



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



Sunday 27 Sept 2026 - Trinity 17

Harvest Festival

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 8.7–18

Canticle of the Sun

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 9.6–end

Gospel: Luke 12.16-30

Hymns

79 Blest are the pure in heart

688 Take this moment

724 The Lord's my shepherd (Townend)

352 In Christ alone

Homegroup Week	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 28 th Sept	Luke 9.46–50	9.30am Sort and Deliver Harvest Donations 2.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 29 th Sept <i>Michael and All Angels</i>	John 1.47–end	10am-12pm Board Games Café
Weds 30 th Sept	Luke 9.57–end	11am Communion Service 7.30pm PCC Meeting
Thurs 1 st Oct	Luke 10.1–12	2pm Over 50s
Fri 2 nd Oct	Luke 10.13–16	10am -12pm Community Coffee 2pm-4pm SNAC-Knit & Natter
Sat 3 rd Oct	Luke 10.17–24	9.30am St Nics Gardening

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

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

²⁸But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you— you of little faith! ²⁹And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Luke 12.28-30

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.

Generous God,

At this harvest time we thank you for all the good things you give us.

As we thank you for our food, we remember all those who do not have enough for even one proper meal each day.

We pray for the work of CIRDIC,
and local foodbanks, providing food for those in need.

We thank you for the hard work of all those who grow, protect and prepare our food; for the shopkeepers, the transport delivery drivers, the processors and the farmers.

Help us to protect your creation by being careful about how we use your resources, so that there will be clean water,

clean air and plenty of wild birds, mammals and insects to maintain the ecological balance of our countryside.

Help us to recognise the interdependence of all of life and the importance of relations and community,

and help us become good stewards
of all you continue to give us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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** 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

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

It's St Nics

Macmillan Coffee morning tomorrow (Friday 25th Sept) so do some and enjoy a cuppa and some homemade cake all while raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. If you can't make it but would like to donate you can use the QR code which will take you to the St Nics justgiving page. Thank you!



Help with sorting and delivering Harvest donations please



We would love your help if you are able to come to church on Monday morning and help sort the donations that we have received from Loddon and Hawkedon schools as well as the donations for our congregation. We then need help driving them to CIRDIC and Woodley foodbank. We have advised both that we will be delivering between 10.30 -11am. So if you are able to help we would love to see you. Many thanks

Season of Creation at St Nic's

EcoChurch Green Tip: It's Fairtrade Fortnight – and Fairtrade doesn't just help farming communities with guaranteed minimum prices and a premium to invest in schools, health clinics etc. It also protects the land and supports environmental care.

Why not try a new fairtrade product this week – it could be wine (in shops from Lidl to Waitrose and even the corner shop on Meadow Road); flowers, bourbon biscuits or a bar of Tony's Chocoloney from a Co-op; cotton wool, Brazil nuts or jam at Sainsbury's or a whole host of items from pot plants to Christmas decorations at the World Shop on London Street.



It's **Harvest Festival this Sunday 27th September** so we will be **decorating Church on Saturday 26th Sept from 10am, if you are able to lend a helping hand we would love to see you**
If you can donate any **hydrangea heads with stems please leave them in the lobby by 10am this Sat (26th Sept)** so we can use them in the decoration, don't worry if they have turned brown we can still use them. If you have any queries please speak to Jane (Churchwarden).

Please do stay after the Harvest service for danish pastries and coffee/tea, we would love to see you.

We are again supporting **Woodley Foodbank and CIRDIC with Harvest donations** so if you are able please **bring them to the service**, 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!



St Nics Garden

We would love to plant some bulbs in the St Nics garden ready for next Spring, if you would like to donate towards the cost of purchasing the bulbs please could you make a donation online and mark it BULBS or if you prefer to use cash please pass any donations to the Churchwardens Jane &

Denise or our Treasurer Wendy. Thank you 😊



Pathways Magazine

It's a little late but we have now received our copies of the Summer Pathways Magazine so please do pick up your copy from the church lobby or the servery or if you prefer it online please follow the link below. It is worth a read and it has had a make over so do have a look!

