

If anyone has any spare empty coffee or jam jars, I would be most grateful if you would let me have them - it's jam and chutney making time again. Please leave them in church or in my porch (70 Poplar Grove). Thank you, Mary Gentry



### Coming Soon at St Nicholas



**18th August, Church Picnic from midday**  
Poplar Pre-School Park, All very welcome, BYO food

**30th August, Invicta Jazz Concert in church, 7.30pm**  
FREE Entry with retiring collection. Bar available.



**FREE Film  
Afternoon**

**7th Sept, 3pm**

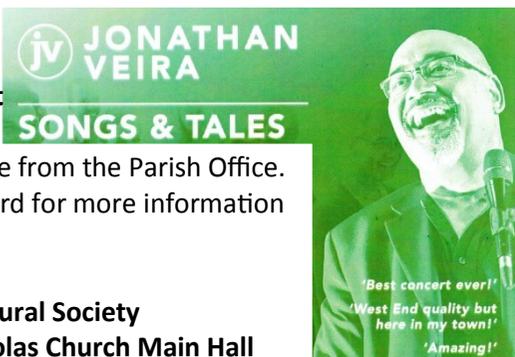
### 14th September, FKC Ride & Stride

Hundreds of churches will be open between 10am and 6pm for you to cycle or walk between - you choose your route length/time and number of churches.

Gary Nevill is raising money as he cycles, with 50% going to the Friends of Kent Churches to maintain churches in Kent and the other half sent back to St Nicholas. Do speak to him for more information, or perhaps sponsor him - form at the back of church.



**14th September, Concert in church,  
7.30pm start**



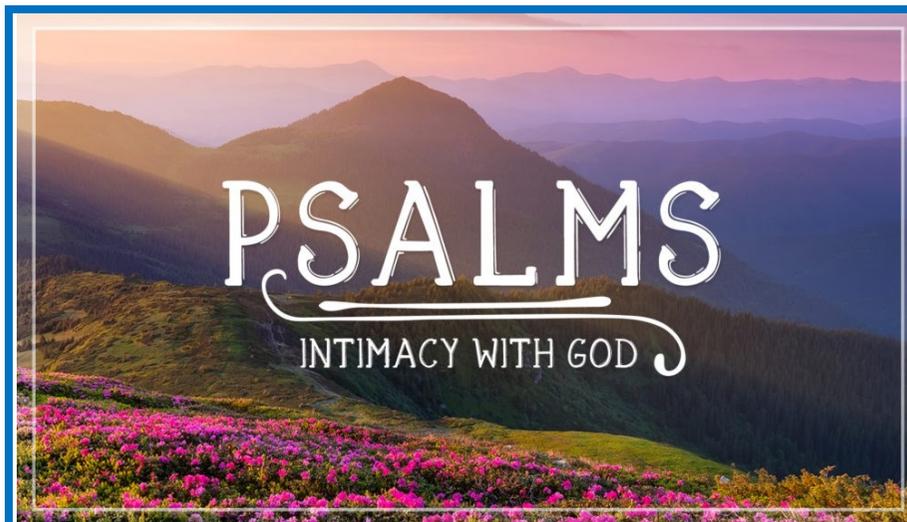
Tickets £8, available from the Parish Office.  
Please see notice board for more information

### And in the Wider Community

#### Sat 17th August, Maidstone Horticultural Society

**Summer Show, 1.30-4.00pm, St Nicholas Church Main Hall**

Dahlias, roses and other plants and flowers will be on display alongside fruit, vegetables, floral displays, cookery and crafts. All classes are open to non-members, so if you would like to exhibit, please visit our website, [www.maidstonehorticulturalsociety.org](http://www.maidstonehorticulturalsociety.org) or contact 01622 674384 (Show Secretary) for further information. Refreshments including homemade cakes, a plant stall and other attractions to enjoy. All welcome. Adults £1, Children Free.



## St Nicholas' Church

### Sunday 11th August - 8th after Trinity

9.30am Oasis  
11.00am Holy Communion

**and the week ahead**

**Church closed while our facilities are updated**

### Monday 12th August

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Andrew's

### Wednesday 14th August

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Andrew's  
No Holy Communion  
No Evening Prayer

### Thursday 15th August

9.00am Prayer Space (Main Hall)

### Sunday 18th August - 9th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Oasis Communion (with Explorers)  
12noon Church Picnic



## Prayer for August



'Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving, extol Him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.' Psalm 95: 1-3  
Let us not forget the glory and majesty of our God, He created this wonderful world for us, all that we see is from His hand...yet He cares for each one of us. We are all precious to Him. Let us rejoice in the security we have in His love. All we are and all we have comes from His abundance. We praise and thank Him from the bottom of our hearts.

We pray for all those we see around us who are trying to fill their lives with perishable goods...so many have so many material goods and yet they don't know the peace and joy that comes from Jesus. We ask that the Lord will reveal Himself to them. That they will recognize Jesus as Lord and Saviour and have their innermost needs met. Enable us to show God's love to those we meet.

We ask that, through the Holy Spirit, we will be equipped to follow Jesus wherever we go..that His love and light will shine from us. We are living in a lost world, we pray for wisdom in each situation in which we find ourselves.

We pray for our community, let us be a light in the area, a welcoming, listening, concerned church ready to reach out where we are needed. We give thanks for all those who are quietly doing just that.

Let us continue to lift our country up to the Lord, that divisions will be healed, that we will put prejudice aside and work together to bring God's kingdom into being.

'I pray also that the eyes of your (our) heart may be enlightened in order that you (we) may know the hope to which He has called you (us), the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.'  
Ephesians 1: 18-19



### Pray for the sick and anxious

Eunice Vane, Linda Williams, Rosemary Froude and Tanay.

### Pray for all those who have been bereaved over recent days

We pray for the families of Pearl Harrison, Alvy Keeler and Irene King.

Pray for our Deanery This month we pray for St Nicholas and St Andrew's

Pray for our Diocese Jersey : St Luke with St James Clergy : Nick Barry

Pray for our Residents This week we focus on the residents and businesses in Leafy Lane, Lindisfarne Gardens and Liphook Way

Pray for our Community Staff and patients at our healthcare providers - Dentists, Osteopaths etc

Charity for the month of August Mission Aviation



### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) 'VISION DAY'

On Saturday 12th October the PCC will be having a day out. We are all going to Holy Cross, Bearsted, to spend some time considering the future 'vision' of the church. This is an opportunity to celebrate all that St Nicholas' Church does and then for some 'BLUE SKY THINKING' about who we are as a church and where we are going. To help the PCC think things through we would like to consult all who are part of our activities. We are therefore going to carry out a consultation process over the summer - that sounds very grand but what it really means is that for a one month period, at each service and in other relevant forums, we will hand out a slip of paper with one question on it for you to consider and to respond accordingly - there will be a box at the back of church for your response, or you can do so by email if you wish. All the responses will be gathered together and will help towards the discussion process at the vision day on the 12th October.

The 'vision day' is not about answers or coming up with a strategy, or plan. It is about opening our minds to what possibilities are out there for developing as a church in this community.

The consultation period will start on Sunday 18th August and finish on Sunday 15th September.

**Rev Chris**