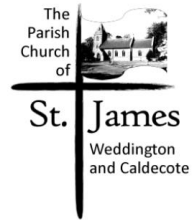




*Going Deeper*  
*Sowing Younger*  
*Growing Community*



## Sunday Services

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*Deuteronomy 26: 1-11, Romans 10: 8b-13, Luke 4: 1-13*

**10am** St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

**10am** St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

*Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18, Philippians 3: 17-4.1, Luke 13: 31-end*

**10am** St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP (Baptism)

**10am** St James HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

*Isaiah 55: 1-9, 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13, Luke 13: 1-9*

**10am** St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

**10am** St James MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(MOTHERING SUNDAY – MESSY CHURCH)

*Joshua 5: 9-12, 2 Corinthians 5: 16-end, Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-end*

**10am** St Nicolas MORNING WORSHIP

**10am** St James HOLY COMMUNION





## Wednesday Service

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> (Ash Wednesday)

*Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17, 2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10, Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21*

**10am** St Nicolas HOLY COMMUNION

**7pm** St James



## COLLECTS FOR MARCH

### 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH

Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,  
and grew closer to you in the desert:  
help us to use these days to grow in  
wisdom and prayer  
that we may witness to your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Almighty God,  
by the prayer and discipline of Lent  
may we enter into the mystery  
of Christ's sufferings,  
and by following in his Way  
come to share in his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Eternal God,  
give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection  
we are promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Pause, ponder...

### **KNOCKING**

Do you hear a knocking at your dimly lit  
door?

Is it a strange knocking that you vaguely  
remember

Hearing before?

Do you recall double locking your door  
and ignoring

That knocking, knocking at your door?

Could it be the skeleton hand of the  
hungry

Bare bone knocking, knocking on wood,

Does it now become a persistent

knocking, knocking

On your closed door,

A knocking, knocking that grows louder  
than before,

A knocking, knocking that seems to  
increase

Day by day?

The knocking, knocking you are praying  
will cease

Will not go away but will increase until  
you listen

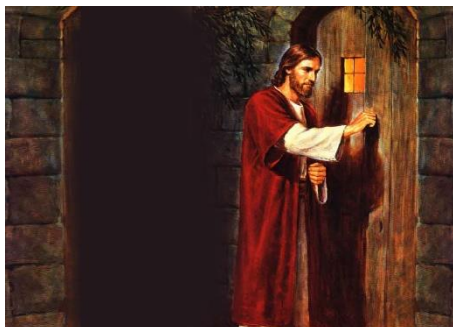
To the voice saying

Unless you feed all my children,

I will continue knocking, knocking at your  
door

Ever louder and louder than before.

PAT BIDMEAD



## ..and pray

God our Father,  
in your love and goodness  
you have taught us to come  
close to you in penitence  
with prayer, fasting and  
generosity;

accept our Lenten discipline,  
and when we fall by our  
weakness, raise us up by your

Unfailing mercy,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

O God, who would fold both heaven  
and earth in a single peace:

let the design of thy great love  
lighten upon the waste of our  
wraths and sorrows:

and give peace to thy Church,  
peace among nations,  
peace in our dwellings,

and peace in our hearts:  
through thy Son our Saviour Jesus  
Christ.

**Amen.**

Dear Friends,

I'm sure we've all had that experience of suddenly seeing something for the first time on a familiar route and wondering if it has just appeared or was always there.

It happened to me recently because I was walking along a road that I normally drive down, and so a combination of speed and concentration had 'hidden' that object from sight. We can also see something for the first time as a result of trees being pruned and foliage removed.

Slowing down, simplifying and stopping, are vital ways of 'seeing' spiritually too. And these are essential ingredients of Lent, which is a time for looking more carefully at the world around us, our place in it and what God requires of each of us.

So how about taking up an activity this Lent that will help you in the process of 'seeing' things God's way:

**Ash Wednesday Service 2 March** – to mark the beginning of Lent, we will hold two services on that day, and I hope that one will be at a time convenient for you. The Communion services with optional ashing (having the sign of the cross on your forehead) are at 10 am in St Nicolas Church and 7 pm in St James.

