



Sunday Services

Sunday 3rd October – 18th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Genesis 2:18-24, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION, St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 10th October - 19th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Amos 5:5-6, 10-15, Hebrews 4:12-end, Mark 10:17-31

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP, St James HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 17th October – 20th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 53:4-end, Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION, St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 24th October – LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Jeremiah 31:7-9, Hebrews 7:23-end, Mark 10:46-end

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP, St James HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 31st October – ALL SAINTS DAY

Isaiah 25:6-9, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44

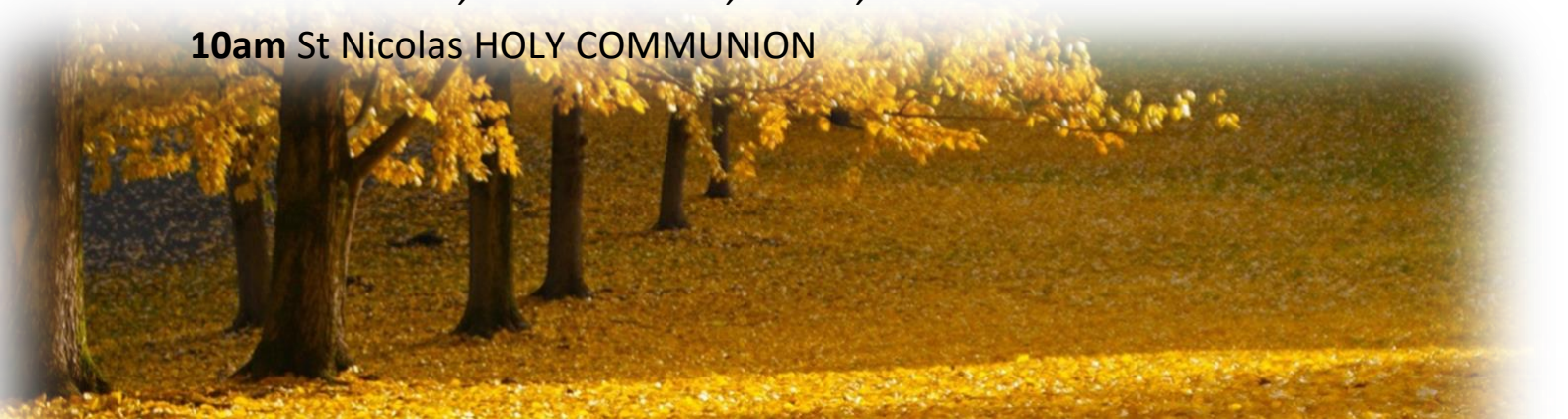
10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION (**JOINT SERVICE AT ST NICOLAS**)

Wednesday Service

Wednesday 6th October (1st Wednesday of every month)

Genesis 2:18-24, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION





COLLECTS FOR OCTOBER

3rd OCTOBER

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation
 which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

10th OCTOBER

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to
 an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your
 love,
new every morning,

17th OCTOBER

God, our light and our salvation:
illuminate our lives,
that we may see your goodness in
 the land of the living,
and looking on your beauty
may be changed into the likeness
 of Jesus Christ our Lord

24th OCTOBER

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change
 and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
 we may enter the unfailing
joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

31st OCTOBER

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.

Pause, ponder...

..and pray

NOT AS EXPECTED

We look at this God of ours
In a daze,
For he comes to us
In many different ways.
We expect him to come
radiating sunlight
But he steps into our night
time
To share our darkness.
We open the front door
Display the welcome sign
For all our neighbours to
see,
But he uses the side
entrance
And slips into our lives
unseen.

PAT BIDMEAD

Lord, you are ever watchful
and bless us with your gifts;
as you provide for all our needs,
so help us to build only what pleases you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Digesting the Bible

October 24 is Bible Sunday, and many churches focus on the Bible on that day, and support the Bible Society, an organisation committed to improving availability and understanding of the Bible throughout the world. For instance, Bible Societies have distributed over 22 million Bibles in the world so far in 2021! People are hungry for the Bible in many countries, although sadly less so in the UK. However, there are inspiring stories on the Bible Society website about how people's lives in the UK have been transformed by God through the Bible. Here's one:

'My Dad left when I was two. He was in and out of our lives. He was there, but just once a week. Growing up without a father figure in my life made me wonder why I was here. Whenever someone talked to me about God, I thought He was on a white, fluffy cloud saying, "You are never good enough". I had always tried to prove myself to father figures, but I had a sense of rejection. When I became a Christian, it was Isaiah 61.1 that felt dropped into my spirit. It says, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor, to bind up the broken-hearted." I realised that was me. I was in a place of darkness. I was broken-hearted. I realised, when I read this, that the Lord had held my broken heart. I feel that is my mandate really, to proclaim the good news. My day job is as a builder, but I'm an assistant pastor at a church. I have conversations [about God] in random places. My team are all Christians. At lunch time, we get the Bible out and read.'

I love this story because reading the Bible is now so integrated into this man's life

that he's also leading his work mates to read it too while eating their lunch! And not only that, it reminds me that just as food needs to be digested to give us strength for life, the Bible needs to be not only read, but digested too.

