



Going Deeper
Sowing Younger
Growing Community



Sunday Services

Sunday 5th September – 14th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Nehemiah 1: 1-2, Nehemiah 2: 2-9

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 12th September - 15th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Nehemiah 2: 17-20, Nehemiah 4: 6-18

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP

10am St James HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 19th September – 16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Nehemiah 8: 2-9, Nehemiah 9: 18

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 26th September – 17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Joel 2:21-27, Matthew 6:25-33

10am St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP (HARVEST FESTIVAL)

10am St James HOLY COMMUNION





Wednesday Service

Wednesday 1st September (1st Wednesday of every month)

Nehemiah 1: 1-2, Nehemiah 2: 2-9

10am St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION



COLLECTS FOR SEPTEMBER

5TH SEPTEMBER

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

12TH SEPTEMBER

Lord God,
defend your Church from all false
teaching
and give to your people knowledge of
your truth,
that we may enjoy eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Lord

19TH SEPTEMBER

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.

26TH SEPTEMBER

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ
our Lord.

Pause, ponder...

..and pray

IN OUR BEST INTERESTS

We ask for a street map
And He gives us a
compass,
We wonder why.
A street map goes out of
date
In blink of an eye
It is for but a day,
While a compass demands
Of us maturity,
To find our own way.

PAT BIDMEAD

We bless you, God of Seed and
Harvest,
And we bless each other,
That the beauty of this world,
And the love that created it,
Might be expressed through our lives
And be a blessing to others,
Now and always
AMEN

God of the heavens and the earth,
You call us to share in the care of
your creation and to bring food and
fruitfulness from field and farm.
Hear our prayer for all who make
their living on the land and make us
grateful for the work of their hands
and for the generosity of your
provision. We ask this in the name
of Christ. Amen (From Germinate)



God our Creator, You have made us
one with this earth, to tend it and to
bring forth fruit; May we so respect
and cherish all that has life from you
that we may share in the labour of
all creation to give birth to your
hidden glory, Through Jesus Christ.
Amen

(Janet Morley, All Desires Known
1988)

A message from Archdeacon Barry Dugmore

As the national vaccination programme continues, and infection rates decline, our communities and the church in the midst of community, are now beginning to navigate the return to a more familiar pattern of life. But we are aware that the effects of the pandemic will be long reaching, long lasting, well beyond any return to a 'new normal'. As followers of Jesus, we are aware that the church needs to listen afresh to the Spirit of God, to reflect on what the Spirit is drawing our attention to, as God seeks to do a new thing in our times. The church has continued to worship and be agents for mission over the past year; and we are now seeking to discern how Jesus' commission and call to us as disciples, is to shape us and our churches, for future mission and ministry in a post pandemic society.

HARVEST FESTIVAL FUN

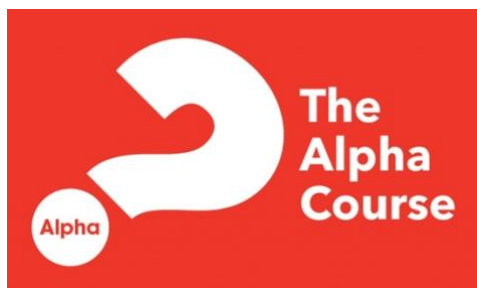
Sunday 26th September 10.00am

Come and join us with your non-perishable donations for our foodbank.

Worship and activities to thank God for his wonderful creation.



ALPHA



Are you interested in doing the **Alpha course**, the highly acclaimed exploration of the Christian faith's answer to questions about life? St Nicolas is running a course on **Wednesday evenings** starting at the end of September (more details to follow). Click here for a short video about Alpha https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fViYK_Xb3Wg If you are interested, please email Adrian revadrian@stjamesweddington.org.uk.

Written by John Hitchcock

I don't think August 2021 is going to be remembered fondly. Such traumas have arisen during the month – Megan's tragic death, Plymouth shootings, the situation in Afghanistan, the earthquake in Haiti and, of course, our old 'friend' Covid. It's been a lot to take on board in such a short space of time and, like me, you may be reeling from the awfulness of these happenings and others. You may, like me, be wondering where we go from here. I guess that if you are at your lowest point, the only way is up so let's think for a moment what's on offer.

