

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



First Reading
Second Reading
Gospel Reading
Psalm
Hymns

Sunday 12 October 2025
Creationtide - Trinity 17
Harvest Festival

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Philippians 4:4-9
 John 6:25-35
 100
 144 Come, ye thankful people, come
 146 Creation sings!
 542 O give thanks
 801 We plough the fields and scatter

Homegroup week	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 13 Oct	Luke 11:29-32	2.30-3.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 14 Oct	Luke 11:37-41	10am-12pm Board Games Café 2pm Mothers' Union Meeting
Weds 15 Oct	Luke 11:42-46	11am Service
Thurs 16 Oct	Luke 11:47-end	2pm Over 50s Group
Fri 17 Oct	Luke 12:1-7	10am-12pm Community Coffee 10am-12pm Full Hearts Friday 2.15pm- St Nicolas Afternoon Club
Sat 18 Oct	Luke 10:1-9	2pm -4pm Meet the Artist

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

³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35

PRAYER

Collect: Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord of the Harvest,
we thank you for your abundant generosity
and the good things you have given us from the earth,
for the beauty of nature,
and for the fruit of the land.

We give thanks for those who cultivate and gather the crops.

Help us to be as generous as you are.

May we share what we have with our neighbours
and with those in our communities who are in need.

We also ask that you help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Grant us the wisdom to care for the earth,
protecting it from harm and allowing it to thrive
for the well-being of all.

May our communities be filled with your abundant love,
and may we work together for a kinder, fairer world.

Please grant us your peace and help us live in harmony.

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 for on a Sunday morning by our Prayer Ministry Team.

Please feel free to join our **6pm Prayer group every Sunday** on [Zoom](#) Meeting ID 872 7137 1558 we will be praying for the needs of the world and our community.

NOTICES



church. The speaker is an old friend of MU - Tony Weston - who last gave us a very interesting talk on Crossing Places on the River Thames. His talk this time has the intriguing title **"The Secrets of the Box"**.



Art Space exhibition and Meet the Artist Event

In October we are showing photographs submitted to the annual EEG calendar, but not included in the final print.

Focusing on Autumn the foyer is full of the rich colours we can see in the woods and gardens in Earley at this time.

Please come and meet the photographers on 18th October 2:pm - 4:00pm in the art space and

servery in the St Nicolas Centre The photograph is of Bob Collis who designed the exhibition and put it on the walls!

Oasis church reading **St Nicolas Church + Centre**

Hello AUTUMN

Festive Family Activity Morning
Pumpkin crafting Garden trail Lantern making

£4 per child or
£10 per family
Under 1's free

Games, tasty treats, crafts, friends!
Thursday 30th October 10am-12 St Nicolas Centre Earley
Book to avoid disappointment contact Louise.Bisset@Oasisuk.org 07340419693



HARVEST

It's Harvest Festival next Sunday 12th October so we will be decorating Church on Saturday 11th Oct from 10am. If you can donate any hydrangea heads with stems of 12 to 15 inches and/or hops please leave them in the lobby by 10am on Sat (11th Oct) so we can use them in the decoration, if you have any queries please speak to Jane (Churchwarden).

Please do stay after the Harvest service for danish pastries and coffee/tea.

We are again supporting Woodley Foodbank and CIRDIC with Harvest donations so if you are able please bring them to the service on 12th October, list of the items they require are as below:

Sugar Coffee Pasta Cereals Pasta Sauce Spaghetti (dried) Noodles (incl Pot Noodles) Tinned Vegetables (all types, incl potatoes) Tinned pies (Fray Bentos Meat and Veg varieties) Tinned fish Tinned fruit	Tinned Soups (Veg and Meat) Meat meals (tinned) Biscuits Crisps Custard - tinned and dried Tinned Desserts Long Life milk Juice (cordial and long life) Toothbrushes and toothpaste Shampoo and Shower Gel Deodorants (M&F) Toilet Rolls
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Thank you!

One month before turning 95, Patricia Routledge (of *Keeping up Appearances* fame, amongst so many other wonderful performances) wrote this, (she died on 3rd October aged 96).

"I'll be turning 95 this coming Monday. When I was younger, I often worried I wasn't good enough—that I'd never be cast again, that I'd disappoint my mother. But these days begin in peace and end in gratitude."

In my forties, my life finally began to make sense. Before that, I'd performed steadily—provincial stages, radio plays, West End productions—but felt somewhat lost. I was searching for something within myself, a home I hadn't yet found.

At 50, I took a television role that many of you would later know me by—Hyacinth Bucket from *Keeping Up Appearances*. I thought it would just be a minor role, a brief moment. I never expected it to become beloved across the globe. That character taught me to embrace my quirks and quietly healed something deep within me.

At 60, I started learning Italian—not for my career, but simply so I could sing opera in its native tongue. I learned the gentle art of living alone without loneliness, reading poetry aloud each night—not to perfect diction, but to soothe my spirit.

At 70, I returned to Shakespearean theatre, a place I once thought I'd aged out of. This time, there was nothing to prove. I stepped onto those legendary boards with calmness. The audience felt that serenity. I had stopped performing; I was simply being.

At 80, I discovered watercolour painting. I painted flowers from my garden, nostalgic hats from my youth, and faces glimpsed on the London Underground—each painting was a silent memory made tangible.

Now, at 95, I write letters by hand. I'm learning the simple joy of baking rye bread. I still breathe deeply each morning. Laughter remains precious, though I no longer feel the need to make others laugh. Quietness is sweeter than ever. I'm writing this today to share something simple and true:

Growing older isn't a final act—it can be life's most exquisite chapter if you allow yourself to bloom once more.

Let the years ahead be your treasure years.

You don't have to be perfect, famous, or adored.

You only need to be present—fully—for the life that's yours.

With warmth and gentle love, *Patricia Routledge*



VOLUNTEER NEEDED

CommuniCare is an advice charity run by Christians who are motivated by their faith to help others.

Do you have a heart to serve?

Do you wish to support people who are need?

We currently have some vacancies for:

VOLUNTEER ADVISERS

Either Half a day or a Full day each week.

(10am - 4pm, 10am - 1pm or 1pm – 4pm

Full training given

If you would be interested in more details please

contact Francesca Yates on 0118 9263941 or

office@communicare.org.uk

Full Job Role Spec can be found on the
CommuniCare Website www.communicare.org.uk

233 Kings Road, Reading. RG1 4LS

October 2025

EARLEY REPAIR CAFE

From bikes to bags, toasters to tools, lamps to laptops and chairs to chinos, our talented repairers will take on a whole range of household items



Upcoming Dates: Sunday 12th October, 10am - 1pm
Sunday 9th November, 10am - 1pm
Sunday 14th December, 10am - 1pm

Where: Centrepont Community Centre
(next to Lower Earley Library on Chalfont Close)

For more information, visit:
www.earley-tc.gov.uk/earley-repair-cafe



Reflect & Remember

All are welcome at this service where we remember those we love but see no more.

4pm Sunday 2nd November

Earley St Nicolas Church, RG6 7JN



We warmly invite you and your family to join us for a Service to remember and give thanks for your loved ones that are no longer with us.

You can add the names of the people you would like us to remember to the sheet at the back of church or you can email them to office@stnicolas.org.uk

We will be lighting a candle for every loved one remembered.

Refreshments will be served after the Service