

Open to God. Open to one another. Open to the community.



Sunday 28 January 2024 Epiphany 4/Presentation (Candlemas)
Malachi 3:1-5 Hebrews 2:14-end Luke 2:22-40 24 (1-6) 7-end
767 Thou whose almighty word 441 Light of the world 631 Purify my heart 639 Restore O Lord

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 29Jan	Mark 5:1-20	10am Babies & Bumps 2.30pm Tea and Tinies
Tues 30 Jan	Mark 5:21-end	10am-12pm Board Games Café
Weds 31 Jan	Mark 6:1-6	11am Service 7.30pm PCC Meeting
Thurs 1 Feb	Mark: 6:7-13	2pm-4pm Over 50s
Fri 2 Feb	Mark 6:14-29	10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm SNAC
Sat 3 Feb	Mark 6:30-34	

To watch the live stream of our Sunday service please go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/@stnicolasearley1496/featured>

Candles are noted as a symbol of Jesus whereby the beeswax symbolises his purity, the wick symbolises his soul and the flame symbolises his divinity.

prayer

Collect:, Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A Haiku poem from The Lectionary in 17 Syllables by Andy Campbell, Emma Major & Rachel Summers **4th Sunday of Epiphany (Mark 1:21-28)**

Jesus,

Holy One Teaching in the synagogue

Healing those in need

***God of night and day,
you gave us Jesus, born at Christmas,
the light of a candle reminds us
that he sends his angels to guard us.
May your holy angels
live with us and guard us in peace,
and may you always bless us
in Jesus' name. Amen.***

Prayer at St Nicolas There are a group of people who love to pray for anything which is on your mind. You can contact Jenny Bryce at 07963 905663 or the office on office@stnicolas.org.uk or write a card and put it in the prayer box in church. All requests in the box are prayed at Morning prayer at 9am Monday - Thursday.

Please feel free to join our 6pm Prayer group every Sunday on [Zoom](#) Meeting ID 872 7137 1558 Or join us in person Monday - Thursday at 9am in Church

Notices



St Nics Needs You!

We would love to have an **Autumn Fayre** this coming **September** but need to put a **Fundraising Committee** together to do this, as well as other events. **If you feel this is something you would like to do please email me office@stnicolas.org.uk**
Thanks, Vicki

Cake & Craft Sale this Sunday 28 January

after the 10am service. Treat yourself to a delicious homemade cake or hand crafted item, all while raising money for St Nics!



Thank you to everyone who stayed for the Open Meeting last Sunday we will give you feedback and what actions will come from it in the near future.

Do you know someone who is looking for a part time job?

If so we are looking for a Centre Administrator for 13 hours a week term time only. For a full job description please email me on office@stnicolas.org.uk or call 0118 9669080 if you would like an informal chat.



Twentieth-century British composers are the flavour of the day this Sunday as West Forest Sinfonia present their first concert of 2024 at the [University of Reading's](https://www.reading.ac.uk/great-hall) Great Hall.

They'll perform Britten's Four Sea Interludes, Dyson's Violin Concerto (featuring soloist Rupert Marshall-Luck), and Walton's Symphony no. 1.

Book now via <https://whatsonreading.com/venues/west-forest-sinfonia/whats-on/west-forest-sinfonia-january-concert-2024>



People join together in peace and humanity

Hundreds of people gathered in Oxford on Sunday to join together in humanity and friendship.

The event, at Oxford Town Hall, brought together faith leaders from across the city to share at times emotional readings, songs and prayers reflecting on peace and solidarity for those who are currently living in conflict here and overseas.

Imam Monawar Hussain, co-chair of the Oxfordshire Civic, Community and Faith Leaders' Group, opened proceedings by remembering "all those who have lost loved ones in the horror of conflict" concluding: "All human life is sacred." This followed a welcome from Councillor Susan Brown, Leader of Oxford City Council.

