



Going Deeper
Sowing Younger
Growing Community



Sunday Services

Sunday 6th June - 1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Genesis 3:8-15, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-end

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 13th June - 2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Ezekiel 17:22-end, 2 Corinthians 5:6-17, Mark 4:26-36

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP

10am St James HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 20th June – 3rd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Job 38:1-11, 2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-end

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 27th June – 4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Lamentations 3:22-33, 2 Corinthians 8:7-end, Mark 5:21-end

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP

10am St James HOLY COMMUNION

Wednesday 2nd June – (1st Wednesday every Month)

Isaiah 6:1-8, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION





Join us on zoom for a special Messy Church Pentecost celebration on **Sunday 6th June at 4pm**. Join with other families in worship online through activities, stories and songs. It will be noisy and messy and fun! We'll provide everything you need beforehand. Message us by email or through Facebook for further details. Hope to see you then.



10% Giving and the Red Cross
Global Coronavirus Appeal



Right now, the situation in India is critical. Hospitals are full, streets are lined with ambulance queues, and crematoriums are running out of space. People are losing their loved ones at a frightening rate. Each year at St Nicolas we give 10% of our income from your generous giving to other needy charities. A proportion of this money is given to an emergency and this year we have supported the British Red Cross Global Coronavirus Appeal with a donation of £1,389.50.

Please contact your parish office no later than Thursday evening prior to a service to book.
office@stjamesweddington.org.uk - servicebookings@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

COLLECTS FOR JUNE

6TH JUNE

God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.

13TH JUNE

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

20TH JUNE

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

27TH JUNE

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward
world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in
him our Saviour Jesus Christ.



Pause, ponder...

GOD'S WORD

Ignoring the word of God may
Lead someday to a world like this where,
Covered by fragile skin of grass
Chalk layered bank waits in uncertain light
For the echo of human footfall,
And on valley slope thin threads
Of woodland drift rootless.
Along a yellow cinder pathway that used to run
Down through a green landscape,
One lone blade of harts tongue fern
Exposes its last glossy leaf
To a burning sun.
On the dry slopes the orchard trees stand
fruitless
Their harvest dead on rock hard earth beneath.
In village below
White carnations edged in red and purple
Fringe a garden wall,
Watching in despair their petals fall
Into the snow.
Under a granite grey sky winds surge and drop
away
To return with urgency as winter emerges
With promise of death.
Yet humanity still finds some breath to deny
That in the space of one day,
Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter
Can become merged into one.

PAT BIDMEAD

..and pray

**Prayers for World Environment Day 5th
June**

Heavenly Father,
You have taught us, through your servant
St Francis,
That all creation is your handiwork.
Grant us your grace that we may
Exercise wise stewardship of this Earth;
Tread lightly upon it;
And cherish its resources;
That our children may enjoy its riches,
throughout all generations,
And your name be glorified through all
that you have made.
Amen.

**Rt Revd David Walker
Bishop of Manchester**

Creator God,
We acknowledge that as your handiwork,
we stand alongside all that you have
made.
Trees and rivers, mountains and valleys,
soaring birds and scuttling creatures,
all are held within your care.
May we grow in our love and appreciation
for the fabulous variety around us;
and may our awe and wonder draw us
closer
to the natural world, and through it to
you,
the God of all things.
We pray in Jesus name,
Amen

**Revd Cate Williams, Mission and
Evangelism Officer
Diocese of Gloucester**

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Keep on keeping on!

Big Ben the builder was a man I knew in a church we attended years ago. His name was entirely accurate, he was a builder and he was big! He was also strong. I remember a conversation with him about what he'd been doing the previous week and he'd been digging out foundations. I assumed he might have used a JCB or equivalent, but no, Big Ben the builder dug the foundations of the extension he was building with a spade. As we were involved in creating a garden at the time, and I was making new borders where there were none, and it was hard going in a cold and drizzly February, I asked him, how he kept digging for a whole day, and he said it was simple – *keep a steady pace that you can maintain*. I have often thought of Big Ben's advice when faced with any big task.

By the time this is published, our two churches will have been in vacancy for almost 2 months, so well done to everyone who has taken on new responsibilities, or increased what they normally do, or just missing having a Vicar or Priest-in-Charge. Vacancies have a habit of being longer than we would like and the potential of tiring us out. So, *keep a steady pace that you can maintain!*

Mutual encouragement is a great motivator and helps us maintain our fervour and strength for the long haul. Listen to what the writer to the book of Hebrews says – 'Let us hold unswervingly

to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds.' (Hebrews 10.23-24)

Firstly we have hope! Hope that is much bigger than the belief that God has a plan for the future leadership of our two churches and he knows the person who he is calling to the post. That's re-assuring and helps keep us going. But our hope about this local issue is part of our hope about bigger issues – we have faith that God is in control and his plan for redeeming our lives and our world through Jesus is solid and certain. Our hope in life is not built on wishful thinking, but on the rock of God's promises.

