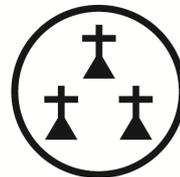


# The Sunday next before Lent 11 February 2018

Parish of  
Harpenden



## Services and Preachers in the Parish

### St Nicholas' Church

8.00am Holy Communion	Revd Canon Dennis Stamps (Rector)
9.30am Sung Eucharist	Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
11.30am Morning Praise - Café Church in the Hall	Rachel Wakefield (Reader, St Nicholas)
3.00pm Holy Baptism of Louis Joseph Paige and Chloe Alyson Meller	
6.30pm Choral Evensong	Revd Sally Goodson (Associate Vicar, St Mary's)

### All Saints Church

9.00am Communion Service	Dr Edmund Marshall (Reader, St Nicholas)
10.30am Worship Service	Dr Edmund Marshall

### St Mary's Church

9.30am Sung Eucharist	Revd Sally Goodson (Associate Vicar, St Mary's)
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All our churches are fitted with an induction loop. Those wearing a hearing aid should switch to "T" in order to benefit from it.

A collection will be taken during the Offertory Hymn. If you are a UK tax payer, please use the white Gift Aid envelope in the pew, remembering to date it and print your details.

If you give by standing order or the like please put a token in the offering in the offering bags as they go around as an act of worship and as a token of what you give in thanks to God.

Children are welcome at every service. If your child becomes restless during the service, please feel free to go in and out.

You are warmly invited to join us for coffee, tea and biscuits after the morning services.



**We are an inclusive church, called to be caring, loving and welcoming to all.**

*To be a lively community connecting with God's love in new and imaginative ways*

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# Collect, Reading, Psalm and Post-Communion Prayer

## **COLLECT**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **Or ADDITIONAL COLLECT**

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **FIRST READING 2 Kings 2.1-12**

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

## **SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4.3-6**

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

## PSALM Psalm 50.1-6



THE Lord even the most mighty ' God hath ' spoken : and called the world, from the rising up of the sun unto the ' going ' down there'of.

Out of Sion hath ' God ap'peared : in ' per'fect ' beauty.

Our God shall come and shall ' not keep ' silence : there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be ' stirred up ' round a'bout him.

He shall call the heaven ' from a'bove : and the earth that ' he may ' judge his ' people.

Gather my saints together ' unto ' me : those that have made a ' covenant with ' me with ' sacrifice.

And the heavens shall de'clare his ' righteousness : for ' God is ' Judge him'self. **GLORIA**

## GOSPEL Mark 9.2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

## POST COMMUNION

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Parish Outreach:** *Living God's Love: Going Deeper into God:* The Diocesan Cursillo Group

**The Sick:** Jim, John Martin, Katy, Simon Thomas, Anna Edwards, Marion Pearson, Rosemary Wickens

**The Recently Departed:** Stephen Gillett, Geoffrey Moxham, Hazel Philips

**First Anniversary of Death:**

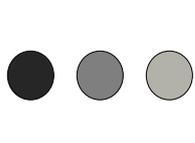
### PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday

Saturday (Staffed by Volunteers)

10.00am—2.00pm

9.30am—12.00noon



# Prayers & Parish Notices for all three churches

**CAFÉ CHURCH AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH**, 11.30am today. All welcome. Great opportunity for families to sit together around a table for informal worship.

**A FRIENDLY TEA GROUP FOR THE BEREAVED:** next Sunday at 2.30pm in St Nicholas Church Hall. All welcome.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** begins Lent on 14 February. There will be an Ash Wednesday service with Ash at 10.30am at St Nicholas, 8pm at St Mary's and All Saints, and a joint service at 8pm at High Street Methodist. Begin your Lent with a service of reflection and prayer.

**LENT 2018:** The Church of England is providing some good material for reflection in Lent: **#LIVELENT-Let Your Light Shine**. There is a daily reflection book available (they cost £2.50 and some will be available from the parish office) and a five-week study course which has to be downloaded from the website (<https://www.churchofengland.org/lent>).

