

2019 Lent Study Group—Brave: Faith and Works

Jean and John Sweetman are proposing to run a Lent Course in St Andrew's Church of five Monday evenings in Lent, commencing Monday 11th March at 7.30pm



The study is entitled "Brave: Faith and Works" and is based on the book of James, a book of the Bible which is very practical and down to earth. We used this course when we attended Spring Harvest last year and will be obtaining booklets for everyone to use and follow.

If you would like to take part, please sign up on the list at the back of the church or ring us on 01622 728233. All are welcome to attend, even if you cannot manage to come to each session.



OASIS PRAISE
Sunday 10th March at 9.30am



Messy Lent, 16th March, from 11am, see Fiona for more details

Taizé Service—with prayer for healing and wholeness

Sunday 17th March at 5.00pm—come and experience this meditative and thought provoking form of worship



Church Social Events

Loos and Lights Campaign

You can donate by completing a blue form (at the back of church) or, for your 'convenience' (did you see what I did there!!!), we now have a just giving page—[justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stnicholas-church](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stnicholas-church)



FREE Film Afternoon for Lent
Saturday 23rd March, 3pm
The Shack (Certificate 12) A Christian drama

Skittles at St Andrews, Saturday 9th March, 3pm to 6pm in the Church Hall

Includes a light tea and a raffle. Tickets £4 adults, £1 children or £10 per family



Helen Cooke 'Tough Times in the Life of Job' Weds 20th March,
Ryarsh Village Hall from 9.15am.

Please see leaflets at the back of church for more information

A Workshop Exploring Anna Chaplaincy with Older People

At St Benedict's in West Malling on 2nd April, an opportunity to explore ministry with older people and those with dementia, including Anna Chaplaincy.

If this is something you feel you may be interested in then please speak to Rev Chris for further details.



St Nicholas' Church

Sunday 3rd March 2019 - Next before Lent

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Morning Worship
4.45pm	Oasis in the Afternoon
6.00pm	JAHFA



and the week ahead

Monday 4th March

8.30am	Morning Prayer
7.30pm	PCC Meeting

Tuesday 5th March

12noon	CARMA. The Society Rooms
3.20pm	Palace Wood Explorers

Wednesday 6th March

8.30am	Morning Prayer
10.00am	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion
3.15pm	Allington School Explorers
7.30pm	Evening Prayer

Thursday 7th March

9.00am	Prayer Space
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Friday 8th March

10.00am	Mums & Babes with Oasis Café
2.30pm	St Nicholas Fellowship



Sunday 10th March - 1st of Lent

9.30am	Oasis Praise
11.00am	Holy Communion



Prayer for March

'God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile': Max Lucado, Author.

As we continue to study revelation, let us take heart from the message of hope contained within the book. There may be times when it seems as though we are climbing a mountain, but let us not lose sight of the truth that God is with us every step of the way. We acknowledge that 'The Lord is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God and I will exalt Him.' Exodus 15:2. As Moses did, we praise God for who He is, we thank Him for His love for us.

Again we lift our country up to the Lord as the Brexit issue continues. We ask that a solution will be reached which is good for our nation. We pray for healing between families and friends who are on opposite sides of the debate. Let us unite in praying for a country in which the name of Jesus is openly preached without fear of reprisals.

We pray for our church, that we will be a faithful witness to the love of Jesus. Let Jesus words be put into action : 'A new commandment I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you love one another.' John 13:34-35

We ask for the grace to show love to those who are feeling rejected, unlovable and without hope. Especially we pray for Daniel who was touched by that love, may he choose to move forward knowing that Jesus loves Him. Please pray for him and his family.

Let's continue to pray for each other, for our families, our neighbours, our community, the church. May we be faithful witnesses to those around us, bringing encouragement to each other and to those we meet. We have a high calling:

'But you are a chosen people ,a royal priesthood, a Holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.' 1 Peter 2:9

May the Lord give us the grace to show others how to live in the light of God's mercy and love. Help us Lord to rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.....Romans 12:12

Martin Luther King Jnr. said: 'If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run, then walk, if you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, keep moving forward.' With the help of our Lord, we will.
Deanery Confirmation Service, Tues 19th March, 7pm at St Martin's Church, Sheppway

Confirmation is a special service in which a person confirms the promises made in baptism. If you have not been confirmed, and wish to investigate the possibility, then please contact Rev Chris or Rev Barry to talk this through.

Annual Parish Meeting (APM) & Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Our annual meetings will take place on the evening of Monday the 1st April, in church. There will be a short communion service at 7pm followed by the meetings starting at 7.30pm. The APM is very short and is to elect churchwardens - that is followed by the longer APCM (not too long) at which annual reports are presented and vacant posts on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod are voted upon.

If you wish to put your name forward for Churchwarden or PCC please contact Jenny, the administrator, for the relevant nomination form.

Annual meeting 'packs' will be available for collection from the back of church in due course - all are free to take one, although if you are registered on the Electoral Roll there will be one specifically with your name on it - if you are able to deliver any that would be much appreciated.

Rev Chris



Pray for the sick and anxious

Tanay, Carol Gray, Kirsty, Alfie, Connie Davies and Hazel Neseif.

Pray for those who have been bereaved over recent days We pray for the families of Eric Ward, Eileen Waters and Jennifer Cornish.

Pray for our Deanery This month we pray for St Faith's

Pray for our Diocese Changing Lives Prayer Network

Pray for our Residents This week we focus on the residents and businesses in Birnham Square, Bower Close and Bunyard Way.

Pray for our Community Grapevine

Charity for the month of March Church Army (Captain Graham Nunn)

Cards Available

***** EASTER CARDS ARE NOW FOR SALE IN THE PRAYER CORNER *****

Baptism, Sympathy, Thank You and Thinking of You cards for sale in the Prayer Corner, £1 each. Please put your payment in the wall safe in the entrance foyer.

Electoral Roll (Church membership list)

Every sixth year we are required to draw up a new Electoral Roll, in place of the previous one. This was last done in 2013 and so it is due to be done again this year. If you wish to remain on the Electoral Roll, or join it for the first time, a form needs to be completed - these can be found at the back of church, or can be obtained from the Parish Administrator.

Data Protection Consent Forms signed in 2018 confirm that you have given consent for St Nicholas' to hold your details in the Church Electoral Roll Directory. If you have not completed a consent form you will have to do so to enable the church to hold your information - these forms are also at the back of church, or can be obtained from the Parish Administrator. **CALEB HOWARD - Electoral Roll Officer**