

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

<p>First Reading Second Reading Gospel Reading Psalm Hymns</p>	<p>Sunday 21 April 2024 4th Sunday of Easter</p>
	Acts 4:5-12
	1 John 3:16-end
	John 10:11-18
	23
715 The King of love my shepherd	
747 There's a wideness in God's mercy	
4 A new commandment	
724 The Lord's my shepherd	

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 22 April	John 10:1-10	<p>10am Babies & Bumps 2.30pm Tea and Tinies</p>
Tues 23 April	John 15:18-21	<p>10am-12pm Board Games Café 1pm Elizabeth Abraham's Funeral</p>
Weds 24 April	John 12:44-end	<p>11am Service</p>
Thurs 25 April	Mark 13:5-13	<p>2pm Over 50s</p>
Fri 26 April	John 14:1-6	<p>10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm SNAC</p>
Sat 27 April	John 14:7-14	

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

**Date for your Diary: Earley St Nicolas Annual
 Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 28 April 11.50am**

PRAYER

Collect: Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.

A Haiku poem from The Lectionary in 17 Syllables by Andy Campbell, Emma Major & Rachel Summers **4th Sunday of Easter (John 10:11-18)**

Jesus the shepherd

Lays down his life for us all

Listen for his voice.

This is your garden, Creator God,
a thing of beauty
beyond understanding,
a poem that is being written
not in words but in colours,
wind's whisper, soaring bird,
snowdrop's petal, gentle rain,
sunlight's warmth,

This is your garden, Creator God,
A thing of beauty
beyond our understanding

John Birch, Faith & Worship

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

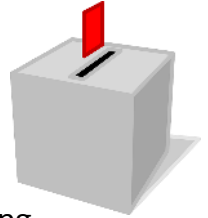
Notices



APCM Next Sunday – it is our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting next Sunday 28th April** after the 10am Service and it would be lovely if as many of you as possible could attend, so please do make a note in your diary and we'll make sure there is extra coffee and cake ready!

Polling Day – As always we will be a polling station on Thursday 2 May and we will be offering all voters tea, coffee and pastries. **If you are able to help with serving the refreshments** I would love to hear from you. If you can offer an hour or two that would be wonderful.

Please email me at office@stnicolas.org.uk or give me a ring on 0118 9669080. Many thanks, Vicki



[The spring edition of Pathways magazine](#) celebrates 30 years of women priests. But how far have women really come in church leadership? Bishop Olivia and Associate Archdeacon, Liz Jackson, give some surprising answers. This edition also features how to open yourself up to the gift of joy, tried and tested ways of welcoming families to church, how to change your perspective so that it's more like Christ's, and much more. Take your free copy home today.

Ways to support Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May

[Christian Aid Week](#) is seven days of action. From community events to individual challenges – your way, to fund lasting change. Help people like Aline, who was pushed to the brink of survival and separated from her six children. With your support and a little help from Christian Aid, [people like Aline](#) can fight back against poverty.



**Give, act and pray this
Christian Aid Week.**

The Art Space in St Nicolas

We all need clothes!

We are having a great time making patches for the wall hanging about Earley, several people in St Nicolas are joining in with others around the community. You can see some of the delightful results on [#earleyonesquareatime](#) on Facebook.

It is surprising how many people are talking about the memories held in scraps of beautiful fabric they are using, showing this project has many levels of meaning.

However, do you remember the Bangladeshi Rana Plaza building collapse – now 11 years ago?

A building built with poor foundations, and unsuitable materials later extended a further 4 high stories to become a top-heavy factory housing heavy textile machinery collapsing killing 1,134 people and injury over 2,000 more? Sad, but what has this to do with us?

Although slum buildings can be expected to be unstable, this was built to supply the fast fashion industry. The owners forced their employees into the unsafe building to complete orders hours before it collapsed (fine of one month's wages if they didn't). People were shocked, global fast fashion supplies gained an unpleasant reputation. The clothing companies were forced by public opinion to change how they accessed garments. The effects are still with us today but work still needs to be done. The anniversary is 24th April

We all need clothes and this week is a good time to assess where we get them and what they are made of, how we dispose of them. Pray for those who make our clothes, and this week in a bit of spare time repair that tear and replace the missing button, so fast fashion has less of a hold over you!! (also join us and make a patch!)



Liz Kerry

News from Oxford Diocese



"There are not enough people like dad in the world" – we remember Bishop Alan Family, friends, colleagues and parishioners from across the diocese gathered in

High Wycombe to remember Bishop Alan on Saturday. More than 300 people attended the [memorial service](#) at All Saints Church.

If you weren't able to join us on the day, you can [view the service](#) on our YouTube channel. There is also a gallery of photographs on our [Facebook page](#).

During the service, the Buckinghamshire area team shared [Bishop Alan's 16 rules of ministry](#), published on the occasion of his 30th year of ministry. We've had several requests for the advice, which included the very wise note to: "avoid congratulating the new lady in church on her impending new arrival until she has told you she is pregnant."



Mark's work hits the right note

Catch one of our newest incumbents on *Songs of Praise* this week as they feature the Teahouse movement, which supports Hong Kongers. Vicar-designate of Woodley parish, the Revd Mark Nam, talks about his work.

Watch the programme on BBC One on Sunday or on the iPlayer.



ART EXHIBITION

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TEXTURE, INSPIRATION, CREATIVITY



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Notices

Reading musicians are coming together to raise £50k for the Royal Berks Hospital Cancer unit through a series of concerts called "Raze The Roof".

They kick off on 26 & 27 April with a pair of back-to-back shows at



[Reading Minster](#), with line-ups boasting the likes of [Ma Bessie & her Pig Foot band](#), [Dream Sellers Music](#), [The Barberettes](#), [Dolly and the Clothespegs](#) and many more! Book now via

<https://whatsonreading.com/.../raze-roof-reading-minster>

Poetry Reading Group

Featuring a wide range of poetry from classic to modern. You can read aloud or just listen.

When: Last Monday of the month - next on 29 April from 10:30 - 11:30

Where: Lower Earley Library, Chalfont Close, Chalfont Way, Lower Earley RG6 5HZ

Contact: 0118 931 2150 / libraryevents@wokingham.gov.uk

Cost: Free drop in session - no need to book

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF SINGING AND
LEARN A NEW SONG IN FOUR-PART A CAPPELLA
STYLE WITH THE BARBERETTES



Two week 'Learn to Sing' course for women

Suitable for new or experienced female singers aged 18+

No requirement to read music

Final performance for family/friends on week 2

Warm welcome (and a glass of fizz)!!

Where? St Nicolas Church, Sutcliffe Avenue, RG6 7JN

When? Wednesday 17th & 24th April 2024

Time? 7.45pm - 10pm

Cost? FREE!!

"Singing is a superpower! It gets your
endorphins flying and makes you feel great!!"



"I feel so proud to be part of such a
professional and enthusiastic chorus and
look forward to many musical years ahead."



For more information or to sign up, go to
www.the-barberettes.co.uk/eventregistration
or scan the QR code!

