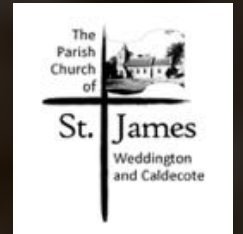




Going Deeper
Sowing Younger
Growing Community



Working in partnership to serve Nuneaton, Weddington & Caldecote

February 2023

Newsletter of St Nicolas and St James Churches



February brings with it the hope of warmer weather, new life and spring. The photo we have chosen for this edition of the newsletter is of snow drops otherwise known as Candlemas Bells (Candlemas is normally celebrated on or near 2nd Feb).

In Devon there was a churchyard that was filled with snow drops: it became a bit of a local feature for people to visit, especially at a time when there were fewer places to visit.

There is something hope-inspiring about seeing these first flowers of the year, a promise of spring and summer to come - even though we know that winter is only for a season. Lent, falling in between winter and spring creates space for us to think about the ways God is calling us to awaken and grow spiritually. As churches, I strongly encourage you to join with us in our Lent course *Everybody Welcome* starting at the end of February. It will be an opportunity to think about how we welcome and include people within our church settings and help us consider new opportunities for reaching out. Paul in 2 Cor 5:18-19 reminds us that "*All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation*": Having been welcomed into His Kingdom we are called to welcome others in too. A kingdom that we only briefly glimpse this side of eternity but a kingdom we are to enable others to glimpse too through our worship, living and our welcome. I pray that this February as we move towards Lent, we would embrace this opportunity to grow together in this ministry of welcome and hospitality and like the snowdrops, point to a hope beyond the winter and brokenness that many experience in their lives .



February Sunday Services



Sunday 5th February - 3rd before Lent

Isaiah 58: 1-12 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 Matthew 5: 21-37

10am St Nicolas - HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James - MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday 12th February - 2nd before Lent

Deut 30: 15-20 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 Matthew 5: 21-37

10am St Nicolas - MORNING WORSHIP

10am St James - HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 19th February Before Lent

Exodus 24: 12-18 2 Peter 1: 16-21 Matthew 17: 1-9

10am St Nicolas - HOLY COMMUNION

10am St James - ALL AGE WORSHIP



LENT



Sunday 26th February - 1st Sunday in Lent

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 2 Corinth 5: 20-6: 10 Matthew 4: 1-11

10am St Nicolas - MORNING WORSHIP

10am St James - FAMILY COMMUNION

Collects for February

Sunday 5th February

Eternal God,
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather
together,
and by our lives as they are
transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord.

Sunday 5th February

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful
lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your
goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 12th February

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all
creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your
likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 26th February

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.

Wednesday Services

Wednesday 1st February

Micah 6: 1-8 Corinthians 1: 18-31 Matthew 5: 1-12

10am St Nicolas - HOLY COMMUNION

Wednesday 22nd February - Ash Wednesday

Isa. 58 1-12 Ps. 51. 1-18 Matt 6. 1-6, 16-21

10am St Nicolas - HOLY COMMUNION (With Ashes)

7pm St James - HOLY COMMUNION (with Ashes)

February Dates for your diary

Wed 1st Feb 10am Midweek Communion - BCP (StN)

6.30pm Wedding Rehearsal (StN)

Fri 3rd Feb 1pm Wedding (StN)

Sat 4th Feb 9am -3pm Deanery Wedding Preparation (StN)

Sun 5th Feb

10am Holy Communion (StN)

10am Morning Worship (StJ)

Mon 6th Feb (9-11am) St Nicolas School Assembly

Tue 7th Feb (2.45-4.15) KE6 Sociology A Level Visit

Sat 11th Feb 9.30am Church Walk (meet at StJ Car Park)

Sun 12th Feb

10 am Morning Worship (StN)

10 am Holy Communion (StJ)

Mon 13th Feb 10am SLT meeting (StJ Hall - Meeting Room)

Thu 15th Feb 7pm Deanery Synod (Holy Trinity, Attleborough)

Sun 19th Feb

10 am Holy Communion (StN)

10 am All Age Worship (StJ)

3 pm Baptism Preparation

Tue 21 Feb 7pm MAP Prayer Meeting (StJ)

Wed 22 Feb

10am Ash Wednesday Service (StN)

7pm Ash Wednesday Service (StJ)

Thur 23rd 7-9.30pm BCDM Preaching Course (St N)

Sun 26th Feb

10am Morning Worship (StN)

10am Holy Communion (StJ)

Mon 27th Feb 10am SLT Meeting (StJ Hall- Meeting Rm)

Tue 28th Feb 2pm Churchyard Maintenance (St J)

2pm Funeral of the late Freda Jordan (Crem.)

