



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh

3rd Sunday of Lent

Sunday 23rd March 2025

THIS WEEK:

Sunday 23rd March (3rd Sunday of Lent)

8am: Holy Communion (CW)

10am: Parish Communion

11.30am: Discovery Service

Monday 24th March

No Sewing and Knitting Group this week

Tuesday 25th March

12noon: Holy Communion (BCP)

2.30pm: Funeral of David MacLaren

5pm: Compline for Lent

Wednesday 26th March

9.30am: Toddler Praise (in church rooms)

2.30pm: Lent Course in Church

6pm: Lent Course in Church

Thursday 27th March

10am: Time for Prayer - 30 minutes led prayer with themed music

5pm: Compline for Lent

Friday 28th March

10am: Little Nic's Baby & Toddler Group (in church rooms)

10am: MU Communion

5pm: Compline for Lent

Saturday 29th March

9.30am: Posie-making in Church for Mothering Sunday

Sunday 30th March (Mothering Sunday)

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: All Age Communion

COLLECT:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

or

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith

FIRST READINGS: *Isaiah 55.1-9*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the

wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

GOSPEL READING: *Luke 13.1-9*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE :

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

SEASONAL PREFACE:

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service

you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and *saying*:

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

BLESSING:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing

WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- In the Anglican cycle of Prayer –Church of the Central America
- In the Diocese – for the students and staff of the Local Ministry Programme (led by its Dean, John Valentine)
- In the Parish – for Claire Oxborough who is training on the Local Ministry Programme

National and World Affairs:

- For Peace in the world, and especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia and Southern Sudan, giving thanks for the fragile negotiations which are taking place in an effort to secure peace in Ukraine and Russia.
- For all who suffer as a result of natural disasters

Community and Family:

- For those who live in New Park Road
- For all World Leaders, that they be guided to make good and just decisions.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Helen Allen, Jane Bloss, Hazel Cherry, Claire Curry, Tricia Hislop, Jack Lewis, Patrick, Jean Quallington, Valerie Spears, Margaret Tilbury, Val, Jeremy Watts, Sylvia Wright
- *(And for those with long-term prayer needs):* Baby Atticus and his parents Clare and Alex, Neil Charman, Annie Cotterill, David, Peggy Davis, Jean Dodd, Stella Goldsmith, James Goudie, Jane, Bryn Jones, Kirsty, Lottie Lack, Sheila McSorley, Mo, Judy Murdoch, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Sheelagh Poole, Ron Reynolds, Peggy Ringshall, Martin Root, Steff Shepherd, Sheila Smith, Dolores Spurgeon, Bert Steed, Val Thorogood, Marilyn Wood

The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, who have left us through the years, and especially at this time Janet Lillywhite, David MacLaren and Timothy Pearson

WEEKLY NOTICES:

CHURCH SPRING CLEANING – SATURDAY 12th APRIL The Annual Spring Clean of the Church will take place on Saturday 12th April, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Regular cleaners are encouraged to come, and any additional help will be very much appreciated. Everyone welcome.

Tea and coffee will be provided. If you can bring your own equipment, especially long-handled brooms and dusters for nooks and crannies, that would be very useful. Please contact Celia Jenkins, Tel 548824, if you need further information.

TICKETS We have two tickets to give away for a production of Billy Elliot The Musical Live, on Sunday 30th March, which is at the Capitol in Horsham. The production is for 2.30 pm. Please contact Gill Bowles if you would like them. Tel: 276213

NEXT MEN'S GROUP: PASTA AT THE RECTORY Our Men's Group meets once a month to share food, enjoy social time together, and have good

conversations together! Our next meeting is Friday 4th of April at 7pm! This time we'll be hosted by Roy at the Rectory for a Pasta Night! (let us know if you have any allergies/dietary requirements). Bring your own drinks, and please do let erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk know if you'd like to have more information and if you want to sign up. Each night we have between 15-20 men with lots of different interests and ages, and we'd love to add you into the mix!