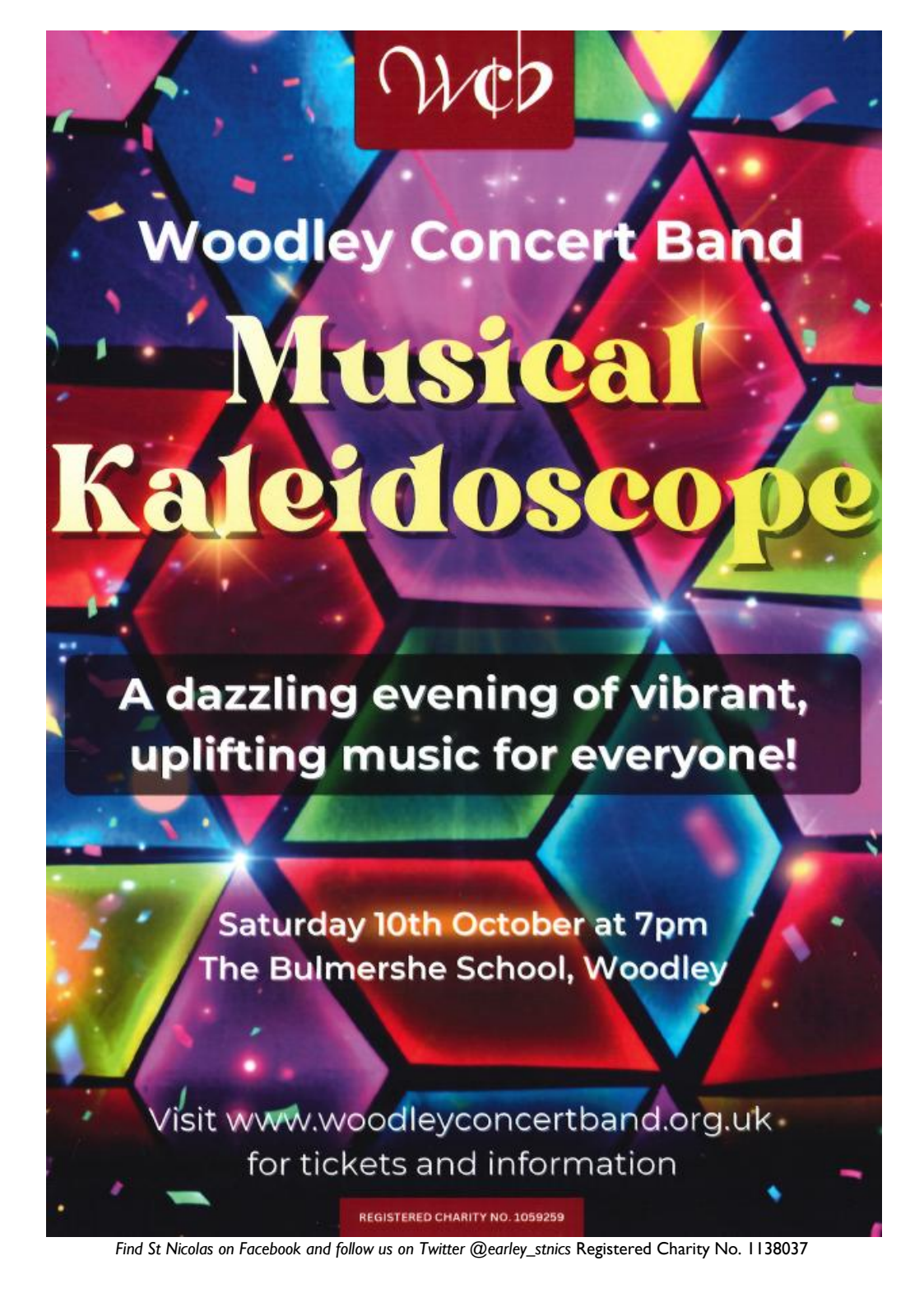
<https://d3hgriq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61f2fd86f0ee5/content/pages/documents/summer-2026-web-version.pdf>



Eco Afternoon at St James WoodleyWoodley Visit St James Church in Woodley on Saturday 17 October for an

afternoon of eco activities, information and inspiration. Drop in any time between 2pm and 4.30pm to explore eco stalls, family activities, workshops, a recycling

corner and more. Cakes and refreshments will also be available. Whether you're looking for simple ways to reduce waste, save energy or learn more about local environmental initiatives there's something for all ages.

The poster features a vibrant, multi-colored geometric pattern resembling a kaleidoscope, with various shades of red, blue, green, and purple. Confetti is scattered throughout the design. At the top center, the word "Woodley" is written in a white, stylized script font inside a dark red rectangular box.

Woodley

Woodley Concert Band

Musical Kaleidoscope

**A dazzling evening of vibrant,
uplifting music for everyone!**

**Saturday 10th October at 7pm
The Bulmershe School, Woodley**

Visit www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk
for tickets and information

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1059259

Find St Nicolas on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @earley_stnics Registered Charity No. 1138037

TRINITY CONCERT BAND

25TH

ANNIVERSARY
GALA CONCERT

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MUSIC
IN THE READING & WOKINGHAM COMMUNITY

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER AT 7PM
THE GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF READING

FEATURING THE WORLD PREMIERE WIND BAND ARRANGEMENT OF
THE MUSIC OF KINGS & QUEENS: ELIZABETH II
Debbie Wiseman, arr. Paul Speed

Tickets from trinityband.co.uk.

News from Oxford Diocese

Former Bishop of Oxford calls for faith communities to address the big questions in debate over AI



The former Bishop of Oxford has called for faith communities to address the deeper moral and spiritual questions raised by the development of artificial intelligence during two recent appearances on the BBC.

Talking to [BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme on 13 September](#), the Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft – a long-time member of the House of Lords Select Committee on AI – urged churches and faith leaders to take a lead in the debate about the risks of artificial intelligence.

And during [a panel discussion about AI on BBC1's Sunday Morning Live show on 20 September](#) he stressed the importance of faith leaders playing a part in government attempts to regulate the technology. Both appearances on the BBC followed recent warnings about the potential dangers of AI and calls for coordinated action to slow its development.

[Read the full story.](#)

Helping you to explore and affirm vocations

Greyfriars, Reading, RG1 1EH. Sunday 27 September, 3.30-5.30pm

How does God call people to serve? Explore the many ways Christians live out their vocation in the life of the Church and wider community at this event. Through a series of personal stories, people will share how they discerned their calling and the difference it has made to their faith and service. Hear from a verger, parish nurse, Anna Chaplain, treasurer and others serving in a variety of roles, and discover how God calls people for ministry in everyday life.

The afternoon will also explore themes of being chosen, called and commissioned, the value of learning communities and peer support groups, and the next steps available for those sensing God may be calling them to serve. Everyone is welcome, whether you are actively exploring a vocation, looking for a new way to serve, or simply interested in hearing others' stories. It is free to attend and no need to sign up. Refreshments will be provided.