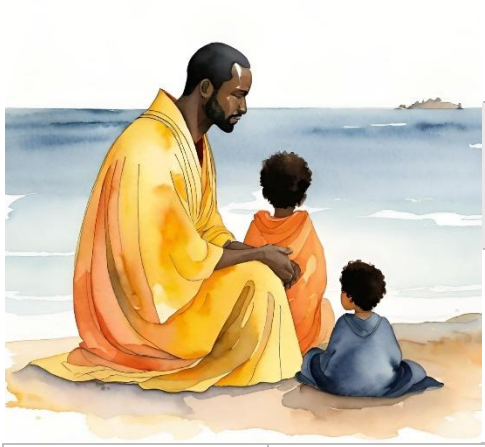
www.stnicolas.org.uk
office@stnicolas.org.uk 0118 9669080
Art by Emma Major

St Nicolas Church + Centre

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



Sunday 22nd November 2026
Christ the King
Sunday next before Advent

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7
2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:15-end
Gospel: Matthew 25.31-end

Hymns
353 In Christ there is no East or West
382 Jesus Christ is waiting
507 Meakness & Majesty
271 Great is the Darkness

HomeGroup wk	Bible Readings	Activities
Mon 23rd Nov	Luke 21.1–4	**2.30pm Tea & Tots**
Tues 24th Nov	Luke 21.5–11	**10am-12pm Board Games Café**
Weds 25th Nov	Luke 21.12–19	**11am Communion Service** **7.30pm PCC Meeting**
Thurs 26th Nov	Luke 21.20–28	**2pm Over 50s**
Fri 27th Nov	Luke 21.29–33	**10am-11.30 Full Hearts Friday** **10am -12pm Community Coffee** **2pm-4pm SNAC–Knit & Natter**
Sat 28t Nov	Luke 21.34–36	

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

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" 40 And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." **Matthew 25:37-40**

PRAYER

COLLECT: God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

Loving God,
as this year comes to a close,
remind us that Jesus is a King of mercy and love,
not pride or power.
In a loud and divided world,
help us to see your face in the hungry, the lonely, and the overlooked.
Rule in our homes, our communities, and our hearts,
and lead us in your ways of justice and peace;
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=iYIbb3mjOd4gSviyUwVgp7fBOGRAbP.1
Meeting ID: 839 8522 1424
Passcode: 981055

NOTICES

PCC Meeting on Weds 25 Nov if you have anything that you would like raised at the meeting please let the office know office@stnicolas.org.uk

---

St Nicolas Community Garden is being planted with daffodils, early iris, crocus and anemones. If you would like to help please speak to Liz Kerry

---

Bring and Share Lunch for Patronal Festival
We will be celebrating St Nicolas on Sunday 6 December during the Service and afterwards with a bring and share lunch, please see the sign up sheet in Church for what to bring and to add your name.

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.

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 😊



We warmly invite you to our Community Christmas Dinner, jointly organised by Dialogue Society Reading Branch and St Nicolas Church, Earley.This special gathering brings together neighbours from different faiths, beliefs, cultures and backgrounds to share a meal, enjoy friendly conversations and build meaningful connections.

We will be serving a buffet-style dinner, and you are very welcome to bring along a dish to share with everyone if you wish.

This year's theme, "Building Community Trust", celebrates the importance of understanding, friendship and mutual respect in bringing people together. Whether you come with friends or on your own, you will find a warm welcome and an opportunity to connect with others in a friendly and inclusive atmosphere.

To confirm your attendance, please reply to this email or contact us at reading@dialoguesociety.org by 20 November 2026

News from Oxford Diocese



King encourages Synod members to 'put themselves in the shoes of those with whom they disagree'

King Charles opened General Synod for the first time during his reign this week, encouraging members to “put yourself in the shoes of those with whom you disagree”. In his historic address to members of the Church’s national assembly, His Majesty suggested the approach when navigating the “differing views and strong feelings” that often arise during debates on Church legislation.

In his role as Supreme Governor of the Church of England, the King attended the inauguration ceremony of the Synod at Church House in London on Tuesday, following a service at Westminster Abbey. Addressing Synod members, who met this week for the first session of the new five-year term, he reaffirmed his commitment to the Church as he followed “in the footsteps of my late mother”.

You can watch the King's speech by clicking here or the picture above.

You can read the Archbishop of Canterbury's General Synod speech on the Loyal Address to The King by clicking here.

All sessions of General Synod are available to view here.

Humility to learn – Bishop Mary on safeguarding



To coincide with Safeguarding Sunday, which took place at the weekend, the Bishop of Reading has reflected on the challenges faced in addressing the safeguarding.

In her piece, Bishop Mary says trepidation about addressing the issue of safeguarding is understandable, but that overcoming it might bring the humility that opens us to learning.

She adds: "I am very conscious that I represent authority in a church where people who should have been protected and nurtured have been seriously harmed, and where they have been wounded further when their accounts were not held carefully, and addressed courageously. Who am I, then, to write about this?"

You can read the full piece here.

Oxford Diocese Learning opportunities

Jesus and Salvation: A Deeper Dive
Monday 14 December with meetings through January to March
Explore who Jesus is, what his life, death and resurrection mean, and how our understanding of salvation shapes our faith today. An opportunity to ask questions, consider different perspectives and deepen your understanding alongside others. A Diocese of Oxford Learning Hub offering, this free course begins in January 2027, with eight weekly online tutorials and an on-site study day at Church House Oxford.
Find out more and book.

Opening up the Bible
Saturday 9 January with meetings through January to March 2027
Build your confidence in reading, understanding and sharing the Bible, whether for personal discipleship, leading a Bible study or preparing for ministry. Beginning in January 2027, this free Diocese of Oxford Learning Hub course includes six weekly online tutorials and two in-person study days at Church House Oxford. Bookings close on 14 December.
Find out more and book.

Events:

PACT Christmas carols at Reading Minster
Reading Minster. Saturday 5 December, 4-5.30pm
PACT – Parents And Children Together – changes lives by building and nurturing adoptive families and empowering women, children and parents to rebuild after trauma and embrace a positive future. Join PACT for a relaxed, interactive, family-friendly festive event. Refreshments are available from 3pm, with the main event starting at 4pm.
Find out more and buy tickets.


Winter Solstice
Candlelit Soundbath Experience
An immersive, two-hour journey to honour the turning of the year.
Join us for:
Beautiful harmonies
Sacred music
Deep rest
Gentle connection
Time for reflection
A warm drink and a festive treat
Sunday 20th December
3.30 PM – 5.30 PM
St Nicolas Church Hall, Earley
Investment: £35
A Solstice gift to take home
Performance by:
Catherine Holt & Heather Parker

Christmas Tree Sale

Scots Pine trees cleared from locally managed heathland

Saturday 5th Dec

9.30 - 1



Caversham Court Gardens RG4 7AD

- Holly, mistletoe, wreaths,
- BBOWT & RSPB cards & gifts
- Fairtrade stall
- Wood turned products
- Local honey & beeswax products from Reading & District Bee Keepers

econet CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

www.econetreading.org.uk

Carol Singing

in the Harris Garden

with Catherine Holt

Sunday 13 December
3pm – 4pm

Just turn up!

No need to book

Open to everyone

Free parking on campus except Car Park 1 and 1A

Bring a torch or use the light on your phone as it will be dark

University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus, Harris Garden, conifer circle

St Nicolas Church + Centre

Christmas Events & Services

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



Sutcliffe Avenue, Earley, RG6 7JN

stnicolas.org.uk

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

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