RECTORY FETE Preparations are well underway for our Rectory Fete which is a fun family and community event we hold each year and an important source of funds for our church. We have The Horsham Brass Band coming back again this year, and a different steam engine!

But without people to run the stalls it will not be the success that it has been in past years.

At this time we have no one to run the following games:-

- **The Human Fruit machine.**
- **Splat the rat**

Please contact Richard on 07488593446 or richardctuck@btinternet.com

LOOKING FOR ACCOMODATION Harry Thomas, who regularly attends our church and works at Cedar Court is looking for accommodation in the village. He is looking for a single room, with a budget around 600£. Please get in touch with Erik if you know of a place or if you need any further information.

EASTER FLOWERS The Flower Team invite you to contribute financially to the Easter Flowers in Church. You can put money in an envelope, marked Easter Flowers, into the offering or to Nicola in the Church Office. Thank you.

BOWLS OF BULBS AND PERENNIAL PLANTS Thank you to all those who bought my bowls of daffodils. I sold them all and that has given me a good float for the RECTORY FETE PLANT STALL. If you return the empty bowls to me, or have any spare bowls, I would welcome them so I can do the same next year. PERENNIALS will benefit from division at this time if you didn't do it in the autumn. I would love to have any hardy Geraniums, Japanese

Anemones, Phlox, Rudbeckias, Echinacea etc. Many thanks in advance, Win Bracking (275573)

FLOWER FAIRIES ARE NEEDED AGAIN! Posy Making for Mothering Sunday will be on Saturday 29 March, 9.30 until 10.30 in church. Flowers provided, but greenery cut into short lengths would be welcome. Pop in for as long as you can, bring scissors or secateurs. Foliage can be left on Thursday 27th or Friday 28th in the buckets in Baynards Chapel. (Please be aware that MU Communion is in church on 28th at 10.00). No experience needed. It is easy and fun to do! Barbara Pearson 273724

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED A volunteer is required to Hoover and dust the church porch and font area on the week leading up to 4th Saturday. Equipment is provided and the cleaning can be done at a time in the week that suits you. Please contact Celia Jenkins on 548824 if you feel able to help.

JEWELLERY DONATIONS If you have any jewellery that you would like to donate to the jewellery stall at this year's Rectory Fete, please bring to the office/youth office. Thank you

LITTLE NIC'S TODDLERS URGENT We are on the lookout for more volunteers for our Parents, Babies and Toddlers group on Friday morning please. It involves helping to set out the toys and activities, making and serving coffee and drinks, engaging with parents and children and helping to clear up afterwards. It doesn't have to be a weekly commitment as we can add you to a rota but we'd love to have some more people on board. Plus it's fun!!

MEMORY LANE Team Planning Meeting 24th March for the Village Hall Concert in October.

On the 7th April, Dr Sue Tresman will be the speaker at the regular Arts Centre meeting.



MOTHERS UNION: We have a thriving Mothers' Union which meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Anyone is most welcome – contact Jane Etherington on 01483 274319 / etheringtonjane@yahoo.co.uk for more information



DONATIONS: You can make an online donation in support of church funds by visiting the [website](#), clicking on the red button or scanning the QR code.



KEEP IN TOUCH:

Rector - Revd Canon Roy Woodhams (*Day off: Monday*)

Tel: 01483 800655. Email: roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Curate - Revd Erik Heemsker (*Day off: Monday*)

Tel: 07368 871589. Email: erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Administrator – Nicola Craven-Smith

(Works Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30am-1pm)

Tel: 01483 273620. Email: nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Young People's Ministry – Claire Jones

Email: claire.jones@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer – Brian Boxall

Email: brian.boxall@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Or for Safeguarding emergencies phone the Rector

Diocesan Safeguarding Team

Tel: 01483 790379. Email: safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

Church Website: www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Do you have a question about faith or the church? Or would you just like to get to know us better? Roy and Erik are always very happy to meet for a cup of coffee, tea, or a pint, just get in touch with us using our contact details above!