7.30pm LENT COURSE: Everybody Welcome (St N)

From the Registers

Weddings



Please pray for Darryl Bradford and Rebecca Hagger who are to be married at *St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton* on Friday 3rd February

Please pray for those who have been recently Baptised:



22nd January (St James):

Eden Rose Smith



Funerals

Please pray for those who have lost loved ones recently:

The family of the late Mrs Jennifer Ann Douglas

The Family of the late Geoffrey Michael Bloxham

The family of the late Mrs Jill Brogan

The family of the late Trevor Moseley aka 'Trev the Rev'

The family of the late Freda Jordan

Pause, Ponder ...

**IF
In quietness of solemn prayer,
Mind seeking forgiveness
I ask myself
If God is dead
Who then is left
To intercede for men?**

Pat Bidmead.



Lent Sermon Series

Lent is a period of forty days lasting from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. It is traditionally understood as a time of fasting and repentance, also commemorating Jesus's fasting in the wilderness, which anticipated the beginning of his public ministry. During the season of Lent in our teaching series, we learn to rely on Christ for all our deepest needs. Our Sermon series for Lent, drawing on a line from the well-loved Psalm 23 will bring this goal to the forefront.



.... and pray

**Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Ash Wednesday

**Create a clean heart in me, O God:
a humble heart, a meek heart,
a peaceful heart, a benevolent heart,
a devout heart which does evil to no one,
which does not repay evil for evil,
but overcomes evil with good,
which loves you above all things,
thinks always about you, speaks about you,
gives you thanks, delights in hymns and spiritual songs,
and has its citizenship in heaven. Amen.**

Lent Prayer for a clean heart - Girolamo Savonarola



CAKES AND CAR WASH

FUNDRAISER FOR OUR DTS OUTREACH

- Our team will give your car a nice soapy wash!
- Enjoy homemade cakes, cookies and more!
- CASH ONLY PLEASE

FEBRUARY 18TH @ 1-4PM

**YWAM THE KING'S LODGE
WATLING STREET
CV10 0TZ**



Parish News & Updates

ASH WEDNESDAY- 22nd February 2023

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent and is a traditional and reflective service to help us prepare for this season of fasting, reflection and prayer. Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence and it has been customary to begin Lent by being marked with the sign of an ash cross since the middle ages.

This year across our churches there will be two opportunities for this:

10am St Nicolas Church (Leeke Chapel)

A traditional service of reflection, prayer, Holy Communion with the 'imposition of Ashes'

7pm St James Church

a more contemporary but reflective service, taking inspiration from the Celtic tradition including an informal celebration of Holy Communion with the opportunity to receive the mark of the cross in ashes

ALL WELCOME

2023 Lent Course

'Everybody Welcome'

The course where everybody helps grow their church

Across St James and St Nicolas Churches we will be running this course as an opportunity to look at how welcoming our buildings, services and activities are. We need your help!

This Lent, invest in our ministry of welcome.

St Nicolas Church 7.30pm Tuesdays

28/2; 7/3; 14/3; 21/3; 28/3; 4/4;

St James Church 1.30pm Wednesdays

1/3; 8/3; 15/3; 22/3; 29/3; 5/4;

News from the Deanery & Diocese

Diocesan Registrar Mary Allanson retired in November after 13 years serving Coventry diocese and 44 years as a solicitor. Her replacement is Jenny Dymond who has been working alongside her for several years. We are grateful for the support she has given to the parishes and look forward to continuing to work with Jenny in her new role as Diocesan Registrar

Rev'd Frank Seldon, Vicar of All Saints, Chilver's Coton with Astley, retired in January 2023. We want to express our thanks to Frank for all he has done for the deanery and Nuneaton over the years and wish him and his wife well for their retirement in Devon.

Deanery Synod was held on 2nd November at St Giles, Exhall at which new members of synod were welcomed and a report from the July General Synod was given by Rev Kate Massey. Concern was raised about the impact of the cost of living on our communities and church reps shared ideas of what they are planning to do, and discuss what else we might do to support those who are struggling most. Warm spaces are being offered by a number of churches

The Bishop of Coventry held a study day for clergy during November on 'Science, Space and how we imagine the unimaginable' with Rev. Dr Lucas Mix - a fascinating opportunity to reflect and consider the big picture

Church & Churchyard Cleaning and Maintenance

St James Churchyard maintenance

Join us for fun and fresh air as we tidy up St James Churchyard from 2pm each month

**31st January
28th February**



St Nicolas Church Hall Set up

Due to the increase in heating costs and cold weather, we will continue to use the hall. The hall will be set up at 2pm each Saturday from the 4th February. Thank you for all who have, and will be, assisting with this

The Baby Support Hub

Growing healthy,
Growing happy,
Growing well



We provide:

Nurturing courses & fun groups
Baby art sessions, Baby massage,
Sensory play, Stay & play groups
& services, Messy play
Mummy's meet up's and more....

