honour one another above yourselves*', (Romans 12:10) but not assuming our own needs take precedence must be a good start for loving one another and maintaining unity.



## INTRODUCING...

Hello! We've arrived in Weddington and Caldecote at last! I think if there was a Guinness Book of Records category for the longest interval between being offered an appointment and being licensed, I would be a good contender for the title. You might have all wondered if we were ever coming, or even whether we existed at all!

Yet, I am sure that we are not the only ones whose plans have been held up by the pandemic. In fact many people have been considerably more inconvenienced

than us. So how do we view this kind of situation as Christians – something preventing the plans of God or something ultimately God is sovereign over? You may know the verse from Romans chapter 8 where the Apostle Paul says – 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'

This reminds us that God working in all situations to transform them into something good for his purposes. He's in the business of redemption – redeeming disappointments and lost causes for good. All we have to do is show our love for him by trusting him.

So when it was clear that our plans of moving in April and beginning here in May had met a roadblock, we believed that even if this wasn't something brought about by God, it was a situation that could be retrieved and redeemed by God.

So, we're here, later than expected, but believing that the timing is in God's hands. Perhaps there are some changed plans that you too have had to put into God's hands and trust in his timing? – 'My times are in your hands' says King David in Psalm 31.15. Or perhaps you have yet



to do that about some situation – I encourage you to do that, and see what God will do.

I'm writing this just 2 weeks after starting, so early days yet and too early to have met everyone either at St James or at St Nicolas. So here's a bit about us.....

Juliette and I met when we were teenagers and jokingly we say that we met in a Red Cross old folks' home! Actually, we were part of a church team that led a short service in the home each Sunday afternoon. We started going out a few years later when I went to college to train to teach Design and Technology.

Juliette has worked for various organisations in administration roles, and I worked in the post-16 education sector until training for ordained ministry in 2001. We have three grown-up children, a daughter-in-law, son-in-law, and a 2-year old grandson. Our family live in Bristol, Loughborough and London respectively.

After a curacy in St Giles' Church, Ickenham (London Diocese) followed by becoming Rector there, we moved to Alcester in 2013 when I was appointed to be Rector of Alcester Minster. We were attracted to the post here because of the missional role within the expanding community and also because it is a part-time

post! In both respects, we have sensed God nudging us in this direction.

We are excited about being with you and what God has in store – in the space of a week, on four separate occasions through different people, God pointed us to the verse, '*See, I am doing a new thing!*' from Isaiah 43.19. It is also a message that seems to resonate more widely, so we look forward to discerning together what God is doing, and then getting on board.

God is capable of not only redeeming situations to such an extent that something new, perhaps not even considered in the past, can spring up and begin to develop. Let's be praying for spiritual eyes that will see what God is up to.

Prayer:

**Father God, thank you that you are  
a God who redeems and renews.**

**We entrust  
our lives into your hands, including  
unfulfilled and changed plans. We  
thank you  
for your greatest act of redemption  
ever: the gift of sins forgiven and  
new life in  
your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Amen**

## *Pause, Ponder*

### **JERUSALEM TEARS**

It is the beginning  
And orchestral suit  
Following shapes created  
By celestial breeze  
Shakes harmony from the wheat,  
And all humankind is free  
To eat.  
It is the day after  
And we find  
Edge of time brushed  
With corruption,  
And men - faces flushed  
With greed  
Begin to covet the seed.  
It is today  
And Christian thought dutch-barned  
In its comfort  
Moves not beyond  
Personal experience,  
Incapable of passing through fence  
Of undressed fears  
Dividing field from field,  
And half raised voices  
Are pressed into silence of the years

**PAT BIDMEAD**

