



THE GRAPEVINE

The magazine for the Parish of St Nicholas with St Barnabas' Kenilworth

February 2024



www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk



Sunday Services

St Nicholas' Church and Parochial Hall

8.30am Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church,
Book of Common Prayer - on **first and third Sundays**.

10.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church, with singing.
Family Praise - on the **second Sunday**
These services will also be livestreamed on [YouTube](#)



StN Kids on the **first and fourth Sundays at 10.00am** in St Nicholas' Church

4.30pm Choral Evensong on the **second and fourth Sundays** **Winter time**
NO Evening Services at St Nicholas' Church on first, third or fifth Sundays

Online: **Sundays at 10.00am** - livestreamed our Eucharist Service from St Nicholas' Church via our [YouTube channel](#), where you can also watch previous services.
Visit the church website at www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk and find the link for **Worship from Home** or [click here](#) for ways to take part in Sunday services on-line.



St Barnabas' Church

11.00am Morning Worship, with hymns on the **first, fourth and fifth Sundays**

11.00am Holy Communion on the **second Sunday**

Café Sunday 10.00am 3rd Sunday, now at **St Barnabas' Church**, Albion Street

Mid-Week Services

Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.45am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas' Church

Tuesday 11.00am 'Leavenses at St Barnabas' Church,

Wednesday 10.00am Mid-week Eucharist - on the **first Wednesday of each month** at St Nicholas' Church,

Thursday 4.30pm Evening Prayer at St Barnabas' Church

Please check newsletter or church notices for changes to regular services



St Nicholas with St Barnabas Kenilworth
*A Parish in the Church of England Diocese of Coventry
and Registered Charity 1126227*
e-mail: office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk
www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

A Message from the Clergy - February 2024

The announcement which we have been waiting patiently for has finally happened and I am very much looking forward to welcoming the Revd Eira Hale as Vicar of St Nicholas' with St Barnabas'. The Institution, Induction and Installation of Eira is on **Monday 4th March at 7.30pm** and all are welcome to attend. This will herald a new chapter within the life of both churches and also in the wider parish. It is very much my intention to forge a fruitful working partnership under Eira's direction and continue my work and ministry here, both in the church and in the community. Please continue to pray for Eira and her family as they make the move to Kenilworth, for her Installation, the parish, and also for myself and the churchwardens.



As I write this in the final week of January the days are drawing out and the Lent (which is named for the lengthening of days) is only two weeks away. Ash Wednesday sets the tone and is a great way to start your Lenten journey, the service in church remembers the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry that was to follow, join with us at St Nicholas' as you prepare; the service of Holy Communion at 10.00am on Wednesday 14th February includes the Imposition of Ashes; ash from last year's palm crosses is used to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of each person present, accompanied by the words, *'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return.'* It is a strong reminder of our mortality and dependence on God for our life. We can echo the time Jesus spent in the wilderness with our own desert experience, Lent is a time for reflection, abstinence, and spiritual growth. Most of us lead busy lives, it is never easy to break out of the daily routine, to find a quiet time and space.

The default for many of us when we sit down is to immediately scroll through the emails on our phones, catch up with the dancing cats on YouTube or the vacuous lives of Instagram influencers. Make your Lenten Abstinence a break from these ingrained reflexes; reflect on where you feel your actions or words have fallen short, seek to make amends and ask for God's forgiveness – and then pick up your bible, have a program of reading to hand (just google Lent resources for ideas). The writer of the Psalms has some good advice, *'Be still and know that I am God.'* (Psalm 46 v 10.) Listen for the quiet voice of God, unfiltered by distractions. Lent is synonymous with spring, the season for growth if the conditions are right and so for spiritual growth the conditions also need to be right. In the Old Testament can be found a fertile spiritual soil –

I particularly like the Book of Ruth, the First Book of Samuel, the First Book of Kings and it is in 1 Kings 19 we come across Elijah taking refuge in the mountains from those seeking to kill him. Paradoxically Elijah hears the voice of God call him by name within, 'a sound of sheer silence.' (verses 12 - 13).

