

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

Mothers' UNION 
150 years



Sunday 14 June 2026

Trinity 2

1st Reading: Isaiah 61 1-3

Psalm: 118 1-9

2nd Reading: Romans 12 1-13

Gospel: John 15:9-16

Hymns

337 I the Lord of sea and sky

91 Brother, sister

195 For the beauty of the earth

422 Lead us heavenly Father

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 15th June	Matthew 5.38-42	2.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 16th June	Matthew 5.43-end	10am-12pm Board Games Café 2pm Memory Café
Weds 17th June	Matthew 6.1-6, 16-18	11am Communion Service
Thurs 18th June	Matthew 6.7-15	2pm Over 50s
Fri 19th June	Matthew 6.19-23	10am -11.30am Full Hearts Friday 10am-12pm Community Coffee 2pm-4.30pm SNAC-Knit & Natter
Sat 20th June	Matthew 6.24-end	

To watch the live stream of our Sunday service please go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/@stnicolasearley1496/featured>

¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants[d] any longer, because the servant[e] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

John 15 12-15

PRAYER

COLLECT: Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Prayer for the 150th Anniversary

Loving Lord, we give you thanks and praise for the vision of Mary Sumner and the 150 years of the Mothers' Union.

We celebrate the millions of lives touched, families supported, and communities transformed across the world.

Empower us with your Holy Spirit to continue sharing your love—bringing hope to the weary, standing for justice, and being your hands and feet in the world.

As we look to the future, keep us united in prayer, grounded in faith, and steadfast in our service.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Mary Sumner's Personal Prayer

(Written by Mary Sumner in 1876 and used daily by members worldwide)

“All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy Spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen.”

Please feel free to join our **6pm Prayer Group every Sunday** where we will be praying for the needs of the world and our community.

This is back on Zoom now, to join please click on the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83985221424?pwd=iYlbb3mjOd4gSviyUwVgp7fBOGRAbP.1>

Meeting ID: 839 8522 1424

Passcode: 981055

NOTICES:

Thank you everyone who helped to make last Weekend's Summer Fair such a success! All your hard work and enthusiasm really paid off!
And a good time was had by all!





Mothers' Union is a women-led, international Christian movement dedicated to ending poverty, violence and social injustice in communities in the UK and around the world.

Active for 150 years, with over 4 million members in approximately 84 countries, we work with people of all faiths and none, transforming lives, strengthening families and communities, and advocating for meaningful change.

Rooted in kindness, faith and compassionate action, we strive to create a better future where everyone has the opportunity and resources to thrive.

Mothers' Union Approach

We are proud to operate with a grassroots approach; our members put their faith into action within their communities every day. Led by the communities' needs, we listen and respond to create safe spaces, breaking down barriers between and within people.

Through participatory exercises such as Bible studies, our members engage communities in addressing sensitive issues and challenging harmful societal norms – empowering even the world's most underserved communities to transform their lives. By mobilising members to partner with churches, church leaders and other stakeholders, including governments and other NGOs, mutually agreed outcomes are achieved.

Mothers' Union equips members and their communities to recognise and utilise the skills, resources and talents around them. Through this process, people take ownership of their future, lifting them from dependency. We also work extensively through lobbying and engagement with key decision-makers, especially governments, to address underlying issues and bring about systemic change.

Mothers' Union began in 1876. Mary Sumner, the wife of a rector in Hampshire, formed a group to support mothers from all backgrounds in bringing up their children. After delivering a speech in 1885 to the

Portsmouth Church Congress, she inspired many women present to go back to their parishes and set up similar groups.

Over time, the groups that met as Mothers' Union became embedded in their communities. They forged strong links with local people and the Anglican Church. They worked to support one another and give a voice to disadvantaged women while addressing wider societal issues. Driven by Mary Sumner's passion for the role of women in bringing about a better society, the groups proved very popular.

A global movement

We are a diverse and inclusive community present in approximately 84 countries around the world, working together for a future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Our members are not all mothers, or even all women – they are female and male, single and married, parents and grandparents, young adults expressing social conscience and older adults volunteering in their local community. Mothers' Union provides a network through which they can serve Christ in their community, through prayer, financial support, and actively working in programmes and projects that meet local needs.

	<p>Ending poverty Fostering self-reliance and resilience</p>
	<p>Ending injustice Advancing gender justice</p>
	<p>Ending violence Promoting peace and safety</p>

Material from Mothers' Union Website

NOTICES:



Woodley Foodbank have items they need urgently, some of which they are completely out of! So if you are able to buy any of the following they would be gratefully received. Thank You!

Tinned soups various	Longlife milk
Small cooking oil	Tinned potatoes
Fruit squash concentrated	Tinned meat
Fruit juice individual	Small bags of sugar
Jars of sauce for pasta & curries	Tinned fruit

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.

Art Space in St Nics

Our June artist is Moyna who is inspired by theme of Climate Change to



create a series of paintings called 'Turbulent Skys'. This is part of Reading's Climate



Festival which started on 6 June.

**Meet the Artist event Saturday 27th June
2pm - 4pm.**

NEWS FROM OXFORD DIOCESE



Leave your message for Bishop Steven's book

We are in the process of creating a special book to mark Bishop Steven's retirement – and we would be delighted if you could take the time to submit your message.

You might want to let Bishop Steven know what he has meant to you and

your congregation. Or you might want simply to thank him for his service and wish him the best for his retirement.

All messages are welcome and will be cherished. No submission is too simple. [You can submit your message here.](#)



Listen to our new eco podcast

We're excited to launch our brand new eco podcast, Common Ground, hosted by Bishop Mary. In this short series, we explore the connection between faith, the environment and the world we share.

We'll be chatting with Christians from across the Diocese of Oxford who are also working in climate science, conservation, sustainability and environmental action, hearing how their faith shapes what they do and the hope that keeps them going.

Episode one, Observing the Earth with Prof Chris Merchant, is out now. In this episode, Bishop Mary speaks with Prof Merchant about his work in ocean and climate observation, the vital role of scientific research in understanding climate change and how faith can shape our response to environmental challenges.

[Have a listen and join the conversation.](#)

THIS TUESDAY 16th June



Memory Café



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
Sutcliffe Avenue Earley RG6 7JN
Tel: 0118 966 9080



Stnicolas.org.uk



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