

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

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026



**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Epiphany**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49:1-7

**Psalm:** 40:1-12

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

**Gospel Reading:** John 1:29-42

**Hymns**

328 I come with joy

165 Faithful one, so unchanging

631 Purify my heart

549 O God, you search me

Homegroup Wk	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 19 Jan	Mark 2:18-22	2.30-3.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 20 Jan	Mark 2:23-end	10am-12pm Board Games Café 2pm- 3.30pm Memory Café
Weds 21 Jan	Mark 3:1-6	11am Service
Thurs 22 Jan	Mark 3:7-12	2pm Over 50s
Fri 23 Jan	Mark 3:13-19	10am-12pm Community Coffee 10-11.30am Full Hearts Friday 2pm -4.30pm SNAC - Knit & Natter
Sat 24 Jan	Mark 3:20-21	2pm -4pm Meet the Artist

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

<sup>32</sup> And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." <sup>34</sup> And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' **John 1:32-34**

# PRAYER

**Collect:** Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Reflection and Prayer for Christian Unity

### Reflection

Calling me out,  
releasing my heart.

Ears to hear,  
a will to embrace.  
Open, and humble.

New perspectives revealed,  
a facet of grace unseen.

Growing in love.

Together, becoming worthy of God's call.

### Prayer

Loving God,

You have called us to unity.

May our response to Your call  
lead us to actively seek justice  
and reconciliation

and share Your light with the world.

Amen.

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**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](mailto: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.

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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

### Dates for your Diaries:

**Sun 25<sup>th</sup> January - Cake & Craft Sale after the 10am service**

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> February - Open meeting after the 10am service**

**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> February - Ash Wednesday services at 11am and 6pm**

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Lent Lunch**



### Blessing your Home

It is traditional for people to bless their homes at Epiphanytide, remembering the hospitality of the Holy Family to the stranger from the East and asking for a blessing on the home and all who enter. If you would like Mark to come and bless your home please sign up on the sheet in the

Church lobby or drop an email to the parish office

[office@stnicolas.org.uk](mailto:office@stnicolas.org.uk) if you would like to see what a house blessing

looks like you can see Mark blessing his home on the facebook clip

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1BjE6pjgvQ/>

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### Sad news

Our lovely former Associate Priest Rev David Webster sadly passed away last Monday. He died peacefully with both his daughters by his side.

David was much loved by all those who remember his kindness and great sense of humour. After he retired he always brightened the day when he used to pop in for a cuppa. May he rest in peace.



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### Consultation regarding the New Bishop of Oxford

The Diocese are currently discerning who might be our new Diocesan Bishop for Oxford. Anyone living, working or worshipping in the diocese can contribute their views via link below. You can also pick up a questionnaire in Church complete it and pass it to the Churchwardens, Mark or Vicki so it can be input by the Parish Office. Please do participate as they would like to hear from as many people as possible.

<https://oxford.anglican.org/consultation>

Please join us on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Jan at 12pm.....



## SAFETY ADVICE & FRAUD DISCUSSION



Date: Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Venue: St Nicolas Church, Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley, RG6 7JN

Hosted by **Thames Valley Police / Neighbourhood team**. We are looking forward to seeing you. The aim of this session is to raise your awareness, educate and inform you about the various types of fraud that are present and give other safety advice.

For further information contact: [elena.ispas@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:elena.ispas@thamesvalley.police.uk)

**Tea and coffee along with some snacks and sandwiches will be served.**



**Libraries  
Connected**

# READING REVOLUTIONS

YUAN YANG MP IN CONVERSATION WITH  
SIMON SAVIDGE

Friday 23 January 2026, 11 - 12pm

Lower Earley Library  
Wokingham

Kick off the National Year of Reading 2026 at our in-conversation event with local MP and author Yuan Yang. Yuan will discuss her own book *Private Revolutions*, the value of reading and the authors that have influenced her life, writing and politics. Bring your own inspirational books to discuss too!





# DIALOGUE SOCIETY

Thank you to the Dialogue Society

We were lucky enough to be joined by members of the Dialogue Society last Sunday and they kindly brought Noah's pudding to share with the congregation. Noah's pudding celebrate centuries of community and kindness. According to tradition , when the waters of the Great Flood began to recede, it is said that Noah and his family gathered all the remaining food on the Ark and made a pudding from it. The dish has been made for generations as a symbol of unity and gratitude. Sharing food is a timeless gesture that brings people together, reaffirming the bond between individuals regardless of faith, background or belief. I can confirm that the pudding was delicious and everyone was very grateful for this kind offering. If you would like to come along to the next Dialogue Society - Scriptural Reasoning Meeting it will be on Weds 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm



# REINSPIRED

## Quiz Night

31 January 2026 at 7pm.

St Nicolas Centre, Sutcliffe Ave, Earley.

£10 per head.

includes a game of heads & tails.

Raffle available too.

Fun, laughter and a warm welcome awaits you as we host a fundraising event for REINSPIRED.

Our returning Quiz masters are Julia & David Eversham, so we know we are in good hands.

Come as a team (up to 8 people) a small group or an individual.

All welcome – if you do not have a team, we will allocate you to one on the night.

Please bring your own drinks and refreshments

To reserve your place email  
[marketing@reinspired.org.uk](mailto:marketing@reinspired.org.uk)

We look forward to seeing you. 😊

## News from Oxford Diocese

### Grok, X and creation of deepfakes

"From a perspective of Christian faith, all the major world faiths, and civil society, the unleashing of this capacity in Grok by X is truly appalling. The sexualised deepfakes of real individuals used without their consent is immensely damaging to the individual's dignity and the dignity of our society."

[In his latest Substack](#), Bishop Steven looks at the capacity for harm from deepfakes, drawing on his experience chairing an interdisciplinary Westminster seminar on the subject, and urges people to read *The New Age of Sexism* by Laura Bates.



The poster features a yellow background with a stylized orange wavy line in the top left corner. The title 'Memory Café' is written in a large, black, cursive font. In the top right corner, there is a logo for 'St Nicolas Church + Centre' featuring a purple stylized figure and the text. Below the title, there are illustrations of a stack of cookies, a cup of coffee with a heart-shaped foam, and a cupcake with pink frosting and stars. The text below the illustrations reads: 'Join us for tea, chat and light recreation in a friendly atmosphere! The cafe is particularly designed for people who live with some form of memory loss and their carers, but everyone is welcome!' The text 'Third Tuesday of every month!' is written in a bold, italicized font, and the time '2:00 - 3:30pm in the St Nicolas Centre' is at the bottom in a bold, black font.

Join us for tea, chat and light recreation in a friendly atmosphere! The cafe is particularly designed for people who live with some form of memory loss and their carers, but everyone is welcome!

**Third Tuesday of every month!**

**2:00 - 3:30pm in the St Nicolas Centre**

Come and support your local Artists

SIEW TIN LIM  
"PAINTING FROM THE HEART"  
WATERCOLOUR PORTRAITS AND  
SEASCAPES

6TH JAN TO 16 FEB '26



MEET THE ARTIST  
24TH JANUARY '26  
2-4 PM SATURDAY

WE ARE OPEN

10AM - 5 PM

MON-FRI

1-4 PM SATURDAY

ART SPACE AT ST NICOLAS  
33, SUTCLIFFE AVENUE,  
EARLEY  
RG67JN