Secondly, we have the encouragement of each other to spur us on to love and good deeds. Keep a look out for those who are taking on extra to help them keep a steady pace that they can maintain. Just because we're building the Kingdom of God, it doesn't mean that the normal rules of steady building don't apply!

And when we are facing something where the end is not in sight, it is good to remember that as Christians, Jesus is always in sight – 'And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.' (Hebrews 12.1b-2a)

With every blessing,
Adrian Guthrie

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*God loves a cheerful giver
(2 Corinthians, chapter 9 verse 7)*



Support our churches and their Mission

The entire Christian life could be summed up as a grateful response to the Good News about Jesus (Romans 12:1-2). We should do everything we do because we are responding to who Jesus is and what He has done for us. Therefore, our giving should be in response not just to the immediate need to which we are giving, but in response to the gospel.

During the pandemic our income has reduced significantly and our expenditure now considerably exceeds our income. We are not alone, we recognise that many other churches and other charities are in a similar situation.

Our two churches need money to survive and to pursue their mission. We are all incredibly grateful for what Christ has done for us and giving our money freely is one of the main ways we can actively support our churches and their mission. Please will you consider your giving in this light?

Please consider a regular gift if you are not doing so already. If you are giving regularly please review the amount and if you can increase it.

Thank you.

Here are the ways you can give to St Nicolas and St James

1. **Parish Giving Scheme** – Church of England regular giving direct debit scheme.
Online at www.parishgiving.org.uk
(look for Nuneaton St Nicolas or Weddington St James). Alternatively you can complete a form and post it to:
Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD, Tel 0333 002 1260
2. **Direct payment** into the Church bank account – single payments or regular standing order

St Nicolas Co-op Bank Account Name
St Nicolas Church P.C.C sort code 08-29-99 account number 65122745

St James Co-op Bank Account Name
St James PCC sort code 08-90-45 account number 50101069
3. **Debit or Credit card** – Contactless Giving device in church (St Nicolas only)
4. **Cash or cheque** – Plate in church – use an envelope provided if you prefer.

If you have questions

St Nicolas – Jim Keeley Treasurer
Tel 07906 220330 email
jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com

St James – Maxine Johnson Treasurer
Tel 07905 034664 email
treasurer@stjamesweddington.org.uk

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[Tuesday Zoom Link-up at St James](#)

We began this link-up at the beginning of Lockdown 3 and it proved a popular way of spending an hour at tea-time on a Tuesday afternoon catching up with one another and concluding with a prayer. It morphed into a discussion group as we looked at 'Great Prayers of the Bible' during Lent, and since Easter changed again to be a fortnightly social zoom.

As the weather has brightened, and restrictions have lifted, and people have been jabbed and everyone is getting out more, **numbers have declined, so we are going to stop this until further notice.** However, the fortnightly Bible discussion group that alternated with this is continuing and has moved to 7.30 pm on a Tuesday and is attended by folk from both churches. We are having a profitable time using the 'Life on the Frontline' material and exploring ways of being fruitful in the ordinary places God has put us.

Adrian Guthrie

[APCM and the PCC](#)

Each year, normally towards the end of April, we hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). This year we met on Sunday 25th April, but whereas we normally meet up in church after the morning service, this year we were only able to meet on Zoom. The meeting is important because we elect our Wardens each year, and other PCC members also come up for election on a rotation basis so that there are three or four places each year, but also some continuity. This year there were a total of eight PCC members to be elected, in addition to the two wardens. Perhaps this all sounds boring and irrelevant to you, but as a charity, and a church, St Nicolas needs to have trustees to take charge of the building, the patterns of worship, the mission of the church locally, and of course the money that we all give to make the work of the church possible.

This year there have been some changes to the line-up of the PCC. Roger Parker has retired as Warden after ten years of service, and his place has been filled by Garry Clarke. Nick Shaw was re-elected for a further year as warden. Of the ordinary PCC members Dawn Beasley (also chair of St Nicolas Academy governors), and Dave Sedgewick were re-elected, as was Jean Bailey after a break from last year. Newly elected to the PCC are Jim Keeley our treasurer who was previously co-opted, Julie Bannister, Adam and Helen Fielder, and our Parish Administrator Marina Betteridge. These join the existing members: David Bailey (PCC secretary), Lynn Keeley (Safeguarding Officer), Carole Harris (Lay Vice-Chair), Sally-Ann Veasey, and our three Deanery Synod Members, Peter Rogers, John Hitchcock, and Dean Moore.

David Bailey

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VACANCY



Filling the Vacancy!