Strengthen your Lenten resolve this year to escape life's seemingly never-ending distractions, be still, dwell daily in your own mountain or desert refuge and then within the sound of sheer silence listen for God's voice as God calls you by name.

Richard

Reverend Richard Moore



***This month's cover:* The Rt Revd Ruth Worsley's visit to St**



Nicholas' Church, Sunday January 7th, seen with Revd. Richard Moore, enjoying a hot drink after the 10:00 service.

Bishop Ruth is Acting Bishop of Coventry during the Vacancy -in-See. You can find out more about her at this [LINK](https://www.coventry.anglican.org/appointment-of-bishop-ruth-as-acting-diocesan-bishop.php)

<https://www.coventry.anglican.org/appointment-of-bishop-ruth-as-acting-diocesan-bishop.php>

**THE
GRAPEVINE**



Dear readers ...

We hope you enjoy this edition of
The Grapevine magazine.

The Online edition is free. A small number of printed copies of
The Grapevine will also be available in church for £1.00

The online edition has interactive [links](#) which were all working at the time of the copy date. Should you find one not working, please contact me so that I can correct it.

You will find '**Print out and Play**' puzzles which you may find easier to complete if printed.

If you wish to contribute, my copy date is currently the 25th of the previous month, (see page 31 for details)

Keep safe and well.

Editor

St. Nicholas' Ladies Group

Dear All

The Ladies group enjoyed a social evening in January when we had brain teasers, quiz and a good chat. We were due to have some Country Dancing but unfortunately this did not happen due to illness, but it is still on the "back burner"!

Our meeting in February will take place **Tuesday 6th at 2.00pm** in St. Barnabas' Church when Jennifer Rigby will talk about "*No Going Back To Yesterday*". Jennifer is very funny; her talks are very enjoyable.

In March we are due to have Ian King, Crime Prevention Officer with Warwickshire Police, this will be on the 5th. March. This should be very informative.

All ladies can attend. Visitors are welcome and are charged £3.00 to cover expenses.

Coffee Wives at the Almanack

Coffee Wives takes place at the Almanack every third Monday of month at 10:30am.

Our next Coffee Wives are on **Monday, 19th February** and **18th March, 10.300am to 12.00 noon.**



Thanking you

Gill Peppitt, Secretary 01926 512209

Wednesday Study Group

The Wednesday Study group will meet on 14th and 28th February at 2.30pm in St Nicholas' Church.



We are continuing our studying of the book of Acts, seeing how similar difficulties experienced by the early Christian church are still the same today!

If you would like to join us we would love to hear from you.

Heather Alford 858308.

Our new vicar - R^{evd} Eira Hale

The Revd Eira Hale's Institution & Induction will be on **Monday, 4th March 2024**, at **7.30pm** at **St Nicholas' Church**.

Thank you for your prayers during this time. Please continue to pray for us, and for Eira as she prepares to leave her current church and move to Kenilworth to serve our church and community here.



FROM THE CHURCH WARDENS

The Leadership team would very much like to acknowledge Richard and Heather's devotion, hard work and unflagging energy in running the church's ministry during this interregnum. They would be the last people to seek praise but we would like to show our appreciation with a gift. Should you wish to contribute to this please place donations in an envelope and pass them to a warden, deputy warden or a sidesperson.

Thank you

David and Tim

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 14TH FEBRUARY, AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, 10:00AM

Ash Wednesday is a holy day of prayer and fasting in many Western Christian denominations. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday, *also known as Pancake Day*, and marks the first day of Lent.

The service will include the Imposition of Ashes, using ash from the last year's palm crosses to make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of those attending.



