

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



First Reading
Second Reading
Gospel Reading
Psalm
Hymns

Sunday 19 May 2024 Pentecost	
First Reading	Acts 2:1-21
Second Reading	Romans 8:22-27
Gospel Reading	John 15:26-27, 16:4-15
Psalm	104:26-end
Hymns	62 Be still for the presence of the Lord 675 Spirit of the living God 654 She sits like a bird 732 The Spirit lives to set us free

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 20 May	Mark 9:14-29	10am-12pm Bumps and Babies 2.30pm Tea & Tinies 7.30 PCC Meeting
Tues 21 May	Mark 9:30-37	10am-12pm Board Games Café 2pm Memory Café
Weds 22 May	Mark 9:38-40	11am Service
Thurs 23 May	Mark 9:41-50	2pm Over 50s
Fri 24 May	Mark 10:1-12	10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm SNAC
Sat 25 May	Mark 10:13-16	

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

¹² 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
John 16:12-14

PRAYER

Collect: Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Haiku poem from The Lectionary in 17 Syllables by Andy Campbell, Emma Major & Rachel Summers **Pentecost Sunday (Whit Sunday)** (John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15)

**The spirit of truth
Came down to be seen and heard
On earth with us all.**

*Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend that is holy;
Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.*

St Augustine of Hippo (Ad 354-430)

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



Memory Café is on this Tuesday 21 May from 2pm. Join us for tea, chat and light recreation in a friendly atmosphere! The café is particularly designed for people who live with some form of memory loss and their carers, but everyone is welcome.

The next Cake and Craft Sale will be on Sunday 26 May after the 10am Service. If you are able to make a cake to be sold please let Denise Rees know. All proceeds go to St Nics. Thank you to Maggie and Denise for organising the sales throughout the year.



The next Scriptural Reasoning meeting will be on Wednesday 5th June at 7.30-9.00 pm at St Nicolas church Earley, where we will be exploring 'Encounters with God'. Everyone welcome.

If you are anyone you know is affected by alopecia, they will receive a warm welcome at the monthly **Alopecia UK group here at St Nics on Tuesday 21 May from 6.00pm.** for more information please contact <mailto:reading@alopecia.org.uk>



Over 50s will be having a talk and information session with Forestcare on Thursday 30 May at 2pm. Forestcare provides emergency assistance 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The Responder Service provides CQC registered professional emergency home care, anytime of the day or night. For more information please come along to the session.



Michael Garaway

INSIGHTS



14 - 31 May 2024

Open 10 am - 4 pm Mon - Sat

St Nicolas Church & Centre

Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley, Reading RG6 7JN

Tel: 0118 966 9080

Meet the artist, inc. refreshments

Sat 18 May - 5:00 - 7:00 pm



Pause, ponder and pray on the Holy Spirit

As one of the less well known Christian festivals, Pentecost is often overlooked by

those outside of the church. Not least because it's not as easily understood by our communities as Easter or Christmas.

As we look ahead to the 49th day after Easter, take a moment to pause and reflect on how the Holy Spirit works in your life. Maybe revisit this sermon from [Bishop Steven](#) on what Pentecost means to him, or visit our [Learning Hub](#) to discover more opportunities to learn about your faith.

The future of community organising [Social Justice Adviser Hannah Ling](#) explores how churches respond to poverty and inequality in the UK in an article in the Crucible: The Journal for Christian Social Ethics April 2024 edition.

We know God is at work in churches, communities, and individuals, as God always has been. But many people continue to struggle in a myriad of ways, and opportunities are not equally available to all, with poverty being deepened by a cost-of-living crisis involving soaring energy bills and housing costs, with a backdrop of a climate crisis.

Read Hannah's full article on [our website](#).



Ascension Day and what it means

Associate Archdeacon, the Revd Canon Liz Jackson chats about Ascension Day and how Christians mark this lesser known day in the church calendar.

Listen on our [SoundCloud channel](#).

Notices



The Importance of being Oscar

Co-Produced with Original Theatre

23 May - 8 June

'Life is far too important a thing ever to talk seriously about.'

Micheál Mac Liammóir's

renowned play *The Importance of Being Oscar* returns to the stage following huge critical acclaim.

Step beyond the footlights into the private world of Oscar Wilde.

Told in the shadows of Reading Gaol, where Wilde was imprisoned, this strictly limited run will immerse audiences in a compelling journey through the loves and losses, successes and struggles of the iconic man – from the eccentric socialite to the imprisoned outcast.

A beautiful tribute to an icon of the world of theatre, liberally laced with Wilde's signature wit and wisdom and featuring excerpts of many of his best-loved works including *An Ideal Husband*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *The Ballad of Reading of Gaol*. This one man show promises to be a Wilde-ly entertaining night.

Age Guidance 10+.

Relaxed Performance: **Saturday 1 June at 3pm**

Find out more here: readingrep.com/the-importance-of-being-oscar



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SELECTION OF
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SATURDAY 8 JUNE 11am-3pm

**PLANT
SALE**

Avoncourt Fuchsias will be here and we will be serving tea/coffee and cake. If you have spare plants you would like to donate, feel free to bring them along! All proceeds will go to Earley St Nicolas Church



Earley St Nicolas Church
Sutcliffe Avenue
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www.stnicolas.org.uk