





The United Benefice of Old Shoreham and Kingston Buci

The Churches of St Nicolas, St Julian and St Giles

www.saintnicolas.org.uk

www.parishofkingstonbuci.org.uk

Newsletter

For Sunday 10th October 2021 – Trinity 19
Welcome to our worship



Children: Sunday School in the Parish of Kingston Buci meets at 10am on the 2nd Sunday of the month at **St Julian's** and on the 3rd Sunday at **St Giles** in the church hall at the beginning of the service then moves to the church for communion.

Messy Church is on the 4th Saturday of the month at St Giles' (3pm).

Need a lift to Church? Please let us know

Large print service books are available. Please ask at the door.

There is an induction loop for those using a hearing aid.

Today's Worship

Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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.

Readings

First Reading: Amos 5.6-7,10-15

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Second Reading: Hebrews 4.12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Gospel: Mark 10.17-31

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." 'He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.' Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

Post Communion:

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings next Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 53:4-12 Second Reading: Hebrews 5.1-10

Gospel: Mark 10.35-45

For Your Prayers

In the Anglican Communion we pray for the bishop, clergy and laity of The Church of the Province of West Africa.

In our Diocese we pray for the Church Buildings Team, the DAC and Mission & Pastoral Committee: Dr Emma Arbuthnot, Senior Church Buildings & Pastoral Reorganisation Officer; Revd Paul Doick, Chair of the DAC; Greg Moore, Church Buildings & Pastoral Reorganisation Officer; Michael Squire, Pastoral Reorganisation Officer and Dr Katherine Prior, Fundraising Adviser.

Within our local community we pray for Kingston Buci Sunday School and for the residents of Bergamot Crescent Thyme Close, Southdown Road, Bay Tree Close.

Those in need of our prayers specifically at this time: John Ramsden, Anna, Hannah, Paula, Roddy Stevens, Evie Orman, Dennis Still, Clare, Carol Tabrah, Roger Titley, Ella Hutt, Bob and Barbara, Jocelyn Andrews, Rosie Rowson, Chris Thrower, Robin Mitchell, Jean Maundrell, Colin & Margaret Hyder, Pauline Roberts, Sue Bartlett, Lucy Robinson.

Those who have died recently: David Simmons, Ted Heaseman, Patricia Wheeler

Those who we remember at this time of the year: Len Batten.

Reflection

The Rich Young Ruler

At first sight our Gospel reading this week seems to have a simple message. Wealth is a hinderance to being a Christian and so get rid of it. But when we look at the story more carefully, we can see that it is not really about that at all. An eager young man runs up to Jesus and falls at his feet with all the enthusiasm and spontaneity of youth. What must I do to inherit eternal life? He has kept the commandments since he was a child. He has done everything that the law of God requires but he knows that there is something missing.

And when Jesus looked at him, we are told that he loved him. There was something very attractive about this young man so eager to do God's will. What should he do to find the real fulfilment that he was so desperate for? Jesus has the answer. Go and sell your possessions, give the money to the poor and come and follow me. And the young man we are told was first of all shocked and then sad as he went away, for he has many possessions.

Now Jesus was not stating a universal law. He was not saying that all rich people should give away all their possessions. Instead, he saw what in that particular situation was stopping that particular individual from finding the treasure in heaven that he sought.

Jesus then turns to the disciples and tells them how hard it will be for people with wealth to enter the kingdom of heaven. And that leads Peter to be rather smug. Look Lord, he says, we have left everything and followed you. In other words, Aren't we good? Aren't you grateful? And Jesus replies Truly I tell you there is no one who has made a sacrifice for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold in this life and in the life to come eternal life. In other words, our giving to God is as nothing compared with His giving to us.

Throughout the Bible the contrast is made between the tender heart and the hard heart. After years of attending Prayer Book Matins as a child those words from the Venite are etched in my memory. Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness. I did not have the faintest idea what the provocation was but it sounded pretty bad. And in the New Testament again and again the hardness of the hearts of Jesus' opponents is condemned.

