

Pews News

3 December 2023
Advent Sunday



**Welcome to Guildford St
Nicolas Parish Church**

Rector: Fr Neil Roberts

Curate: Fr Alistair Milne

01483 564526

parishoffice@saintnics.com

Children are welcome here

Please do not worry about them making noise or moving around – you are here and are welcome. Junior Church is meeting in the hall this week and will come back at the end of the service and tell us what they've been doing.

Making yourself comfortable

Kneelers can be found in the narthex or under the back pews. Toilets are in the Parish Centre. Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

This week's services, readings & intentions/parish streets

M		Matt.8:5-11	<i>John of Damascus, Nicholas Ferrar</i> Denzil Road Devon Bank
T	10:00 Morning Prayer	Luke 10:21-24	Dunsdon Avenue Farnham Road
W	10:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Mass	Mark 10:13-16	Nicolas Ferry Lane Flower Walk
T	10:00 Morning Prayer	Matt.7:21, 24-27	Ambrose Friary Bridge, Furze Lane, Genyn Road
F	10:00 Morning Prayer	Matt.9:27-31	Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Guildford Park Ave Guildford Park Rd
Sat		Matt.9:35- 10:1,6-8	Guildown Avenue Guildown Road
Sun	08:30 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Parish Mass with Healing & Junior Church 13:00 Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy	Mark 1:1-8	ADVENT II

Today's Service

10:00 Parish Mass with Baptisms: President & Preacher: Rector

Processional Hymn 5 Hark! a herald voice is calling

Mass Setting: Missa de Lumine - plainsong

Reader: Patrick Andrew **Readings:** Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence – as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

I Corinthians 1:3-9

My brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gradual Hymn I Creator of the stars of night

Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will

come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Intercessions: led by Shirley Aston

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of North India (United).

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: The Parish of The Bourne.

Those who have asked for our prayers: Greta, Graham Henderson, Holly Gregory, Anthony Drake, Chrissie & Gordon Paterson, Fr Adrian, Peter Davis, Joyce, Barbara Nicholls and Anne.

The Recently Departed: John Finch and Jacky Norman.

The Year's Mind: Noel Lorimer, May Murdoch, Michael Hibberd, Linda Chapman, Clive Mansel, Edna Waller and Peggy Holwill

Offertory Hymn 7 Hills of the North, rejoice

Communion Solo O thou that tellest, *Messiah* – G F Handel

Kate Lowe, mezzo soprano

Closing Hymn 8 Lift up your heads

Voluntary: Carillon on *Conditor Alme* – Charles Callahan

Live Streaming Links

Our YouTube livestream: <http://youtube.com/@SaintNics>

10am Service: https://youtube.com/live/_FuQM0HmVW80

6:30pm Advent Carol Service: <https://youtube.com/live/aBUnwEWWIzo>

Our Facebook livestream: <https://www.facebook.com/saintnicolasguildford/live/>



This Morning's Music

The Mass setting we are using during Advent, *Missa de Lumine*, is responsorial and based upon the plainsong melody *Conditor Alme* used for NEH Hymn number 1. This is our gradual hymn this morning and the melody for the concluding organ voluntary. We used this Mass setting in Advent last year, but will have a short rehearsal before Mass to remind everyone.

This Week / Next Week

This Week 3 December

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Parish Mass with Junior Church

6:30 pm Advent Sunday Service

Next Week 10 December

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Parish Mass with the Ministry of Healing & Junior Church

On Duty @ 10am 3 December

Reader: Patrick Andrew

Intercessor: Shirley Aston

Sidespeople: David Greenwood,
James Wix

Coffee: Cath & Andy Anderson

On Duty @ 10am 10 December

Reader: David Greenwood

Intercessor: Catherine Ferguson

Sidespeople: Patrick Andrew, Tarina More

Coffee: Helen Gould, Julia Williams

This Week's Notices

Baptisms

We are pleased to welcome Reginald, Michael and Lewis to our church family as they are baptised this morning. The details of the Baptism service are on a separate card.



St Nicolas' Day – Wednesday 6th December

Our Patronal Festival Mass will be extra special this year as we are joined by the Cathedral choir. The service is at **6pm** and will be followed by cheese & wine. Please make this a priority in your diaries as we remember St Nicolas.

Cleaning Day

The Sacristan and Churchwardens would like to say a very big thank you to all those who turned out on Thursday to clean the church ready for our Patronal Festival Mass.

John Finch

John's funeral is to be held at Guildford Crematorium at 11:15am tomorrow, Monday, December 4th, and afterwards at the Tithe Barn, Loseley Park. If you would like to attend, his sister would be very grateful if you would let her know as soon as possible, for catering numbers.
<mailto:patwood99@gmail.com> No flowers, please.

Jacky Norman

Jacky's funeral is to be held at St Francis' Church, Sidmouth at 12 midday this Thursday 7th December. Fr Andrew asks that you let him know if you are able to drop in to the reception. He says "We realise that we are tucked away in the south-west and if you can't manage to be present in person, please do remember Jacky on the day."

