

NEXT WEEKEND - 17th—19th MAY - DON'T MISS OUT

Friday 17th May, Jazz and Swing Concert, 7.30pm in church
 Medway Big Band - FREE ENTRY, refreshments available.
 Retiring collection in aid of Loos and Lights campaign.



Saturday 18th May, Messy Church (Builders), 11am - 1pm
 Games, Crafts, Bible Teaching, and a builders' lunch
 See Fiona to book

Sunday 19th May, Grand Auction of Promises, 11.30am in church

Following the 10 o'clock service, with refreshments.
 We have over 20 offers being auctioned, including afternoon tea, gardening, visits to places of interest, cakes, ironing and beer!!
 Do come along and place your bid, all in aid of Loos and Lights campaign.



Loos and Lights Campaign

You can donate by completing a blue form (at the back of church) or via our just giving page:—
justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stnicholas-church

STILL TIME TO CATCH UP - Virtual Games ...

Walk or run 1km per day during the month of May.
 Registration is £10 per person, a celebration medal to all who complete the challenge.



Coming Soon

FREE Film Afternoon, 8th June @ 3pm - Mary Poppins Returns

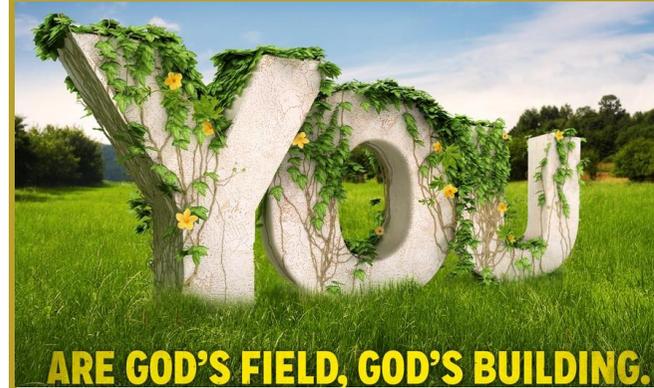
Music for a Summer Afternoon, Sunday 16th June, 3pm in church
 With strawberry cream teas. Retiring collection. Enquiries to 01622 756660

And in the Wider Community

18th May 'A Breath of Ecstasy' 7pm, St Lawrence's Church, Mereworth

19th May, FREE Family Craft Afternoon, 2pm-4pm, St Andrew's
 Crafts, games and refreshments.

Friday 24th May, Healing and Wholeness Service, 7pm
 St John's Church, Barham, CT4 6PB



St Nicholas' Church



Sunday 12th May - 4th of Easter

9.30am Oasis Praise (with Oasis Explorers)
 11.00am Holy Communion



and the week ahead

Monday 13th May

8.30am Morning Prayer
 7.30pm Pippin discussion Group

Tuesday 14th May

3.20pm Explorers—Palace Wood

Wednesday 15th May

8.30am Morning Prayer
 10.00am Holy Communion
 3.15pm Explorers—Allington
 7.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 16th May

9.00am Prayer Space
 2.30pm Mothers' Union

Friday 17th May

7.30pm Medway Big Band Jazz & Swing Concert



Saturday 18th May

11.00am Messy Builders



Sunday 19th May - 5th of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
 10.00am Oasis Communion (with Oasis Explorers)
 11.30am Auction of Promises



Prayer for May

'The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no-one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.' Isaiah 40:28-31

As Rev Chris and Sarah continue on their Pilgrimage along the Camino, let us claim God's promises for them. May He give them strength each day to complete the miles ahead without mishap. We pray that this will be a time of enormous spiritual awareness and blessing for both of them. Let them be protected on all sides and enjoy the experiences they face.

'Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

We lift up to the Lord all those students taking exams over the next few weeks. We pray that they will go into them calmly and confident in the work they have put in. We ask that they will be able to bring to mind the information they have learned over the last months and get it onto the paper.

We pray also for wisdom for the parents, that they will be able to be relaxed and provide a stable home life at a difficult time.

Let us not fail to remember in our prayers all those in our community who are struggling whether it be health, work, finance or family issues. May they know the presence of a loving Heavenly Father in their lives giving them strength when it's needed most.

Please continue to pray for the people of Sri Lanka, we pray that those who perpetrated the atrocity will come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour. We give thanks for the congregation of the church who speak of forgiveness. May they be blessed for their faith and be a powerful witness to the love of God.

'The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.' Psalm 9:9-10

As for us in St. Nic's, we echo the words of Psalm 9:1-2...'I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.'



Pray for the sick and anxious

Rosemary Froude, Emma Hamilton-Barnes and family, Tanay, Carol Gray, Kirsty, Alfie, Connie Davies, Hazel Neseiyif, Carol Jones and Dan.

Pray for those who have been bereaved over recent days We pray for the families of Alan Colegate, Tony Payne and Vilma Neale.

Pray for our Deanery This month we pray for St Luke's.

Pray for our Diocese Allington : St Nicholas W Maidstone : St Peter Clergy : Chris Lavender, Barry Knott

Pray for our Residents This week we focus on the residents and businesses in Grace Avenue, Gooch Close and Greyfriars Close.

Pray for our Community Staff, Pupils and families at Allington Primary School

Charity for the month of May Christian Aid



Cards Available

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.

Rev Chris will be on sabbatical from 23rd April and will return to parish duties on the 18th June. Upon his return the first service that he will preside at will be on the 30th June (a fifth Sunday Benefice service at St Nicholas' Church).

During this period Rev Barry will carry all parish responsibilities and he can be contacted directly or via the parish administrator or churchwardens - Rev Barry will be changing his day off from Tuesday to Thursday.