But the opposite, tender hearts, are risky. They can get hurt and they can get broken. But they are an essential part of the kit for a follower of Jesus. The rich young man was attractive and good and enthusiastic but there was a hardness there when it came to the crunch. He wanted Jesus but he wanted everything else too. We pray for a tender heart, not a soppy sentimental one but one that is not hardened by other things. God's commitment to us is total. Look at the cross. Just how much are we committed to Him?

The picture of God that I find the most attractive and most powerful is the figure of the father of the prodigal son. He runs to meet his son and welcome him home despite all that he has done. And he does it because he loves him and the son takes that first tentative step towards him. The most significant thing in today's Gospel is what does <u>not</u> happen. There is a frightening silence. The young man has turned his back on Jesus and is leaving. But Jesus says nothing, Jesus does nothing. He did not run after him. He knew that there was no point.

Fr Paul

Intercessions

Father God, help us to lay down our own agendas, to seek your face and your will for the church and the world.

We pray for the church worldwide, for its ministry and mission, especially for the work of Christian charities striving to bring succour to persecuted and suffering Christians. Give them the knowledge to know whom to serve and the means to do so. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, guide your Church, that it may reveal your glory and proclaim your word. Give it the vision of your purpose and the desire to see it enacted. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, we remember and pray for all places of conflict and unrest and for all those who are fighting for goodness, truth and justice and against evil. Give them wisdom, strength and perseverance. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for our own country and for all in positions of leadership and responsibility. Lord, help us to understand what your will is for our nation in the confusion and unrest at this time. Where we have spurned your ways and put our trust in materialism and covetousness, forgive us. May we and all called by your name humble ourselves, pray and seek your face and turn from our sinful ways so that you may hear from heaven, forgive our sin and heal our land. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we thank you for the love and attention we have received through our homes and loved ones. We ask your blessing on our families and friends and the communities in which we live and work. We remember all who strive to improve our lives through voluntary service, whether in elected office or through work in the community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Father God, we pray for all in need of your healing touch, particularly remembering today those who are disillusioned and depressed and all who have lost their way in life. We pray for those corrupted by evil, trained in hatred and twisted in bitterness, that they may know your transforming power in their lives. Trusting in your healing love and comfort, we lift to you all named in our newsletter.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Father God, we pray for those whose earthly life has come to an end, and for all suffering bereavement. Through your loving mercy and forgiveness, may they find rest in the peace and joy of heaven.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Notices

Covid Guidance: Please continue to wear face coverings and make sure to respect those of us who are still nervous about close contact. Although these aren't legal requirements anymore, we hope that we can continue to look out for all who are still nervous about coming to church.

Today we pray for Sam Webb who will be baptised at St Julian's today.

HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS - There will be a retiring collection after the service on the 10th October to be split 50/50 between Turning Tides and Off the Fence. Both charities give vital support to those in poverty and the homeless and have obviously been vitally important during Covid.

St Nicolas Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan - A big thank you to all those who braved the rain to attend the coffee morning on the 25th September. We raised an amazing £335 on the day but after selling more cake and jam on Sunday our final total was a staggering £416.72. Thank you to the cake bakers and helpers for making it all such a success. Helen

The Friends of St Julian's - Everyone is very warmly invited to attend a special Evensong service in St Julian's Church on Sunday 17th October at 6pm. We are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of St Julian's and will be serving refreshments after the service. We look forward to welcoming everyone to join us on this unique occasion.