As well as readings from representatives from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Sikh, Hindu and Bahá'í faiths, children from Christ Church Cathedral School sang a moving rendition of "Make me a channel of your peace" accompanied by Julia Hollander from the University Church and the Revd Dr Charlotte Bannister-Parker. Closing the event, Bishop Steven, co-chair of the Oxfordshire Civic, Community and Faith Leaders' Group, said: "When we leave tonight, I hope that we will want to tell the story of a wonderful gathering where people came together in a time of national and international sorrow."



Ten day, 24/7 prayer vigil for climate justice,

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

Ephesians 6:18.

Prayer is powerful! A coalition of faith groups including [Tearfund](#) and [Christian Aid](#) are organising a ten day, 24/7 prayer vigil for climate justice, starting on Ash Wednesday. It is a time to reflect on the unjust impacts that climate change is having on people around the world, and to offer solidarity through our prayer and presence.

Join in at home or in person:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/climate-change/nfiff-lent-vigil-climate-justice>

"If you don't see yourself somewhere, you don't even believe it can even happen. Until you see an example of



yourself, then you think 'well maybe, if they're doing it, maybe I could do it too'; which is why I am very visible with my wheelchair, and my dog collar."
- The Revd Katie Tupling

The national church have committed £2.4m to projects that will help churches become more accessible and welcoming and enable Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people to explore vocation and grow in the church's ministry and leadership.

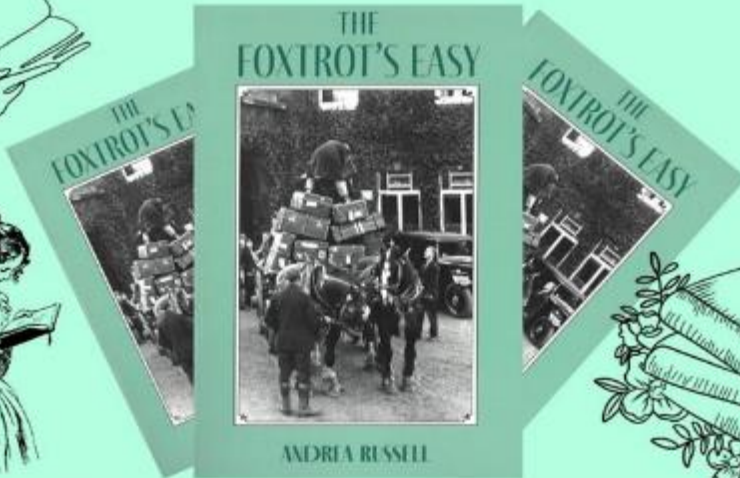
Come and join us for an afternoon talk all about Graeme Moodie and his years at Maiden Erlegh Boys School in the 1930s.

To book your place please sign up in the servery or email office@stnicolas.org.uk

An ideal event to bring your friends and family!

ST NICOLAS CENTRE, SUTCLIFFE AVENUE, RG6 7JN

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1138037



THE FOXTROT'S EASY

2pm Saturday 24th February

Come down to the St Nicolas Centre, to hear Andrea Russell talk about her book 'The Foxtrot's Easy', a novel about Graeme Moodie former pupil of Maiden Erlegh, which he later claimed changed his life. It's a wonderful inside view of life at Maiden Erlegh in the 1930s when it was a boys school. If you are interested in local history or just love to hear a good story you will enjoy this. Refreshments provided and copies of the book will be on sale.

TO BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE
email: office@stnicolas.org.uk
or phone: 0118 9669080

After last year's inaugural event, [#ReadingWalksFestival](#) will return on 11-19 May 2024, with a longer run of walks encompassing two weekends to ensure as many people get to enjoy as many walks as possible. It's a wonderful way to explore Reading's past, present and future with walks both urban and rural.

The programme is currently being finalised, but if you want to get an early foot in the door, sign up for the mailing list.

All info via <https://whatsonreading.com/reading-walks-festival-returns>



READING WALKS FESTIVAL
11 - 19 MAY
COMING SOON

URBAN WALKS
Learn about Reading's amazing heritage and wildlife

COUNTRYSIDE WALKS
Inspiring nature on Reading's doorstep

subscribe to
www.readingwalksfestival.org



Everyone Welcome!



BOARD GAMES CAFÉ

🕒 Every Tuesday 10am - Midday



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