Welcoming Christ's College Students

Year 10 students from Christ's College are visiting the church on Friday morning, so there will be no Mass that day. The Coffee Shop will be open as usual.

Mince Pies

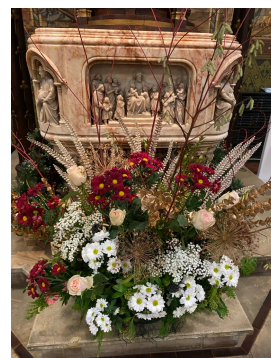


We are serving mulled wine and mince pies after our Service of Lessons & Carols, 11am on Sunday 17th December. Please sign up on the list at the back of church if you are able to donate some mince pies. Thank you.

Christmas Flowers



The floral displays in church are always so beautiful, but the flowers are increasingly expensive. Could you make a donation towards them? Perhaps in memory of loved ones no longer with us? Donations can be made by cash, BACS or with the card reader.



Christingle – Christmas Eve 3pm and 5pm



Tickets are going fast – all of the 3pm tickets have now gone but there are still tickets for the 5pm service. You can order them on this link:

<https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/gb/NDkIMy04/t>

Besom Hampers



Please make any donations by **this Wednesday**.

Suggested items are: Christmas cakes, mince pies, soups, cereals, honey, jam, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, tinned foods, chocolates, sweets, fruit juices, biscuits, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, washing powder, soaps, shower gel, candles, baubles, napkins, crackers etc.

If you would prefer to donate cash so that we can buy what is needed, please see Cath **today** who will be happy to shop for you!

Carol Singing

The itinerary for singing at care homes in our parish is:

Monday 18th: St Catherine's House 3pm; Kathryn's House 4:30pm

Wednesday 20th: Hillier House 4:30pm; Pilgrim Wood 6pm.

If you are able to join in please let David Greenwood know either in person or on 07534 328408 or david.greenwood19@btopenworld.com

Our Good Cause for December is The Children's Society



The Children's Society provides specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope. "Young people come to us when they have low self-esteem. When they're living in families who can't afford the next meal, the next size up in school uniform. Or when there's no one else to lean on. Refugee and migrant children land in this country alone and look to us for guidance to achieve the life they dreamed of. We see teenagers in our services who want to quit using drugs or alcohol. Who are looking after mum, dad, or their siblings more than they bargained for. Or who have been taken advantage of and find themselves carrying drugs to far away towns, or having sex with strangers."

Read more about their work on <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/> and please support this very good cause. Donations can be made in the wallbox in the narthex or ask to use the card reader.

Support

To support either the Good Cause or St Nicolas' Church, please make a bank transfer using the details below and use the reference 'Good Cause' or 'St Nicolas'. Thank you.

PCC of St Nicolas Sort Code: 60-09-21 Account No: 59904003

We are members of the **Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)**, designed to support churches to fund their mission and ministry. The service allows you to:

- Give One-Off amounts by Credit/Debit cards and Apple/Google pay wallets
- Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit
- Sign up to inflation-linked giving annually
- Enhance your gift by having Gift Aid at 25% added to your giving
- Give securely and donate anonymously, if you prefer



Scan the QR Code which will take you direct to our page on their website <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/guildford-st-nicolas-guildford/>



SEARCHING FOR HOME

ADVENT REFLECTIONS ON THE GOD WHO WELCOMES EVERYONE

ST. MARY'S GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

Thursdays: 12.15 for 12.30

30 November: Leaving Home – Wayne Hawkins
7 December: Fleeing Home – Anna Carrington
14 December: Carrying Home – Adam Payne

CAROLS AT LUNCHTIME

21 December: Finding home – Andrew Wheeler

The Reflections will be followed by a Bread & Soup lunch

St Mary's Church



GASKIN'S 2023

FREE Christmas LUNCH

DELIVERY WITHIN 10 MILES OF GUILDFORD TO YOUR HOME

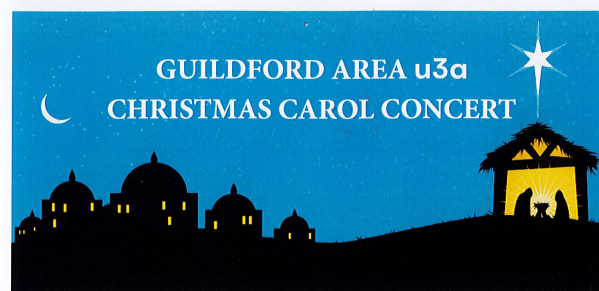
FREE EVENT FOR ALL IN NEED

- STUDENTS
- VULNERABLE
- LONELY
- ELDERLY

25 DEC

DELIVERY 12 PM-3PM

INFO@FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM
MARTA 07855846957
WWW.FREECHRISTMASLUNCH.COM



Wednesday 13th December 2023
2.00 pm at St. Nicolas Church,
Bury Street, Guildford, GU2 4AW