Living in Love and Faith Our Benefice will be exploring the recent General Synod report "Living in Love and Faith" in a three-week course. We will be meeting in **St** Julian's Hall on 13th, 20th October and 3rd November, 7.30-9pm. For more information, please read the special section in this newsletter. Fr James

St Nicolas Coffee and Cake - Our next coffee and cake session is going to be on Saturday 23rd October, I 0am-I 2.30pm when we will have more cake and jam available. We look forward to seeing you all there but if you are unable to attend and would like a delivery then please call me on 07901 941 127. Helen

St Nicolas Church Junior Choir was relaunched on Friday 10th September and they are looking for children from age 5 to join them for practice on Fridays 6-6.30pm in St Nicolas Church. The choir is led by our organist Becky Matthews and supported by our other organist and Senior Choir director Lena Urqhuart. The Junior Choir helps to lead singing at our Family Service on the 1st Sunday of the month. Please get in touch if you would like to give it a try. Come and sing and have a good time! Get in touch with Fr James, Becky or Lena for further info.

Evening Prayer Live-streamed Evening Prayer continues every day at **6pm** on Facebook live. Do join us for a time of prayer at the end of the day.

Newsletter editor wanted – We are looking for a volunteer to edit our weekly newsletter. James Askew has been editing the newsletter for the past 18 months but has now started his training as a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader). The role involves copy and pasting readings and prayers, receiving and including notices, maintaining the prayer lists and the weekly diary. Training will be given. For any further questions please speak to James Askew or Fr James.

Kingston Buci Christian Aid rep – We are looking for someone to take over being our Christian Aid rep to coordinate our activities during Christian Aid week. Please speak to James Askew or Fr James if you are interested in the role.

St Nicolas Childrens' Society rep – We are also looking for a new Children's Society rep at St Nicolas. For more information on the role please get in touch with Pam Wears or Fr James.

News from St Mary's Vicarage: Canon Ann announced last Sunday that she has taken the difficult decision to retire next January. Her last Sunday will be January 23rd. She will be very sorry to leave Shoreham where it has been such a privilege and joy to serve for nearly ten years and where she has made so many good friends.

The Kingston Buci Prayer Group will meet again on Monday IIth October at 8pm at St Giles church. You are welcome to join us in person or you can pray at the same time in your own home. Prayers will be said for those on our prayer list from our parish and for anyone/thing proposed by the congregation. To take part or to suggest a person/topic, please contact Susan Saunders on 07813976166 or email susan_bheaz@hotmail.com.

Bible Study will meet at 7.30-9pm at **St Julian's Church**, usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month. The next one will be on 27th October when we will be continuing our discussion on the Gospel of Mark with chapter 5.

Wordfest at Nicolas - 16th October. The organisers have asked that there is someone from the Parish in church whilst they are there - we are looking for volunteers to do a shift please. 2nd October access 5.30 -10.00pm (for setting up and the performance at 7.30pm to 9pm). 16th October access 12.30pm to 4.30pm (with performance at 2pm). Please contact Sue Bartlett 01273 462951 sdbusr1948@gmail.com or Gill Powell 01273 464372 g.y.powell1@ntlworld.com. Any help would be much appreciated.

Messy Church will be meeting again at St Giles Church on the 23rd October 3pm. Do join us for creativity, worship, companionship, play and fun. Light refreshments will be served. There is no need to book in advance, just turn up on the day.

Adur Community Café opens its doors at Southwick Methodist Church Hall, Manor Hall Road every Friday from 6.30pm. They offer pay-what-you-can-afford hot meals and a pudding. If you can't pay, you won't pay. Run from donations from local supermarkets and produce from local suppliers we are a sustainable café and run by volunteers. In the long term we shall offer music, poetry, debates and talks. We look forward to seeing you on Friday.

Vision and Mission

When we began working on our current vision and mission plan we didn't expect to be so rudely interrupted by a world-wide pandemic. At the joint PCC meeting last month we discussed the next steps including a consultation of our congregations of where our priorities lie now.

There is much in our Vision and Mission that is still very relevant to us today, but it might be that our priorities have changed. We continue to hear God's call "to be a Christian community of faith, hope, and love." This means for us at this time to hear where we might best embody this type of community in a world that has many new challenges.

