



**St Nicholas' Parish Church, Worth & St Barnabas' Church, Pound Hill**



**Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Second Sunday of Advent  
The Feast of St Nicholas**

*Welcome to our churches today.*

*If you have time after the services,  
please stay for refreshments.*

*At the Distribution of Communion all  
are welcome to come to the altar rail to  
receive a blessing or, if baptised, the  
Communion.*

*Children are welcome at all our  
services, and there are soft toys and  
children's books at the back of the  
church for their use.*

**SERVICES TODAY**

- 08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)  
at St Nicholas'  
*Celebrant & Preacher:* Rev'd Gordon Parry  
09.45 Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'  
*Celebrant:* Canon Anthony Ball  
*Preacher:* The Ven. Fiona Windsor,  
Archdeacon of Horsham  
10.00 Eucharist at St Barnabas'  
*Presiding & Preacher:* Rev'd Gordon Parry  
11.30 Nic's All-age at St Nicholas'  
*Presiding:* Rev'd Steve Burston

**Next week's Readings**

- Zephaniah 3. 14 - 20  
Psalm 146 4 - 11  
Philippians 4. 4 - 7  
Luke 3. 7 - 18

**The Rector writes:-**

We extend a warm welcome to Archdeacon Fiona as she visits the parish and preaches at St Nicholas' Patronal Festival this morning. This afternoon she will take her place in Chichester Cathedral, our mother church, as Bishop Martin blesses a specially designated door to herald the Year of Mercy he has declared for the Diocese. Pope Francis, whose call Bishop Martin is supporting, describes such a door as "a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instils hope". It is a welcoming door through which all in need may enter, but also a door from which the Church must go out to proclaim mercy to all. As our Alpha Course concluded this week I was struck by how much it had anticipated (& modelled) some of the key principles both of the Year of Mercy and how we can be "church": the open welcome, the fellowship (and thanks again to Higgidy Pies for another wonderful meal on Tuesday!), the learning through clear teaching and free discussion, the building of a common purpose respectful of individual needs and journeys and the going out challenged yet resourced. The final evening spoke powerfully as in the talk and discussion we considered what the church could be and, quite naturally, put it into practice in the support of two of our members – one who received (during the talk) news of the death of a family member and one who was then in hospital and died shortly afterwards. It is that bond, within the church family and with all God's children, that was modelled by St Nicholas. His is an example of a life infused with pastoral care, teaching and worship that continues to proclaim the gospel in our own day and challenges us to do likewise.

## READINGS for the day

### Collect:

Almighty Father, lover of souls, who chose your servant Nicholas to be 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.

**Amen.**

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

#### Isaiah 61. 1 - 3

*A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.*

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.

#### Canticle: Benedictus. Luke 1. 68 - 79

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

#### 1 Timothy 6. 6 - 11

*A Reading Paul's first Letter to Timothy.*

Of course, 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.

### GOSPEL

#### Mark 10. 13 - 16

*A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.*

People were bringing little children to him 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

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### PEW SHEET

After 4.5 years the current compiler of the pew sheet is planning to retire at the beginning of January 2016. If you are interested in this role please contact the Rector or Joan Tick.

### Footpath at St Nicholas'

The footpath will be laid from the lychgate towards the church **from Thursday December 10th**, weather permitting, therefore access to the church will be restricted and please contact the Parish Office (0300 111 8150) on Thursday morning to ascertain whether the 10.30 service will still go ahead. Thank you.

We regret to announce that Claire Popoff died on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Our prayers are with her daughters Irene and Natasha and their families.

### SERVICES during next week

#### St Barnabas'

**Wed. & Fri.**

**09.00** Morning Prayer & Eucharist

**Tues. & Thurs.**

**09.00** Morning Prayer

#### St Nicholas'

**Sat. 09.00** Morning Prayer & Eucharist

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**Tues.** 10.30 Eucharist - St Barnabas'

**Wed.** 15.15 Messy Church –  
Maidenbower Infants School

**Thurs.** 10.30 Eucharist – St Nicholas'

**Sat.** NO WEDDINGS – St Nicholas'

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#### Services next Sunday

#### Third Sunday of Advent

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

- St Nicholas'

09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas'

10.00 Family Eucharist - St Barnabas'



**Parking at Bishop's Lodge and access to the Cottage.** The Bishop of Maidstone has kindly agreed to us continuing to use the cottage for certain events. Please access the cottage through the gate at the end of the path down from the St Nicholas' porch. **Please do not park** at Bishop's Lodge or attempt vehicular access to the Cottage.

**St Barnabas' Vicarage.** **Please do not use the 'drive' of the Vicarage** for parking. Contact the clergy or Parish Office to make arrangements for loading/unloading.

## NOTICES

**Friday lunches** 12.30pm in the Pastoral Centre - 2 courses plus tea / coffee - £5.50  
Please purchase tickets by **Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>** for Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at the Centre or phone **883362**

**Thank you** to every one who helped with **Advent Fair** last week, a wonderful effort and **£737.85** was raised for Church Funds.

**UNWRAPPED gifts of toys, games, books etc.** suitable for ages 0 - 12years. These donations will go to the Golden Lions Children's Trust and **toiletries, non perishable foodstuffs, warm clothing**, for Crawley Open House. All items must be new and unwrapped although donations of wrapping paper is also welcome. Thank you. Bring to the following **4.00pm** services ----

**St Barnabas'** - December 20<sup>th</sup> at Carols for All & the Christmas Eve Crib Service on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

**St Nicholas'** - Christmas Eve Crib Service on December 24<sup>th</sup>

### **Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>**

St Nicholas' Julian Group **will not** be meeting this month.

### **Monday December 14<sup>th</sup> 11.00am**

St Barnabas' Julian Group meets in church. Everyone welcome.

### **Christmas is coming !**

"[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) is a great way to raise funds for the Church while you shop on the internet. We receive a small cash reward for your purchase as a donation to the Parish, If you have not already done so then please register. If you are registered please remember to select easyfundraising whenever you shop. Many thanks to those who have raised over £300 to-date for the Parish this way.

## DIARY NOTES

### **Tuesday December 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m.**

Fr. James' licensing service at St Julian's church, St Julian's Lane, Kingston Buci, Shoreham and will be conducted by the Bishop of Lewes. Please contact Parish Office if you need or can offer a lift.

### **Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> Services -**

**St Barnabas'** 4.00pm Carols for All

**St Nicholas'** 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols



### **Christmas lunches....**

...will be served in the Pastoral Centre on **Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>**. The menu will include turkey, accompaniments, Christmas pudding and mince pies, fruit juice, tea/coffee (bring your own alcohol). **Tickets cost £10.50** each and **must be bought in advance by December 15<sup>th</sup>** from the Pastoral Centre or (01293) 883362.

## CONTACTS

### *Rector*

Canon Anthony Ball 01293 882229  
[rector@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@worthparish.org.uk)

### *Curate*

Revd Steve Burston 01293 279028  
[steve.burston@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:steve.burston@worthparish.org.uk)

### *Churchwardens*

Phyl Pennell - 01293 883362  
Sheila Dring - 01293 513496

### **PARISH OFFICE**

for enquiries about  
weddings, baptisms, hall bookings, etc.

**☎ 0300 111 8150**

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**Website:** [www.worthparish.org](http://www.worthparish.org)



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