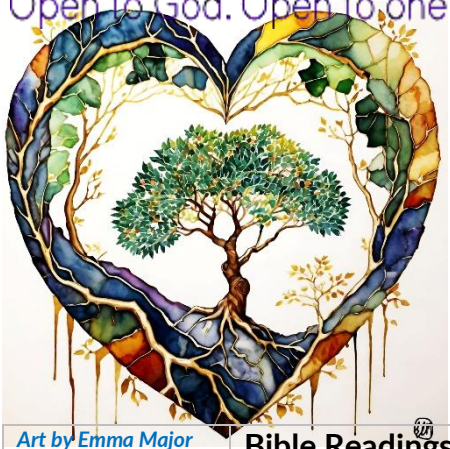
www.stnicolas.org.uk
office@stnicolas.org.uk 0118 9669080

St Nicolas Church + Centre

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



Art by Emma Major

Sunday 15th November 2026
2nd Sunday before Advent

1st Reading: Zephaniah 1.7, 12–end
Psalm 90.1–8
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.1–11
Gospel: Matthew 25.14–30

Hymns
475 Lord of the boundless curves of spa
652 Seek ye first
688 Take this moment
326 I bind unto myself today

	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 16th Nov	Luke 18.35–end	2.30pm Tea & Tinies
Tues 17th Nov	Luke 19.1–10	10am-12pm Board Games Café 2pm Memory Café
Weds 18th Nov	Luke 19.11–28	11am Communion Service
Thurs 19th Nov	Luke 19.41–44	2pm Over 50s 7.30 St Nics Pub Night @The George
Fri 20th Nov	Luke 19.45–end	10am-11.30 Full Hearts Friday 10am -12pm Community Coffee 2pm-4pm SNAC–Knit & Natter
Sat 21st Nov	Luke 20.27–40	1pm Ember's Thanksgiving Service

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

8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5.8-11

PRAYER

COLLECT: Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Loving and eternal God,
as the year comes toward its end and the nights draw in,
keep our hearts rooted in the hope of your promised kingdom.
Wake us up when we grow careless,
give us peace when the future feels uncertain,
and help us to live each day in your light.
When Jesus comes again in glory to put all things right,
may we be ready to welcome him with joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
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=iYIbb3mjOd4gSviyUwVgp7fBOGRAbP.1
Meeting ID: 839 8522 1424
Passcode: 981055

NOTICES

PCC Meeting on Weds 25 Nov if you have anything that you would like rasied at the meeting your PCC members are as follows:
Chair: Rev Dr Mark Laynesmith
Uki Abu, John Bethell, Jenny Bryce, Bernie Choi, Eleanor Gunbie, Pat Holloway, Wendy Neale, Jane Olney, Philip Olney, Akin Olopade, Emma Major, Dave Pooler, Denise Rees, Elaine Spratling

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St Nics WhatsApp group - join the St Nics WhatsApp Group. We will be using this to remind you of upcoming services, events and news. Just email the office with your phone number and we will add you to the group office@stnicolas.org.uk

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Dates for your diary:
Weds 2nd Dec Dialogue Society Christmas Dinner
Thurs 3rd Dec 2pm Hawkedon School Carol Singing in Church
Sun 6th Dec 10am Patronal Festival Service & bring and share lunch
Sat 12 Dec 11am to 3pm St Nics Christmas Fair
Fri 18th Dec 6pm St Nics Carol Service
Thurs 24th Dec 4pm Crib & Christingle Service
Thurs 24th Dec 11.30pm Midnight Mass
Fri 25th Dec 10am Christmas Day Service





Calling all Decorators! We are looking for volunteers to help **paint the Artspace** on the weekend of the **28th and 29th November,** if you are able to help please speak with Mark.



St Nics Pub Night- Thursday 19th Nov 7.30pm at The George Pub, Loddon Bridge Rd, Earley, Reading RG6 7EN. Come along for a chat and a drink. The third Thursday of every month. For more details, please contact Eleanor 07879 820367, Everyone welcome.

Woodley Foodbank have advised that they are short of pasta sauces, tinned vegetables and tinned meals like sausages with beans. If you are able to help please pop your donations in the basket in the church lobby. Thank you for supporting this local charity.

St Nics Christmas Fair



As we prepare for the Christmas Fair we would be really grateful if you could help with any of the following:

- **Tombola Prizes** (all brand new please)– a few ideas below all donations can be left in the box in church – bags of sweets, bottles of non-alcoholic drinks, mugs, biscuits, colouring books, small toys scented candles, toiletries, stationery
- **Books, Puzzles and Games** (Puzzles & Games must be complete)
- **Plants** If you have any spare plants please let the office know so we can plan accordingly.
- **Cakes** – if homemade please label with a full list of ingredients
- **You!** – we need lots of volunteers to help on the day- to set up, man stalls, help welcome visitors, help clear away! Please sign up in church or email the office office@stnicolas.org.uk

This is our first Christmas Fair in some years so please help us make it a success! Thank you 😊



Advent Course

Set our Hearts on Fire: For Justice; for Service; in Worship

Mondays: 30th November; 7th and 14th December

During three weeks of Advent, we will be looking at some of the ways in which we are called to be a community on fire with love for God and for the communities we serve.

