

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

Sunday 14 July 2024

Trinity 7

First Reading	Amos 7:7-15
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:3-14
Gospel Reading	Mark 6:14-29
Psalm	85:8-end
Hymns	52 At the name of Jesus 205 From heaven you came 70 Before the throne of God above 168 Father God, I wonder

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 15 July	Matthew 10:34-11:1	10.15am Margaret Marshall's Funeral 2.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 16 July	Matthew 11:20-24	10am-12pm Board Games Café
Weds 17 July	Matthew 11:25-27	11am Service 7.30pm PCC Meeting
Thurs 18 July	Matthew 11:28-end	2pm Over 50's
Fri 19 July	Matthew 12:1-8	10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm SNAC
Sat 20th July	Matthew 12:14-21	

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

**Good Luck England in the Euro 2024 Final
 against Spain on Sunday!!!**



PRAYER

Collect: Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Haiku poem from The Lectionary in 17 Syllables by Andy Campbell, Emma Major & Rachel Summers (Mark 6:14-29)

Weakness of Herod

Saving face, fulfilled a grudge

John the Baptist killed

Lord, we pray that we may recognize Your presence
in the ordinary encounters
and notice the ways through which
you desire to nourish and give us life.
This is because you are present in all things.
Free us from prejudices and scepticism.
We seek for Your strength to join with You
and to open our hearts to know You more.
We ask this in the name of Jesus.
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

April's Leaving BBQ is on Sunday 28th July after the 10am service

Please sign up at the back of church or email

<mailto:office@stnicolas.org.uk>

by 20th July so we can

organise the catering and also if you are able to help set-up, serve

refreshments or help clear away on the day all offers of help will be very well received. Thank you.



Margaret Marshall's Funeral

Very sadly Margaret Marshall passed way at the end of May and her Funeral will be taking place in Church this Monday 15th July at 10.15am. Margaret had been a part of St Nicolas for many years and her spirit and enthusiasm for life will be missed by us all.



Wokingham Pride

Free family friendly event for everyone who supports the aims of Pride. Follow the parade from Wokingham marketplace at 11:30 to Elms Field. Then bring a picnic and enjoy live music and a variety of stalls including local charities and services.

When: Saturday 13 July from 11:00 - 16:00

Where: Marketplace, Wokingham RG40 1AS then Elms Field, Elms Road, Wokingham RG40 2AA

Contact: wokinghampride@gmail.com

Cost: Free - all are welcome [Find Out More](#)

Meet the Artist : Saturday 20 July from 12:00 – 14:00

Visit the July exhibition entitled 'Secret School' showing photographs of animals who visit the wildlife garden at Loddon School.

WhenWhere: Art Space at St Nicolas Church, Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley RG6 7JN [Find Out More](#)

Notices



Thank you to all our polling day volunteers who manned the café and gave a warm St Nicolas welcome to all our local voters!

A prayer from Bishop Gavin following the election results:



Dear Lord,

We thank you for all those called and elected to serve as Members of Parliament and for those who will form our new Government. We pray that you will give them your wisdom, compassion and integrity as they

give themselves in service of our communities. May they and their families be strengthened, blessed and guarded by you.

We pray for those who have not been elected, and especially those MPs who have lost their seats, and their staff members who have lost their jobs. May you give them peace in this time of adjustment, and guide and provide for them as they look to the next stage of their life and work.

Above all, we give you thanks that we live in a democratic country where power can be transferred peacefully. We pray for those parts of the world where this is not the case, asking that your justice and peace would reign. We pray also for the many other countries facing elections this year: may the voting process build and strengthen communities and community life across the world. Amen.

Listen to Bishop Gavin discuss the priorities for the new Government on our [SoundCloud channel](#).

WITH LIVE FLYING BIRDS!

Birds & Bingo

Sadie from Feathers & Fur Falconry will be giving a talk & demonstration of her birds.

Then cake and prize bingo!

MONDAY 5TH AUGUST

2PM - 4.30PM

**EARLEY CRESCENT RESOURCE
CENTRE, WARBLER DRIVE,
LOWER EARLEY RG6 4HB**

Adults £8.50, children £5.00 (under 5's free)

To apply for tickets contact Angela
angela_e_h@hotmail.com

07866 158 601

Berkshire Federation



The Women's Institute is over 100 years old but we are moving with the times! The public are very welcome to our talks & events. We hope that you will join us for a fun afternoon, which is suitable for all ages.

Earley Environmental Group Events

Talk on Fishing at Maiden Erlegh Lake

On 15th July the EEG will be hosting a talk by Martyn Mills about the fish and fishing at Maiden Erlegh Nature Reserve. Find out about the fish that live in the lake and how the fishing at the lake is managed. More information is given on the attached poster. Please book by emailing nature@earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk

The Broodbank Bug Hunt

On 26th July we will be holding the annual Broodbank Bug Hunt – led by EEG Member and naturalist Alan Broodbank. The event is for children over 3 years of age who would like to discover more about the insects that inhabit the Maiden Erlegh Nature Reserve. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. There will be two sessions on the day; in the morning from 10am to 12 noon and in the afternoon from 1pm to 3pm. Numbers will be limited, so please book by emailing nature@earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk

Earley Town Council's Green Fair

On August 3rd the EEG will have a stall at the Earley Town Council's Green Fair. The Fair will be held, as usual, on the Maiden Erlegh Nature Reserve field off Beech Lane, between 10am and 3pm. Please come along and meet us on our stall where we will be displaying some of the work we do and also selling the EEG's 2025 Calendar.



Butterfly
Conservation's

BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

12 July - 4 August

Get out for the count
and help nature thrive.



Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count is here

Want to get involved? Go to

<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>

where you can download the butterfly ID chart and get the app or log your sightings direct. It only takes 15 mins so please do take part.

Why Count Butterflies?

Butterflies are vital parts of the ecosystem as both pollinators and components of the food chain. However, they are under threat. Butterfly declines are also an early warning for other wildlife losses. Butterflies are key biodiversity indicators for scientists as they react very quickly to changes in their environment. Therefore, if their numbers are falling, then nature is in trouble.

Social media and the internet can be incredible tools, but they can also be sources of hurt, conflict and harm. Bishop Steven offers a fresh perspective from the Beatitudes as a way to navigate social media and life online.

The Beatitudes and social media

At the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends eight beautiful qualities. But what do the Beatitudes mean for social media and life online?

- > **Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**
I will remember that my identity comes from being made and loved by God, not from my online profile.
- > **Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted**
This world is full of grief and suffering. I will tread softly and post with gentleness and compassion.
- > **Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth**
I will not boast or brag online, nor will I pull others down.
- > **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled**
There are many wrongs to be righted. I will not be afraid to name them and look for justice in the world.
- > **Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy**
I will not judge others but be generous online. I will be conscious of my own failings.
- > **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God**
I will be truthful and honest, and I will not pretend to be what I am not.
- > **Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God**
I will seek to reconcile those of different views with imagination and good humour.
- > **Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**
I will not add to the store of hate in the world, but I will try to be courageous in standing up for what is right and true.



Bible verses are *Matthew 5.1-10* (NRSV).
Social media commentary by the
Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford.