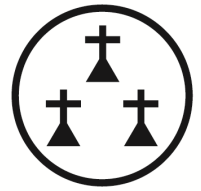


**We are an inclusive church, called to  
be caring, loving and welcoming to all**

**Parish of  
Harpenden**



## **8 December 2024 St Nicholas' Patronal Festival Services in the Parish**

- 8.00am **Holy Communion in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room**  
President & Preacher - Revd Cath Rindl
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**  
President & Preacher - Revd Atalie Gaines  
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/  
StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)
- 9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**  
President - Revd Sally Goodson; Preacher - Revd Mark Rodel  
Live-streamed on [www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen)
- 10.00am **Holy Communion at All Saints**  
President - Revd James Brown; Sermon slot - Huldah's story *from  
'Women of the Nativity' by Paula Gooder*  
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or by  
request from [associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org)
- 11.30am **Morning Praise in St Nicholas' Church Hall**  
Leader - Liz de Jong; Speaker - Mike Lees
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

### **Contact details**

Parish Office T: 01582 765524 E: [office@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:office@parishofharpenden.org)

For any pastoral concerns contact any one of the Parish Clergy Team

Revd Sally Goodson T: 01582 712754

E: [associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org)

Revd James Brown T: 01582 363789

E: [associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org)

Revd Cath Rindl T: 07961 564385

E: [assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org)

### **CONNECT, BELONG, SHARE, GROW**

*Our mission is to build connections, encourage belonging, and share an  
appealing faith that grows a vibrant Christian community at every stage of life.*

### **PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK**

MONDAY -FRIDAY

10.00am - 2.00pm

# ●●● | Collects, Readings, and Psalm

## COLLECT

Almighty Father, lover of souls, who chose your servant Nicholas to be a bishop in the Church, that he might give freely out of the treasures of your grace: make us mindful of the needs of others and, as we have received, so teach us also to give; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 61. 1-3

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

## SECOND READING 1 Timothy 6. 6-11

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.

## ADVENT PROSE

(8am congregation to read text; 9.30am congregation sing the Antiphon between verses; the choir will sing verses)



Drop down, ye hea-vens, from a - bove,\* and let the skies pour down right - eous - ness.

1 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever:

Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:  
Our hold and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

2 We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we do fade as a leaf:

And our iniquities, like the wind have taken us away; Thou hast hid thy face from us:  
And hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

3 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen;  
That ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord,

And beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

4 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry;

I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:

Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

## **GOSPEL Mark 10. 13-16**

People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

## **POST COMMUNION**

God, shepherd of your people, whose servant Nicholas revealed the loving service of Christ in his ministry as a pastor of your people: by this Eucharist in which we share awaken within us the love of Christ and keep us faithful to our Christian calling; through him who laid down his life for us, but is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever.



### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week:** Going Deeper into God: those who participate in weeks of guided prayer

**The Sick:** Kevin Gill, Charlotte, Colin, James, Mary Coakley, Joan Towle, Dot, Barbara Wharton

**The Recently Departed:** Jennifer Raaff, Alan Rice, John Arnott, Violet Rickaby

**First Anniversary of Death:** Ruth Hooper

## ●●● | **Parish Notices**

**CHRISTMAS WARMTH FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS** of good warm casual coats, casual good warm clothes, new socks and new underwear. (Not office clothes please).

Also bags and suitcases in good condition (many asylum seekers are being moved on and really value a bag to carry their things). Please bring along to the Parish Office

**ADVENT IN THE PARISH** (See flyers for further details)

**Wednesdays 11 & 18 December** - 10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas', Sermon series '*Women of the Nativity*', Supper with Jesus in Cornelia's Café, exploring Paula Gooder's book '*Women of the Nativity* (contact Revd Cath on 07961 564385 for catering purposes & for time) & 8.00 pm Advent In Art on Zoom (see Flyers for link / QR code)

**Fridays 13 & 20 December**, 1.00 - 1.30pm Soup and Carols at St Nicholas'.



## Parish Notices (continued)

**TRAVELLING KINGS** Please sign up as soon as possible if you would like the child-friendly, knitted travelling kings and their camel to rest for a night in your home between Christmas Eve and Epiphany Sunday, 5 January. Contact Pamela Woodford-Smith, Tel.764368, [pamelaws@btinternet.com](mailto:pamelaws@btinternet.com), or pass your details onto the Parish Office.

**READINGS AND CAROLS AT FIELD HOUSE, TOWNSEND ROAD.** All are welcome to join residents for a short service on **Tuesday 10 December at 11.30am**. It's a lovely way to show friendship to these members of our community at this special time of year.

**MEMBERS OF HARPENDEN CONCERT BAND** will be carolling at Cornelia's **Saturdays 14 & 21 December and Christmas Eve, 10am - noon**. Please join us for some festive music while you enjoy your coffee and cake. If weather is good they will be outside, so wrap up warm, if raining/overly cold we will use the hall. If you play an instrument and would like to join in, please contact Rachael Threlfall – all ages welcome, children need a parent to remain on site.

**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS SPECIAL** - The next youth group session will be 5-7pm Sunday 8 December, at All Saints' Church Hall. Christmas scavenger hunt! There will be fun, food and faith. For any in school years 6-10.

**THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER - TEA, CAKE & CHAT CHRISTMAS SPECIAL** with a concert by students from Sir John Lawes School. 2pm at All Saints' Church followed by Tea in the hall. Lifts can be arranged; please contact Chris Powell, 764930 or [chris\\_powell51@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris_powell51@hotmail.co.uk)

There are flyers at the back of all three churches so please take some and pass around.

**ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS A VACANCY FOR A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR** to join our friendly and dedicated Governing Board of 14. The position is voluntary for a standard term of 4 years and offers an opportunity to be involved in the continued development of our wonderful school and the education of its children. Whether your background is in business, finance, teaching or otherwise, the key skills required are an interest and enthusiasm in supporting children's learning and development and a willingness to share your time and experience working with others to improve educational outcomes. If you are interested or would like to know more, please speak to Lucy Parr, Chair of Governors, or contact her on 07973 709364 / [lparr@stnicholasce.org](mailto:lparr@stnicholasce.org)

**THANK YOU TO REVD CATH RINDL** As you'll know, Cath will be moving on to pastures new at the turn of the year. We know many will wish to show their appreciation for the amazing contribution Cath has made across the Parish during her time here. We're encouraging you to make a donation to a 'farewell' fund. You can do this easily in one of two ways. Either via a bank transfer using the following details: Sort code: 40-23-11 Account number: 41495518. Account name: St Nicholas PCC – Operating (or 'St Nicholas PCC' is preferred by some banks). Reference: [add your surname] / Cath. Alternatively, you can write a cheque [payable to: "St Nicholas PCC – Operating"] or give cash to the Parish Office. We will present this to Cath at her last service here in the Parish - date yet to be confirmed.

**FREE LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY FOR ELDERLY** Harpenden District Cubs are pleased to offer a free Christmas card delivery service for the elderly again this year. This service allows elderly residents to post cards for free to others in Harpenden, Batford and Redbourn only. The post boxes will be available until **Tuesday 10 December at St Mary's and Thursday 12 December in the Parish Office and All Saints'**. There are also other post boxes around the town; these are available until Monday 9 December. Please contact Jackie Agg (Tel 769680) if you have any questions.

**CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES** Christmas Cards from over 30 charities await you at the annual Cards for Good Causes temporary shop in the United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road, Harpenden AL5 4HA. As well as cards, the shop also sells Advent calendars and candles, plus small gifts and wrapping paper. These all help the charities involved. Open Monday - Saturday 10am until 4pm until 14 December.

**HARPENDEN INTERCHURCH QUIZ - 7.15 for 7.30pm on Saturday 18 January 2025:** the annual quiz for teams of 6 will take place at Crabtree Junior School, just £6 a ticket. Space is limited, so please ask for an entry form as soon as possible. Contact Tony Gilbert on 01582 762052 or [tonyrgilbert60@gmail.com](mailto:tonyrgilbert60@gmail.com).

**SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL** - where we give toys and other gifts to children aged from birth to school leaving age. We have Amazon Wishlists prepopulated with gifts specifically asked for or indicated by the parent that the children might like if it were possible. There is a QR code on the poster on display at church. We are trying to provide for over 120 children of all ages.

**SALVATION ARMY ARE OPEN ON CHRISTMAS DAY** as we have been now for over 60 years, serving meals to those who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas Day. See the poster on display at church for more details.

**THE RESULTS OF THE BEDS & HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE EVENT** in September, has raised over £98,000 so far and there is probably some more to come in so hopefully the target of £100,000 will be achieved. Thank you to all who took part.

**PARISH GIVING:** If you do not already make a regular donation to the Parish, please consider doing so. It is now easier than ever to set up a Direct Debit with The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Follow this link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/harpenden-st-nicholas-st-albans/> or simply scan the QR code from your mobile device. Any queries can be sent to Claire Petevinos: [giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org)



### **ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

Children intending to apply to St George's Secondary School are advised to submit a clergy reference form with their application. The school gives priority to children with a clergy reference. To ensure this can be given, a Record of Attendance should be completed for 2 years prior to date of application (i.e. during school Years 4 and 5). You can pick up a blank copy from any of our three churches. The School website provides further details of the admissions criteria. The school will consider applications without a clergy reference but through a separate admissions category.

# St Nicholas' Church Notices



## **MUSIC**

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>
<b>Setting</b>	New English Folk Mass
<b>Hymns</b>	34 On Jordan's bank ; 393 Brother, sister, let me serve you; 235 The great forerunner of the morn; St Nicholas' Hymn
<b>Anthem</b>	People look east (Trad. Arr. Archer)
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Choral Evensong</b>
<b>Responses</b>	Ferial
<b>Setting</b>	Humfrey in F#m
<b>Anthem</b>	And the glory of the Lord (Handel)

**REQUEST FOR FOODBANK DONATIONS:** Please leave your contributions at St Nicholas' in the green crates next to the font, or in the porch, when church is open for services. They will be collected for delivery to Salvation Army and FEED at the Vineyard Church as usual. Donations are still very much needed. Thank you.

**HOLY COMMUNION ON SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER** - There will be no Holy Communion Service this Saturday 7 December due to St Nicholas' Christmas Fayre taking place. Instead there will be services on both Saturday 14 and 21 December with the first one being a BCP service.

## St Mary's Church Notices



**TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION** - 17 December

**SUNDAY SERVICE ROTAS** we would welcome more volunteers for our Sunday morning rotas. We need help in all areas, but especially Welcomers, and people to lead our intercessions. Please speak to Sally if you could help in any way. Thank you

**MISSION ACTION PLANNING** Thank you for your enthusiasm in working on our MAP recently, working on assimilating the ideas, and priorities. We will report back very soon.

**CAROLS AND TEA AT HOMEDELL HOUSE**, 3pm on Wednesday 18 December. Please let Liz Champion know if you can provide some cakes via [helenchampion@googlemail.com](mailto:helenchampion@googlemail.com)

## All Saints' Church Notices



**Emergency Prayer Chain:** [jenny.britt@yahoo.com](mailto:jenny.britt@yahoo.com)

**SCENES OF ADVENT** - Throughout this Advent, local artist Erin O'Sullivan will be with us at All Saints, painting various scenes of this season. You can expect to find her at various services and events taking sketches and photos which will become paintings. We plan to display the works some time in the new year. Find out more about Erin and her work here <https://erinosullivanart.com/>. Please be in touch if you would rather not be in any pictures / photos.

**FOODBANK COLLECTION - CHRISTMAS HAMPERS** The King's Pantry Foodbank expect to provide 75-80 Christmas hampers to households (single people and families) supported during recent months. Some seasonal items would be appreciated to help fill these.  
for example: Christmas puddings (various sizes), iced fruit cake, packs of mince pies, boxes of biscuits/chocolates, nuts, tinned fruit, savoury biscuits/ snacks, tinned ham, bottles/ packs of fruit juice and squash. These will be delivered to the King's Pantry on Monday 9 December (together with any other Food Bank donations), so if possible please bring items **by Sunday 8 December**. As usual please leave donations in the crates in the Church entrance. Thank you!

**WORKING PARTY - INDOORS AS WELL AS OUT!** You are welcome to come along on the first Saturday of each month when we get together to care for the grounds at All Saints' and to dust, sweep and generally clean the church. We meet from 9.30 -11.30am or whatever time you can manage. Our next session (if you are reading this before the weekend) will be on **Saturday 7 December** . Coffee served, jobs done, fun had.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Monday 9 December, 11.00am - Carols @ Willow Court

Wednesday 11 December, 3.30pm - Carols @ Lea Springs

Saturday 14 December, 6.30pm - Firepit Carols

Sunday 15 December - All Age Service / Sunday Club Christmas party

Tuesday 17 December, 8pm - Beer and Carols at the Marquis of Granby

Sunday 22 December 6.30pm - Carols by Candlelight



## What's on This Week

### Monday 9

9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

### Tuesday 10

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

10.30am Funeral of the late Jennifer Raaff at St Mary's

### Wednesday 11

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

10.30am Holy Communion in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room

5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas'

6.00pm Supper Club in Cornelia's - see Parish Notices

8.00pm Advent in Art on Zoom: via this link <https://tinyurl.com/45rv48ar>

### Friday 13

1.00pm Soup & Carols at St Nicholas'

### Saturday 14

10.30am Holy Communion (BCP) in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room

6.30pm Firepit Carols in All Saints' Church Garden

### Sunday 15 December – The Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am **Holy Communion in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room**  
President & Preacher - Revd Cath Rindl;

9.30am **Family Communion at St Nicholas'**  
President & Preacher - Revd Cath Rindl;  
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/  
StNicholasChurchHarpندن](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpندن)

9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**  
President & Preacher - Revd Nick Goulding  
Live-streamed on [www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen)

10.00am **All Age Worship at All Saints'**  
Led by Revd James Brown & the Sunday Club  
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or by  
request from [associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpندن.org](mailto:associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpندن.org)  
Followed by Sunday Club Christmas Party

11.30am **Morning Praise in St Nicholas' Church Hall**  
Leader - Vicky Platt; Speaker - Revd Cath Rindl-

4.30pm **Simply Nativity at St Mary's**  
Led by Revd Sally Goodson, Jenny Goulding & Rachel Beagent

6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

### **Readings**

Zephaniah 3.14-end

Philippians 4.4-7

Luke 3.7-18