In Eugene Peterson's book 'Eat this Book – the art of spiritual reading', he tells how he helped his church congregation digest the Bible by firstly paraphrasing it into modern American idioms (The Message Bible), and then helped them to chew on passages of scripture so that they could be shaped by the Holy Spirit, and then act upon what they read. A daily discipline of reading the Bible is important, but we have to eat it and feed on it in order for our relationship with God to be strengthened by it.

One of the reasons Bible Sunday is celebrated on the third Sunday in October is because the traditional prayer set for that day (the Collect for the last Sunday after Trinity) in the Church of England begins:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them....

Do you need help getting started with a regular daily pattern of reading the Bible or help selecting a suitable translation of the Bible, or a reading scheme? If so, please do get in touch with me.

Every blessing, Adrian





St Nicolas and St James are organising an Alpha Course, commencing on **Wednesday 29th September @ 6:30pm** (St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton).



Alpha is a series of weekly sessions where you can explore the Christian faith in an open-minded and welcoming environment. There's no cost, and no pressure. Just lots of great conversations and space to think. Each session includes a short talk and time of discussion where you can share your thoughts about what you've heard. Whatever questions you've got, you can ask them at Alpha.

If you are interested or want more information please contact Phil Healy (philip5892@hotmail.com), or just turn up on the night.

Worship Workshop Weekend - St Nicolas Church are hosting a workshop **Saturday 16th October @ 9.00- 11.00am**

Continental breakfast included.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about leading prayer within worship, running the power point, leading the service or reading from the bible and Godly play.

Well this workshop morning will be fantastic for you...



Horizon meeting - Prayer Walk St James Church **Tuesday 19th October @ 6pm**

Horizon is the name given to a monthly prayer meeting during the vacancy as we meet together with the folks at St Nicolas and St James as we look to the future and also praying for the appointment of a new leader at St Nicolas and St James. We gathered recently and the next one will be an 'in person' gathering for a Prayer Walk at St James Church on the 3rd Tuesday in October 19th @ 6pm.



Messy Church Light Party - St Nicolas & St James joint (held at St Nicolas) **Sunday 31st October @ 4pm**

Come dressed up as your favourite superhero or in any fancy dress.

Bring a torch or anything that lights up.

4.00pm Games, activities and stories. With cake and drinks to finish.



Night Prayer - St Nicolas Facebook page **every weekday @ 8.30pm**



Do you know about Night Prayer? Night Prayer is available for us all on our sister church's Facebook page (St Nicolas Nuneaton) at 8.30pm each weekday but remaining on Facebook if you wish to view at a later time.

Janet Flavel kindly organises the rota across the 2 churches and would appreciate hearing from anyone who might be willing to be on the rota. The next rota will be for the October period. If you can help/would like to know more then please contact Janet janetflavel@gmail.com.

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.

Don't waste food

Waste not, want not. Did you know that 7.3 million tonnes of food is wasted in the UK every year? This isn't just a huge waste of food and money, it adds to the amount of CO2 being created in landfills.

Compost

If you have let your food go that little bit too far past its 'best by' then you need to be sure to compost it rather than putting it in the bin. Not only will this help create a natural fertiliser and keep your garden green, it'll also reduce the amount of waste going to landfill - and as it won't break down anaerobically, there will not be a build-up of methane gas.

Recycle everything

Chances are that if you're thinking about taking on a more eco-friendly lifestyle then you'll already be recycling. But could you improve your recycling-ability (now a word)? You can recycle almost everything, from batteries to paper to cars. Before you throw it away, take a minute to find out if you could recycle it instead.

Try to cut out plastic

Plastic seems to have found its way into every single aspect of our lives. However, giving it up isn't as difficult as you might think – bring a canvas bag with you when you go shopping, buy your fruit and veg loose and stop buying bottled water



Find out more at:

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



Operation Christmas Child

Once again St James will be supporting Operation Christmas Child this Christmas and now is the time to start collecting things for your shoebox(es). A simple shoebox gift packed with love and fuelled by prayer can have a huge impact, so please pack a shoebox or two if you can. If you need further information, especially what you can, and cannot (e.g. toothpaste and sweets) put into the boxes then please go to this link - <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> You can also watch how Operation Christmas Child brings Good News and great joy to children around the world.

There will be leaflets which include a sticker for each box available at the back of the church. Please encourage your friends/families/schools to also take part if you can.

The National Collection week will be 15-22 November although the local collection point is not yet known, but they can be left at church, as usual, and I will arrange delivery to the local collection point when known.

Paul Ingram



PASTORAL CARE

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

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 November newsletter is Monday 18th October. Please send your contributions to either parish office.

UPDATES

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

OTHER ACTIVITIES

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

Weekday Evenings 8:30pm

NIGHT PRAYER via the St Nicolas Facebook page.

Sundays 10am

WORSHIP SERVICE via the Facebook page of both churches.

Mondays 8.45 – 9:30am

MORNING PRAYER at St Nicolas and on Zoom.

Tuesdays 10am St Nicolas Church

Tuesdays 1.30 – 3.00 St James

SWANS Also 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