**LENT GROUPS in the PARISH:** We encourage any groups meeting in Lent to use the 5-week course from CofE, *Let Your Light Shine* available to download free (see website above). If you need help, ask the parish office. Revd Linda Williams will lead a group at All Saints on Monday Evenings at All Saints, 8pm; Revd Sally Goodson will lead a group on Tuesday evenings at St Mary's. The material also will be used for the sermon slots at the Communion services, Tuesdays, 10.00am at St Mary's and Wednesdays, 10.30am at St Nicholas. Canon Dennis Stamps will lead a group on Wednesday afternoons, 2-3.30pm at E. Pestell's home, 25 Thornbury, Harpenden, AL5 5SN. You are welcome to attend ANY of these groups. All these groups will begin the week of 19 February for 5 weeks. If you wish to form & lead a group let the parish office know as soon as possible.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE JULIAN GROUP** meeting at St Mary's this Wednesday, 2.00pm for prayer and reflection.

**NEW CURATE!** The PCC is pleased to announce that Dr James Hadley will be joining us as Curate in Training from early July 2018 (arriving mid-June). He is based in the Diocese of Europe, from Rome, training on ERMIC. He is a USA citizen. He is not married. He will be residing at 37 St James Road.

**SAS YOUTH GROUP** next meets on Sunday 25 February, 5-7pm at All Saints for pancakes. For school years 6-9. Contact Sally Hart, [sallyhart11@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sallyhart11@yahoo.co.uk) or Revd Sally Goodson, [associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org) if you need further information.

**PRAYER MEETING FOR ST NICHOLAS AND PARISH** on Monday 19 February at 8pm in St Nicholas Church Lady Chapel. All welcome.

**If you would like a Home Visit or Home Communion, please contact  
Parish Clergy or the Parish Office.**

**TEA CAKE AND CHAT** – Friday 16 February 3-4.30pm All Saints Church Hall. This popular event is open to all – why not bring a friend along. Lifts can be arranged – please contact Chris Powell 764930 or [chris\\_powell51@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris_powell51@hotmail.co.uk) This event happens every other month, and it would be great if we could have some more helpers to make and serve tea and cake. If you would like to know more speak to Chris.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you would like prayer for yourself or a someone you know, clergy pray daily for those who have asked for our prayers. Anyone may put a name on our prayer list by contacting the clergy, a Reader, or the parish office. If you wish to be prayed for publicly at our Sunday Services please say so, otherwise your name remains on a private prayer list.

**BRITISH HUMANITARIAN AID:** There will be a collection for BHA during the weekend of 24-25 February. Donated goods (see LINK magazine for full list of required goods) can be left in the Cunningham Room at St Nicholas Church Hall between 10am and 3pm on 24 February. Money donations can be made after each service on the 25 The donated goods will be collected by BHA before the 9.30am service on the 25. For further information please contact either Anne Harper (769213) or Margaret Hewitt (761008).

**WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Services this year in Harpenden are on Friday 2 March at 10.30am in High Street Methodist Church and at 7.45pm in St Mary's Church. The theme for the services is 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' and it has been prepared by the women of Suriname. All are welcome to either service, men as well as women.

**PRE NUMBERED ENVELOPES FOR 2018** are available to collect from the back of each church. If you regularly use the white Gift Aid envelopes laid out in the pews, now would be an opportune time to consider moving to the pre-numbered envelope scheme OR The Parish Giving Scheme. Note that you do not need to be a UK tax payer to use either scheme. For more details or if you have any queries/are unable to find your envelopes, please contact the Parish Giving Recorder, Claire Petevinos ([giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org) or tel 768721).

### **ALL CHURCH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

All children intending to apply to St George's and St Nicholas Schools need to complete a Record Of Attendance in order to assist with the preparation of clergy references. The Record of Attendance needs to be completed for the duration of the following periods **prior to date of application:** 2 years for St George's and 1 year for St Nicholas. Please see the schools website for further details of the schools' admissions criteria including both the relevant period of attendance and frequency of attendance required by both St George's and St Nicholas schools. Any queries regarding the admissions criteria should be directed to the schools' admissions officers.