Imagine an upside-down pyramid with the pointy top bit on the earth and the broad base up in the air, balancing on the pointy bit. Imagine that at the pointy bit is Jesus.

Over the last four weeks we have been looking at chapter 6 in St John's gospel in our services. It's been an interesting journey, from the feeding of the 5000 right at the start of the chapter to the end where the number of followers is down to just a few and even then Jesus asks them if they really want to continue with him. It seems a strange way to lead people to the Kingdom of heaven.

I put it to you that at the end of the chapter we are at that place where the pyramid point touches the earth. It's the point, then and now, when people who have heard Jesus' teachings are asked that question - "You do not want to leave too, do you?" This is the point where people have to either fall away – in chapter 6 one follower is heard to say, 'This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?' or say "I believe!" and commit to Jesus as Lord, Redeemer and Saviour.

In the light of recent events, it may be that some are revisiting that pointy tip of the pyramid because the wholehearted commitment our Saviour requires of us has taken something of a knock but there is good news, and I mean 'Good News' in the sense of the message of salvation that Jesus taught, and the 'Good News' that, despite the woes of this sinful world, there are better things to come.

Back we go to the tip of our pyramid with our worries and fears and there we can find Jesus, waiting for us, waiting to feed us again with his bread of life to



sustain us as we begin to climb the pyramid again, because at the top, the big, broad top, is the Kingdom of heaven where all that has been predicted of heaven on earth is a reality, and from the tip where our faith is founded and nurtured, we, as hopeful Christians, should spend our lives in the endeavour to reach that heavenly plateau.

But, consider, an upside down pyramid is not the easiest thing to climb and there will doubtless be a tumble or two when our foot or handhold slip and we fall, maybe a little, maybe all the way down to earth, to the pointy bit again. And who can we find there? No prizes for guessing because there is no doubt who will be there to love and console us, to feed us again with his bread of life so that we are nourished and able to head upwards again.

So, from the low beginnings of August, let us anticipate with hope and excitement the oncoming "Return, Rebuild and Renew series of services planned to start on the 5th September. An opportunity, I hope, for us all to consider where we are now and we have come from recently. How we need to rebuild our individual faith and begin to recover from the awful tests and knocks our faith may have had lately. Let us consider how we may renew not only our own trust and faith but how we might direct others who have not welcomed Jesus into their lives to the tip of my imaginary pyramid where they will find Jesus waiting for them too, ready to nourish and point the way.

John Hitchcock

Horizon meeting 21st September St Nicolas Church

Horizon is the name given to a monthly prayer meeting during the vacancy as we meet together with the folks at St Nicolas 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 at St Nicolas Church on the 3rd Tuesday in September 21st 7pm.



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 September/October period. If you can help/would like to know more then please contact Janet janetflavel@gmail.com.

ONLINE St Nicolas Facebook page 8.30pm every weekday.

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.

Turn it off

Energy conservation is one of the most important things you can do to reduce your carbon footprint. Leaving your electricals on standby needlessly uses up energy – hit the off switch and you could see huge improvements, most noticeably in your energy bills!

Invest in eco-friendly technology

Want to go further than simply turning it off? Make sure that the tech you have got is as energy-efficient as possible. This way, you're using much less energy for the time that the product is on, saving money, and reducing your energy output

Switch to renewables

Changing your energy supplier to one that's 100% renewable is a great eco-friendly tip for any home. Anyone can do it, switching is simple and hassle-free plus all the electricity you use when on a 100% renewable tariff is effectively zero carbon!

Eat less meat

Being careful with what you're consuming is at the heart of being more eco-friendly, and cutting down on the amount of meat you eat can have a huge impact. Not having red meat - even if it's just for two or three days a week - can have quite a significant impact on reducing your carbon footprint

Find out more at:

arocha.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

Operation Sanitise

A small happy band of church people started in July, what we hope will be a bi-monthly cleaning session of our Church Building. If you are interested in joining us, the next time we shall meet is on Saturday 4th September 09:30-10:30. Please speak to Garry Clarke for further details. In the current climate please bring your own cleaning materials.

Garry Clarke



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 October newsletter is Monday 20th September. 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

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