**Living Generously Lent Course** – we're running three joint Lent groups this year and using the material prepared by Coventry Diocese staff based around the extravagant generosity of Mary, who anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. The five session course will cover the following topics: introduction to living generously; generosity with time, attention, possessions, wealth, talents,

comfort and reputation; practical next steps for living generously. Each participant will receive a booklet of short reflections to help set the scene. The sessions will include activities for receiving, responding and reflecting on the theme. Sessions will take place on:

- Tuesday evenings – 7 pm in St James Hall
- Wednesday mornings – 10 am in St Nicolas
- Saturday morning – 9 am (starting with breakfast) in St Nicolas Lounge

Sign up for one of these groups in either church, or with Marina.

### **Do something you don't normally do to spend time with God**

What I mean is, if you find it difficult to attend Morning Prayer every Monday, how about just attending during Lent as a way of marking the season and making yourself open to see things God's way. Or perhaps read a Christian book if you don't normally read Christian books, or sit still in God's presence for 15 mins if you are always on the go. Whatever you decide to do, invite God to help you draw nearer to him and see his world from his perspective.

So this Lent, please do take time to slow down, stop and perhaps see things that you might have missed before, or think about things which you haven't had time for in the busyness of life. And do come along to as many of the special Lent activities as you are able.

Every blessing, Adrian





ONLINE St Nicolas Facebook page 8.30pm Tuesday & Thursday

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 Tuesday and Thursday evening. This is recorded and can be viewed on Facebook at a later time, if you wish.

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. [janetflavel@gmail.com](mailto:janetflavel@gmail.com).

## St Nicolas Church cleaning Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am

If anyone can help with the cleaning it will be very much appreciated. Anyone coming please enter through the glass door entrance (will leave open) and bring their own cleaning materials (we do have brushes & a Hoover) but under the current circumstances it is best if everyone brings their own.

We usually start at 09:30 and normally lasts an hour.



## **LENT COURSES:**

Lent is a time when Christians reflect and prepare for the celebrations of Easter. Some people fast, eat frugally or give up treats following the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

Some give to charity, set aside time to study the bible and meet with other Christians to reflect on Jesus' life and prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. This year our Churches of St Nicolas and St James are joining together to provide the following 3 Courses. All three groups will be following the same material.



**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm** (St James Church Hall) Led by Rev ADRIAN

**FULL NO SPACES**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – 6<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am** (St Nicolas Church) John/Terry L

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March - 9<sup>th</sup> April 9.00am** Breakfast (St Nicolas church) Sally-Ann and leaders team)

**BCDM (BISHOPS CERTIFICATE IN DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION)  
(PROVIDED BY COVENTRY DIOCESE)**

**Paul's Life, Mission and Letters**

**Face-to-Face Course**

Gain an understanding of what motivated Paul, what his opponents said, and find ways of reading his letters so that they make sense.

**Venue: St Nicolas, Nuneaton**

Date: **Monday 7th March – Monday 4th April 7.00pm – 9.00pm**

PLEASE BOOK A PLACE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED





## **MOTHERS DAY**

Afternoon tea bring your mums, aunties, granny, along for a beautiful afternoon tea Saturday 26th March from 2.30pm till 4.30pm at St Nicolas Church Hall. More information from Carole Harris and Dawn Beasley.

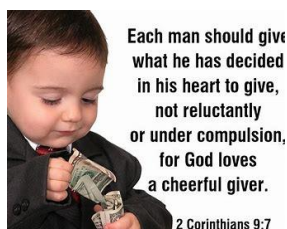


**Mothers Day services at St Nicolas & St James Church  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 10am**





Did you know that 771 million people don't have clean water close to home, 37% of schools worldwide don't have decent toilets, 90% of all natural disasters around the world are water-related? Scary figures but we have a chance to help this Lent by supporting WaterAid who is making sure people have water they can rely on, even in an unreliable climate. There will be a collection box **at St James Church from Sunday 6 March until Sunday 10 April** (Palm Sunday) inclusive. If you are able to gift aid any donation then you might like to give via their website - [WaterAid.org.uk](http://WaterAid.org.uk) - but if not please consider popping some money in the collection box which we will pass on to them.