Week 1 A voice in the wilderness –hearts on fire for justice
Week 2 Yours are the hands –hearts on fire for service
Week 3 Holy, holy, holy – hearts on fire in worship

Everybody welcome to join us in Church on Monday evenings from 30th November.
If you have any questions please speak to Daphne or Christine.



National Tree Week event – Lower Earley Library
Earley Environmental Group will be visiting to talk about their self-guided tour of the trees on Reading Campus. It includes a question and answer session about trees and gardening.
When: Saturday 21 November from 11:00 - 12:00
Where: Lower Earley Library, Chalfont Close, Lower Earley RG6 5HZ
Contact: 0118 931 2150
Cost: Free
Booking required: No

Emmanuel Church Woodley Are Hiring!

Are you a creative thinker? Could you help a growing church flourish?
We're looking for an energised, entrepreneurial person to help support our growth and mission with vital work behind the scenes. You'll work with a friendly and supportive staff team, bolstered by an encouraging church community.

Role: Income Developer & Administrator
Hours: 15 hours a week, with flexible or annualised working arrangements considered.
Location: Emmanuel Church, Woodley; hybrid working may be possible.
Contract: 20-month fixed-term appointment.
Closing date: 30 November 2026.
Interviews: January 2027.
Salary: £10,998 per annum (Real Living Wage).
This is a varied role combining day-to-day church administration with initiatives to develop and diversify the church's income, particularly through increased hall and room hire. You'll have the opportunity to help more people and organisations make use of our facilities, build positive relationships with the local community and contribute to Emmanuel's long-term financial sustainability.

We're looking for someone who:

- is highly organised and proactive.
- has an eye for spotting opportunities and gets excited about leading new initiatives.
- enjoys working as part of a community.
- has excellent communication, organisational and IT skills.
- is committed to Emmanuel's vision and values, and is a practising Christian.

Experience in business development, sales, marketing, fundraising, grant applications or venue hire would be an advantage, although we are interested in the skills and potential you could bring to the role.
Could you use your gifts to support Emmanuel's ministry?
Your vital behind-the-scenes work will help our mission and ministry flourish.

For the full job description and details on how to apply, follow the links below.
We'd love to hear from you!

Job Description How to Apply

Reading Festival Chorus

Requiem
Fauré

Son of God Mass
Whitbourn



Greg Hallam - *Conductor*
Martyn Noble - *Organist*
Sam Corkin - *Saxophonist*
Grace Hustler - *Soprano*
Cedric Roberts - *Baritone*

Saturday 21st November 2026
7:30 pm

St Andrew's Church,
Albert Road, Caversham RG4 7PL

Tickets: £22 (£20 until 16th Nov)
Students / Under-18s: FREE
Available in advance from: 0118 947 8081
tickets@readingfestivalchorus.org.uk
or from TicketSource (scan QR code)
Also available on the door

www.readingfestivalchorus.org.uk

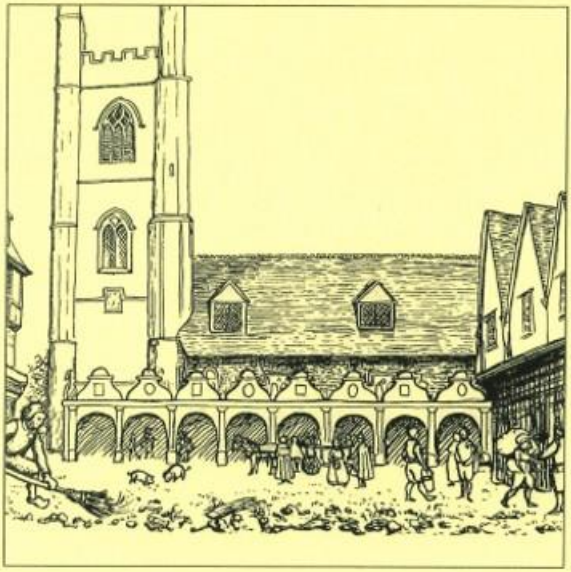
Registered charity No. 254201

THE HISTORY OF READING SOCIETY

STREET LIFE IN TUDOR AND STUART READING

Talk by Joan Dils

Wednesday 18 November 2026



Our president Joan Dils will use diaries, letters, newspaper reports and court records as sources of what real life was like at this time. The very different fortunes of some of the townspeople and visitors can be found in their diaries and letters or newspaper reports and court records about them.

Abbey Baptist Church, Abbey Square
(rear of the Central Library in Kings Road)
7pm for a 7.30pm start **£2 for Non-Members**
All are welcome
www.historyofreadingsociety.org.uk



Tickets: Adults: £22.50 (includes £2.50 booking fee)
Students and under-18s: £11 (includes £1.50 booking fee)
To purchase tickets go to https://whatsonreading.com/reading-symphony-orchestra-winter-2026



Adult Early Bird £13.00
£2 off regular price when purchased before Sunday 22nd November.
Children Ages 15 and under FREE
To Purchase tickets go to https://www.trinityband.co.uk/christmas-at-reading-minster/

St Nicolas Church + Centre

FREE ENTRY

St Nicolas Christmas Fair

SUTCLIFFE AVE, EARLEY, RG6 7JN

SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER

11AM - 3PM



Stocking fillers

Delicious food & drinks

Homemade Cakes





Fun Kids Activities



Face Painting



Live music



Local Craft Stalls

Charity No: 1138037 stnicolas.org.uk