Carols, readings and festive choral music
 by

Guildford u3a Choir

Singing for Fun Group

The Instrumental Ensemble

All Welcome -Admission Free



Retiring collection in aid of charity



Music and Readings for Advent and Christmas

Saturday, 16th December 2023

6:30pm

**St Nicolas' Church, Bury Street,
Guildford, GU2 4AW**

Conductor : Nicholas O'Neill

Tickets:

Online in advance £15 (Students £8.50)
from www.occamsingers.co.uk/Xmas2023

On the door £17



**Parkinsons UK will serve refreshments with
mince pies after the concert**

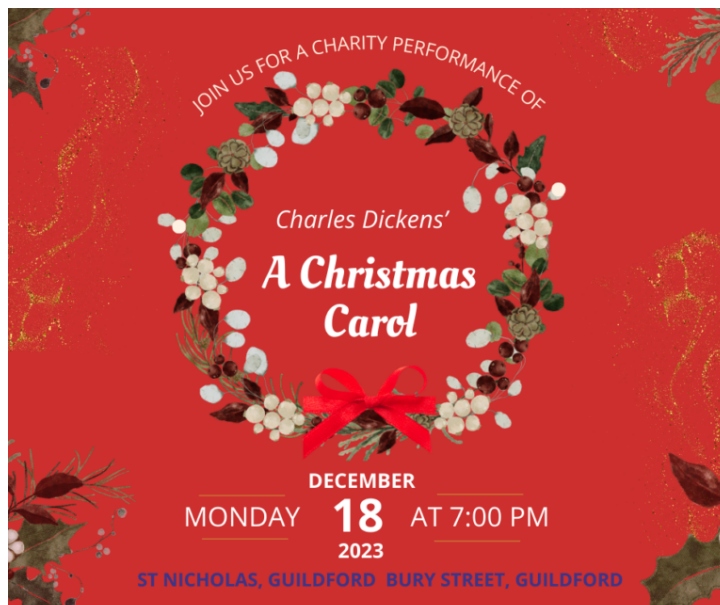
Proud members of



Registered Charity
No 1054366



Surrey Care Trust



THIS WEEK

3rd – 10th December 2023

Sunday

ADVENT SUNDAY

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10 am Parish Mass with Junior Church

1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy

6:30 pm Advent Sunday Service

Monday

Tuesday

10 am Morning Prayer

10 am Tuesday Group – *Carpet Bowls*

Wednesday

10 am Morning Prayer

10 am Café Play

6 pm St Nicolas' Day Mass with the Cathedral Choir
followed by cheese & wine

Thursday

10 am Morning Prayer

Friday

10 am Morning Prayer

10:30 am – 12:30 pm Coffee Shop in the Hall

Saturday

11 am – 1 pm St Nicolas' Infant School Christmas Fair

Sunday

ADVENT II

10 am Parish Mass with the Ministry of Healing
& Junior Church

1 pm Romanian Orthodox Divine Liturgy

7 pm Surrey Hills Choirs Carols by Candlelight Concert

Parish Office

Tuesday 13:30 – 18:00 * Friday 13:30 – 18:00

www.saintnics.com parishoffice@saintnics.com 01483 564526

Looking Ahead

Wednesday 6th December ST NICOLAS' DAY

6 pm Patronal Festival Mass with the Cathedral Choir followed by cheese & wine

Sunday 10th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 am Parish Mass with the Ministry of Healing & Junior Church

Sunday 17th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11 am Service of Lessons & Carols followed by mulled wine & mince pies

Sunday 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

10 am Parish Mass

3 pm Christingle Service – *ticketed (sold out)*

5 pm Christingle Service – *ticketed*

11:30 pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity

Monday 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

10 am Christmas Morning Mass

Sunday 31st December NAMING OF CHRIST

10 am Parish Mass



YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Wednesday 6th December, 6pm – St Nicolas' Day Mass with the Cathedral Choir, followed by cheese & wine

Sunday 17th December, 11am – Service of Lessons & Carols, followed by mulled wine and mince pies



Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 10 December - Sunday 24 December

Free Admission

in aid of



street angels



CHERRY
TREES

Guildford United Reformed Church
83 Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BS



Guildford
United
Reformed
Church



Christmas Tree Festival

**The Godalming Band Carol Concert with
Wey Valley Community Gospel Choir**

An Hour and a Half of Carols with Audience Participation

Sunday 10th December at 5pm

Followed by mince pies and mulled wine

Free Admission

Guildford United Reformed Church
83 Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4BS



Guildford
United
Reformed
Church

Carols by Candlelight

Surrey Hills
CHRISTMAS
CONCERTS

*An evening of seasonal songs with Surrey Hills choirs
featuring A Ceremony of Carols*

*7pm, Sunday 10th December
St. Nicolas' Church, Bury St., Guildford. GU2 4AW*

*Tickets: Adults £14, Children £5
from www.singsurreyhills.com
Booking opens Friday 24th November*