## St Nicolas Finance Update

### We are not out of the woods ..... but things are improving

I am pleased to say that we have some good news about our church finances.

In December we had a good month for income, thank you to everyone who gave us money.

The highlight was on 5 December, our St Nicolas Patronal Festival, where the collections and donations amounted to £1108.

We collected money at the Carol Service for Christian Aid £50 and we gave The Children's Society £379 from our Crib Service in December and Christingle Service in January.

We have also paid out most of the money available for 2021 from our 10% Giving Fund, giving money to these causes:

Red Cross India Covid Appeal	£1,389.50
Christian Aid for Haiti earthquake Appeal	£1,725.50
Médecins Sans Frontières (UK) Afghanistan	£1,725.50
Long-standing commitment to the Compassion Charity to fund education for a student called Evelyn	£336.00
Uganda Sustainable Agriculture School - fees for training interpreters to enable them to train deaf students in Agriculture	£950.00
<b>Total Spent</b>	<b>£6,126.50</b>

I am pleased to say that we have £6969 available to continue with our 10% Giving commitment in 2022.

Bookings for the church hall have picked up significantly to the extent that we are nearly fully booked each week. This will make a big difference to our ongoing finances. Thank you very much to Marina for your work on this.

So, as the Beatles would say "I have to admit it's getting better"!

However our expenses are still more than our income so please can I ask you to give as generously as you can to our church?

Thank you Jim Keeley Treasurer 07906 220330 [jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com](mailto:jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com)

## **Holy Week – Services in April**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Palm Sunday 10am St Nicolas**



Carole is looking for any budding actors or actresses of any age who would like to be part of the Palm Sunday Drama.

**10am Palm Sunday Service, St James Church**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Tenebrae Service St Nicolas 7pm**



**Come and join us for this beautiful reflective service as we begin in candlelight but gradually extinguish each candle to symbolise the events of the Holy Week.**

**A service of beautiful music for us to reflect from Jesus triumphal arrival on Palm Sunday to his burial on Good Friday.**

**Maundy Thursday – 14<sup>th</sup> April 6.30pm St Nicolas Church**

St Nicolas and St James join us for this special family meal as we recall the events of Maundy Thursday by the way of a Jewish Seda Meal.

We begin with our re-enactment and then follow with a simple meal.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

**GOOD FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> April 10am St Nicolas**



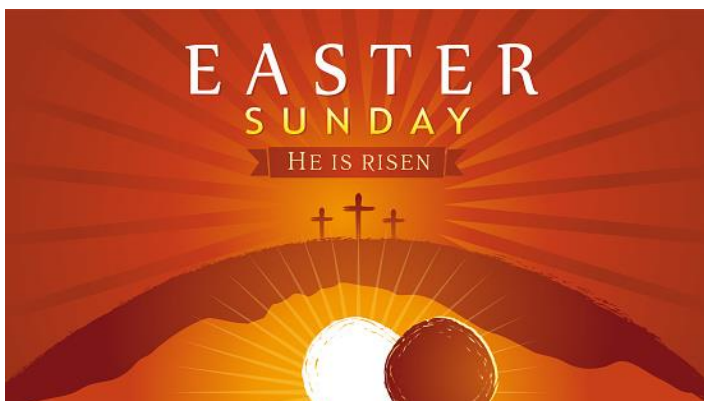
**Childrens Station of the Cross.**

**Come along for this interactive family friendly Stations of the Cross. We will reflect on Jesus's journey to the cross by simple songs and craft activities.**

**Followed by Hot Cross buns and drinks after the service.**

**2pm St James Church  
Mediation at the Cross**

**EASTER SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> April 10am St Nicolas**



**COME AND JOIN US on Easter Day as Archbishop Barry celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**10am St James Church  
Holy Communion**



## 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 March newsletter is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February . 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](mailto:office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk)

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

### St James

Tel. 02476325718

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

[www.stjamesweddington.org.uk](http://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'.

### Tuesday & Thursday 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