Weekly play groups exclusively for babies 0-24 months
Educational planned activities that are fun and stimulating in an
exciting multi-sensory environment.

 /Thebabysupporthub  /Thebabyhubs

Email babyhub16@gmail.com

www.babyhubs.wix.com/mysite



The Baby Support Hub Stay & play support group

Hello and my name is Mandy and along with my team, Lucy, Adele and Sally-Ann, I run a weekly support play group for families in and around the Nuneaton area every Monday morning. The group allows parents, grandparents, and carers to meet up, make new friends, and learn about child development over a cuppa and biscuit, while their little ones play. Monthly Sally Ann joins us for music time: What instrument will Sally-Ann bring?

We offer in house support when needed and also offer a 10 min rest bite time for any family that needs that time to relax and chat over a hot drink, while a member of staff looks after your little one playing.

The group offers Early years tub tray based activities for little one's aged from 6 weeks up to their 3rd birthday, they are all Early years and child led planned that will help babies develop confidence and social skills before they start nursery.

Occasionally we have one off events and also courses to join at community prices, you can follow us on Facebook @The baby support Hub and see all events etc to join.

Price is only £4.50 per child and siblings are free!

Free tea/coffee and biscuits

Join us every morning for a stay & play and make new friends in the community

Opportunities for Prayer

Morning prayer (Online) in the Zoom Room

Mondays 8.45am

ID: 2476344553 Password: Shekinah

<https://www.zoom.us/join>

**Our next monthly prayer meeting is planned
for Tuesday 21 February 7pm
in the St James Church Lounge**

Coventry Diocese Prayer Diary:

<https://www.coventry.anglican.org/prayer-diary.php>

George Eliot Hospital Christian Union

Thursdays 12:30-13:30 in the Chapel

For staff and volunteers at George Eliot Hospital

for more information contact

Stephen Ayre: stephen.ayre@geh.nhs.uk

Beth Vellacott: bethany.vellacott@geh.nhs.uk

From March 2023: Weekly Worship on Wednesdays

1st & 3rd Wed (BCP) Holy Communion

2nd & 4th Wed Morning Prayer

Support us with a regular gift

Parish Giving Scheme

The best and easiest way to support both St Nicolas and St James churches with regular donations is through the Parish Giving Scheme.

**You can set up your gift online
<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/>
or by calling 0333 002 1271**

**For more information speak to:
Jim Keeley (Treasurer)
Nick Shaw or Garry Clarke (St Nic's Wardens)
or Juliette Guthrie (St James Warden)**

It's easy to set up, you can include Gift Aid and you have the opportunity to revise your giving amount annually or whenever you prefer. Each Parish is separately administered so your gift supports your local church

**St Nicolas Parish Code 110611086
St James Parish Code 110611090**

Alternatively, cash and card donations can be made in both church at all our regular services

Team Contacts

Rev Chris Routledge

Vicar, Nuneaton: St Nicolas

Priest-in-Charge, Weddington & Caldecote

Tel: 024 7634 6900

Email: vicar@stnicolaschurch.org.uk
revchris@stjamesweddington.org.uk

Rev Adrian Guthrie (Sun-Tues)

Associate Minister, Weddington & Caldecote

Tel: 07434 663084

Email: revadrian@stjamesweddington.org.uk

Nick Shaw

Church Warden, St Nicolas

Garry Clarke

Church Warden, St Nicolas

Juliette Guthrie

Church Warden, St James

Safeguarding

Lynn Keeley & Dawn Beasley

Safeguarding, St Nicolas

Tel: 02476 340863

Email: safeguarding@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Sue Harris & Alex Lapsley

Safeguarding, St James

Email: safeguarding@stjamesweddington.org.uk

**Deadline for next Newsletter
inclusions 20/02/2023**

Parish Offices

Marina Betteridge

Parish Office Administrator

Mon, Wed & Fri

St Nicolas Parish Office

Vicarage St. CV11 4AZ

Tel: 024 7634 4553

Email:
office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St James Parish Office

*St James Church Hall, Church
Lane, CV10 0EX*

Tel: 024 7632 5718

Email:
office@stjamesweddington.org.uk

Online

St Nicolas Church Website

www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St James Church Website

www.stjamesweddington.org.uk



*Both livestream main services
on their facebook page*

Find us on Facebook



**Morning prayer on zoom -
Mondays 8.45am**



ID: 2476344553
Password: Shekinah