## All Saints Church Notices



**ALL SAINTS' LOCAL MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT TEAM** exists to support every member of our church family in:

enabling people to encounter God in worship and prayer  
encouraging and teaching people to grow as His disciples  
equipping people to live as Christians in the community.  
Prayer ministry is available after the 10.30am Worship Service

**BIBLE READING NOTES:** Please order from Rosemary (761322).

**ALL SAINTS EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN:** Please call 622862.

**LIFTS TO CHURCH:** tel 01582 760752

**RECORDINGS OF 10.30am SERMONS:** [www.blueskylark.org/allsaints](http://www.blueskylark.org/allsaints)

<http://parishofharpenden.org/all-saints/> & <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsharpenden/>

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER COMMITTEE - ALL SAINTS REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED.** The Women's World Day of Prayer is a service written by women of a different nation each year and is held on the first Friday of March. Natalie Edwards has been the All Saints Representative on the committee for the past ten years and is stepping down after this year's services on 2 March. We therefore need a new All Saints representative. The commitment is to 3 Friday morning meetings per year - end September, end January and mid March, with a preparation morning (usually Wednesday) and coffee morning (Saturday morning at Wesley's) in February (optional involvement), and the services and rehearsals on the first Thursday/Friday of March. There are two services each year, one in the morning and one in the evening. Approximately every 6 years All Saints would host the evening service which involves some further work, usually in liaising with the priest, recruiting sidespeople, sound operator and organist etc. Please talk to Natalie if you are at all interested, and attend one of the services this year on Friday 2 March!

## St Mary's Church Notices



**ST MARY'S DCC** meets on Monday 12 February at 7.45pm for an informal Eucharist before the meeting at 8pm

**CHILDREN'S GROUPS** : Our Explorers team is in need of new people to join the team. Might this be you? Or someone you know? Do speak to Jenny G or to Sally if you might be able to help.

**ST MARY'S QUIZ**, our annual quiz will be on Saturday 3 March, do put the date in your diaries.

**ST MARY'S FETE** will be on Saturday 12 May. We need a small team to organise the fete, please speak to Sally if you can be part of this team. Planning needs to start very soon.

Please tell the Parish Office about meetings, events and notices by **12 noon on Wednesday** on 01582 765524 or [office@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:office@parishofharpenden.org)

## St Nicholas Church Notices



**ST NICHOLAS QUIZ** will be held on Saturday 28 April, proceeds towards our Sound and Light upgrade and modification and the Samaritans. Please save the date and start arranging your teams. Tables of up to 8 people.

**CHORAL EVENSONG ON 18 FEBRUARY** will be a parish service at All Saints. There will not be an evening service at St Nicholas.

**9.30AM EUCHARIST ON 25 FEBRUARY** will be an all-age service with involvement from St Nicholas School.

**Please follow & interact with our Parish via twitter, facebook, pinterest or blog.**

You can also access them all through the church website: **[www.parishofharpenden.org](http://www.parishofharpenden.org)**

If you have anything to go on our sites please email :

**[digital.media@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:digital.media@parishofharpenden.org)**

# What's on This Week

## Monday 12

- 9.00-11.45am Chat Monday in Cornelia's Coffee Shop. All welcome  
9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints  
6.00pm Supper Club (for members) in Cornelia's  
7.45pm Informal Holy Communion at St Mary's followed by DCC Meeting at 8.00pm

## Tuesday 13

- 9.15am Morning Prayer at St Mary's  
2.00pm St Mary's Afternoon Group: Islam & its practices - Mr. Amjid Hussein  
5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas

## Wednesday 14 **Ash Wednesday**

- 10.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas  
10.30am Holy Communion with Ash at St Nicholas  
2.30pm Julian Group at St Mary's  
5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas  
8.00pm Holy Communion with Ash at St Mary's  
8.00pm Holy Communion with Ash at All Saints  
8.00pm Holy Communion at High Street Methodist (Joint Service)

## Thursday 15

- 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints

## Friday 16

- 8.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas  
5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas

## Saturday 17

- 10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas

## Sunday 18 **The First Sunday of Lent**

### **St Nicholas Church**

- 8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Sung Eucharist  
11.30am Morning Praise
- Revd Canon Dennis Stamps (Rector)  
Or Andrew Marsh (Reader, St Nicholas)  
Andrew Marsh (Reader, St Nicholas)

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### **All Saints Church**

- 9.00am Communion Service  
10.30am Worship Together  
6.30pm **Parish** Choral Evensong
- Pauline Gilbert (Reader, All Saints)  
Pauline Gilbert  
Revd Linda Williams (Associate Vicar, All Saints)

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### **St Mary's Church**

- 9.30am Sung Eucharist  
4.30pm Simply Worship
- Revd Sally Goodson (Associate Vicar, St Mary's)  
Jenny Goulding, Revd Sally Goodson & Richard Hurst

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### **Readings:**

Genesis 9.8-17

1 Peter 3.18-25

Mark 1.9-15

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