Just in case everyone was wondering what is happening, I thought it may be useful to provide a brief update.

Firstly, we must provide a Parish Profile that gives an accurate picture of life at St Nicolas (& St James) with a view to attracting the interest of prospective applicants. The PCC has now agreed on who should draft this profile, and the process will take a few weeks till we are all agreed on the format. With St Nicolas being a Crown appointment, this requires approval at all stages by a representative of The Queen.....and also by the Archdeacon...

Secondly, we hope to be able to advertise the vacancy at the end of August/early September.

And finally, assuming a suitable candidate feels the call to Nuneaton, to have carried out an interview and agree someone to start their ministry here towards the end of this year or early next.

Your prayers for all involved will be most appreciated.

THE BABY SUPPORT HUB

The Baby support Hub has been running for seven years, supporting local families with babies 0 - 3 years of age. We are slowly opening our doors again in June as restrictions ease, and are looking for new volunteers at our stay and play groups in St Nicolas church community hall, on Monday & Thursday mornings. Our ethos is to combat post-natal depression, social isolation and parenting issues.

Would you be interested in volunteering and joining our team? no experience necessary just the enthusiasm to support families and be a team player. Various roles available from set up & clearing away, general overseeing of groups, cleaning equipment, set up and implementing art activities, you may also have a talent that fits our groups for example, music, singing or dance etc

If you can help, please email us at babyhub16@gmail.com

We look forward to meeting you

Many Thanks

The Hub Team

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ECO TIPS

We are all stewards of God's creation and need to participate in reducing our impacts, one small step at a time:

Here are a few simple things to consider.

The energy we use:

- switch your electricity provider to a green supplier
- wear an extra layer of clothing and turn the thermostat down 1 or 2 degrees
- use a hot water bottle or an extra blanket, instead of running the heating overnight
- if buying new appliances, go for AAA energy-rated ones
- don't leave appliances on stand-by when not in use
- place your table or desk by a window so you do not need a light on
- switch to low-energy light bulbs
- only boil the water you actually need in the kettle
- insulate your home (windows and walls) if affordable
- install solar panels and generate your own electricity!

The food & drink we consume:

- plan meals ahead & only buy what you know you'll use
- buy food with less packaging (particularly plastic)
- check the food miles and buy local or British if possible
- buy British fruit and veg in season and fairly traded food if affordable
- avoid buying coffee (or tea) in a disposable cup; have your own and save money too
- avoid serving drinks at church in single-use cups
- avoid buying water in a plastic bottle, have a re-fillable cup
- try to support local shops
- eat less meat and dairy – try one meat-free day a week, and explore the wonderful world of meatless cuisine – it is amazing
- try to eat **LOAF** (Locally produced, Organically grown, Animal friendly, Fairly traded) food if this is practical for you
- grow some of your own food

Find out more at:

arochoa.org.uk/our-activities/living-lightly-take-action/



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Adelaide's Challenge 30 Days Wild 2021

Throughout June Adelaide is going to undertake the UK's biggest nature challenge. The Wildlife Trust challenges children and young adults to do one wild thing a day throughout the month of June! That is 30 simple, fun and exciting Random Acts of Wildness.

Hopefully you might see some photos of Adelaide and Harriet on the St Nicolas Facebook page undertaking the Random Acts of Wildness.

If you can please sponsor Adelaide for the 30 Days Wild 2021 that would be great. You can either fill out the form when you see us in church or go on

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/adelaidemay>



Also, if you wanted to undertake this challenge yourself then sign up, its free, here is the link. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30-days-wild-2021-sign-your-pack>

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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 Adrian or Revd Martin if you would value a visit from a member of the team.

ONLINE ASSISTANCE

A growing number of people are connecting with our churches online. We are aware that some people are still not confident using new technology and that talk of Facebook and Zoom can sound like a foreign language! If you would like to find out what is possible or need help connecting with us online please call either parish office and someone will try to assist you.

DEADLINE

The deadline for the June newsletter is Monday 14th June. Please send your contributions to either parish office.

UPDATES

At the moment it is impossible to say what the weeks ahead will mean for church services and activities. The easiest way for us to update you is via email; if you are not yet receiving regular updates please consider joining our mailing list.

STAYING IN TOUCH

St Nicolas

Tel. 02476344553

office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St James

Tel. 02476325718

office@stjamesweddington.org.uk

www.stjamesweddington.org.uk

Associate Minister (St James)

revadrian@stjamesweddington.org.uk

07434663084

VIRTUAL PROGRAMME

For Zoom the meeting ID is 2476344553 and the password is 'Shekinah'.

Sundays 10am

WORSHIP SERVICE via the Facebook page of both churches followed by COFFEE LOUNGE via Zoom.

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 for all ages via Zoom

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