PCC members were tasked at the joint meeting to prayerfully consider what might be the focus of our work over the coming year and where the Spirit might be leading us at this time. For this we need all our congregations, and everyone connected to our churches to be involved.

From this Sunday there will be an opportunity for you to comment on what you might think should be our priorities at this time. This newsletter includes our Vision and Mission 2022 as it was passed in 2019. This will be posted in church this Sunday together with some stickers to show what might be your priorities for our community at this time. Please take some time to consider this. There is also an online consultation which you can find here:

Many thanks for your cooperation,

Fr James

United Benefice Vision and Mission Statement

Our Vision:

"God calls us to be a Christian Community of Faith, Hope and Love"

OUR MISSION:

- We are called to be members of Christ's body, living examples of the Faith, Hope and Love we recognise in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor 12.27/ Romans 12.5)
- We are called to share our experience of God's presence in our lives (Acts 18.9) as individuals and as a Christian community and to articulate why it is important to have God in our lives to those seeking faith. (Luke 10.2)
- We are called to pray for our community and all of God's children (1 Tim 2.1/ Matthew 5.44-45)
- We are called to shape our lives in ways in which we care for our neighbour and for the world that has been entrusted to us (Lev 19.18) to be advocates of social justice (Amos 5.21) and care of the environment (Genesis 1.28/ Isaiah 11.9/John 1.3)
- We are called to use our resources wisely to enable our vision

OUR AIMS:

FAITH "We are (seek to be?) a community growing in confidence to share our faith with others"

We want to:

- Develop and strengthen faith:
 - By offering challenging sermons and opportunities to discuss and deepen exploration of individual's faith
- Equip members to articulate and communicate their faith:
 - By running discipleship courses every other year
 - By publishing a Lent blog and a magazine every term to enable people to find an outlet to share their faith and faith stories
- Become more intentional about inviting people to take part in these
 - By producing a welcome pack for newcomers
 - By having clear information on our website and at our churches about what we are offering and why

- Be more interactive in all that we do
 - By creating space in worship for people to engage more fully
 - By offering ways by which worship can extend to life during the week (e.g. travelling crib)
- Be more intentional as a community rooted in prayer
 - By offering a workshop to explore the different types and ways to pray
 - By setting up a prayer group to pray for the success of the mission in the benefice, and welcome anyone who would like to join us.
 - By exploring ways in which intercessions within worship could be more congregational
 - By producing a newsletter insert to really highlight aspects of prayer, maybe including a specific prayer for people to cut out and keep.
- Review our communications and their effectiveness
 - what services are available, what audience does the service best cater for i.e. young families, quiet meditative prayer etc. -so that it is really simple and straightforward for anyone to see which service might fit their particular need for how they wish to worship.
 - By doing a Gap analysis of services have we got the right services that fits the needs of the community we serve.

HOPE: "We are (seek to be?) a community living out lives of hope thereby giving hope to the community we serve"

We want to:

- Be more active in our outreach to baptism families
 - by sending them a card for the anniversary of baptism.
 - By having a system in place to offer continued support in the Christian education of the baptised
- Improve the profile of all churches in the wider community.
 - By conducting a community audit to find out what the community needs and how we can best respond to those needs.
 - By establishing or reviewing connections to local business, care homes, nurseries etc. – involving more people in our congregations in this outreach

- By producing a United Benefice magazine
- Make our churches more visible:
 - By creating space enabling us to be confident to invite people to a place that is desirable to be – reordering St Giles/ redecoration work at St Nicolas/ using St Julian's more during the week – chapel could be ideal for courses etc.
 - By looking at the best ways to promote and advertise the opportunities for prayer in our benefice

LOVE: "We are (seek to be?) a community growing in love to be recognised as church by making God's compassion known" We want to:

- Grow in love
 - By establishing family groups who meet for lunch two to three times a year after Sunday worship at someone's' home with a cross section from church.
 - By agreeing across the benefice which charities to support each year.
 - By being more aware of the needs of the community we share
 - Make it more obvious to the public when churches are open
 - By better use of external signs and notices.
 - By having a well-positioned prayer board, or something similar, which the congregation and visitors to the churches can use for prayers for themselves and others.
 - By introducing a votive candle stand (where there is none to give people the possibility to light a candle
 - Widen participation
 - by utilising strengths of members of our congregation, ensuring we have enough helpers who are involved at each service so our congregations can feel involved in the service.
 - · Make better use of our buildings:
 - By keeping our churches open for the community as much as possible
 - By making sure that all groups in the benefice are aware that the hall is there for our use (Saturdays are pretty free)

- By Re-ordering St Giles to be used as a multifunctional space, removing pews and introducing movable chairs, building accessible toilet. Starting to use the site more for community activities cafe / other services on Fridays.
- By opening up the space for younger people. New toddler group in St Nicolas.
- Link up with other local groups:
 - By supporting the foodbank sending volunteers
 - By supporting the groups that are already linked to the church (e.g. Shoreham & Southwick bereavement support, pastoral care team etc.)
- Care for the Environment:
 - By working towards becoming Eco-churches Commitment to running our churches greener (energy use, recycling, etc)

This Week's Diary

Sunday 10 th October Trinity 19/ Harvest	8.30am 10am 10am	St Nicolas St Nicolas St Julian's	Eucharist (trad lang) Eucharist (mod lang) Eucharist & Holy Baptism	JG PR JG
	10am 6pm	St Julian's Online	Sunday School Evening Prayer	
Monday	6pm 8pm	Online St Giles	Evening Prayer Kingston Buci Prayer Group	
Tuesday	6pm	Online	Evening Prayer	
Wednesday	9.30am 6pm 7.30-9pm	St Nicolas Online St Julian's Hall	Eucharist Evening Prayer LLF Course	JG
Thursday	10am 1.30-4.30 6pm	St Julian's St G's Hall Online	Holy Communion (BCP) 50+ Table Tennis Evening Prayer	JG
Friday	9-11.30am 10am 6pm 6-6.30pm 7pm	St G's Hall St Giles Online St Nicolas St Nicolas	Pop-up Coffee Morning Worship Evening Prayer Junior Choir Senior Choir	
Saturday	9am 6pm	St Nicolas Online	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	
Sunday 17 th October Trinity 20	8.30am 10am 10am 10am 6pm	St Nicolas St Nicolas St Giles St Giles St Julian's	Eucharist (trad lang) Eucharist (mod lang) Eucharist (mod lang) Sunday School Friends of St Julian's 25 th Anniversary Evensong	JG JG PA JG

The United Benefice of Old Shoreham and Kingston Buci The Churches of St Nicolas, St Julian and St Giles

Term Card – Autumn 2021

Services for Children and their Families

St Nicolas'

(all services begin at 10am):

Family Service:

5th September; 3rd October (Harvest);

7th November; 5th December

(Patronal Festival)

St Giles'

(all services begin at 10am):

Family Service:

5th September; 3rd October (Harvest),

5th December (Advent)

Messy Church:

every 4th Saturday 3-5pm

25th September; 23rd October;

27th November

Kingston Buci Sunday School (during the main Sunday service at 10am meeting in the Church

Hall):

<u>St Julian's:</u>

12th September; 10th October;

14th November; 12th December

St Giles:

19th September; 17th October; 21th

November;

Special Services in the Autumn:

Messy Christingle: 18th December 4pm @ St Giles'
Carols For All: 19th December 4pm @ St Julian's
Crib Service: 24th December 3pm @ St Nicolas'
Crib Service: 24th December 4pm @ St Giles'
Christmas Day Service: 25 December 10am @ St Nicolas'

Contact Details

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Notices for the Weekly Newsletter to

PCC Secretary as above (deadline Thursday @ Noon)

http://www.saintnicolas.org.uk & www.parishofkingstonbuci.org.uk

OR visit us on Facebook and Twitter