Smile Line: What do most people do on a date?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say, if you listen long enough. – Lynnette, age 8

The Parish Pump

Christmas at St Barnabas'

Rita Coalville



Rita and Mary



A thoroughly enjoyable and charming concert by the **Kenilworth Consort Singers**, on December 3rd. **Do watch out for this next year** as it is a lovely, fun way to start the Christmas season. A free event, (*donations accepted*), with refreshments provided but surprisingly under attended.



News from the Belltower

Sponsored Ringing

If you would like to sponsor the bells, perhaps to celebrate a special event or in memory of a loved one, please contact Cathy Weir on cathy.weir68@gmail.com or 07914 503004 to request a form. Sponsor forms can also be found at the back of church.

All money raised through sponsored ringing in 2024 will contribute towards the ongoing maintenance of the bells, in particular the biennial inspection and service which helps to ensure that the bells at St Nicholas' can continue to be rung safely.

A big thank you to everyone who sponsored the bells during 2023.



Cathy Weir

Friends of Abbey Fields - New Website

Have you seen the new website for the Friends of Abbey Fields? It is full of information and news of upcoming events. Well worth a visit

<https://www.friendsofabbeyfields.org.uk/>



A new year, a bright, fresh start, and Lego Club is back! The format stays the same – a warm welcome from 3.30pm on Tuesdays (apart from the first of the month), hot toast and jam in abundance, plus fruit and other snacks, Clare says a prayer and tells a Bible story at 4.00 - then we hit the bricks for an hour!

Our interpretations of the story in the model making are becoming ever more ingenious, thanks to the skill and imagination of the children, and especially the inbetweeners. (I use the term 'our' loosely here. My contribution at this stage is to cheer on from the sidelines and find suitable songs on YouTube to accompany the themes!) Our faithful helpers from St. Barnabas' keep the refreshments flowing, the children's carers join in enthusiastically and it is a fun way to learn together about what Christians believe.

After a busy, happy term we had a Lego party on 19th December. A tableful of food – pizza, chicken dippers, crisps, batons of carrots and cucumber, fruit, homemade Christmas-themed cakes and biscuits – went down a treat. There was a party bag for each of the children, each containing a Lego puzzle book, chocolate, Lego bracelets, plus a chocolate Santa sleigh – a chocolate bar complete with candy cane and some sweets, as well as a gift for Sid and Felix.

We are competing with a number of other after-school activities so we have plenty of space and Lego, thanks to so many donations, for more children to join us. We've an exciting, fun term ahead, with a celebration for Easter on 19th March. You can be sure that chocolate eggs will be involved! Children from 5-11 years and carers will always be welcome, even if they can't be with us every week.



Lego club - the Nativity model



Lego model of Jesus' baptism

The Flower Guild

Dear all,

A Happy New Year to everyone!

The Flower Guild spent some time reflecting on all the help we receive to enable us to achieve our floral displays. Of course, we are all volunteers but we couldn't manage without the support of family, church members and visitors. It reminded me that help, however small, can make a big difference. We are especially grateful for the kind donations towards the flowers. So this month the photos feature members of the Guild as they prepared for Christmas.



We hope to see you soon at our workshop events.

Kind Regards *Annie*



The Flower Guild - Christmas Flowers



See more Christmas Flowers at St Nicholas' on the back cover

The Flower Guild workshop

Happy New Year to you all. I do hope that you have had an enjoyable time and you are ready now for the excitement of the New Year.

Our first Workshop of 2024, will be on Saturday 3rd February , 10.30am in St Nicholas' Church, where the team will be ready to give you a warm welcome.

Workshop dates for 2024:- All are on a Saturday, 3rd February, 23rd March, 11th May, 13th July, 21st September, 23rd November, at 10.30am in St Nicholas' Church.

Last year we did a lot of modern designs so to ring the changes I thought we would go back to basic and start off with making a design in a box. This is a traditional shape using all the principals of design - a very useful shape in a box or a basket. Please tell your friends and families that everyone is always welcome to join us for a morning of flowers and chatter. For those who would like to join in the workshop after the demonstration, the recipe is below. If you have any queries, please contact me.

Barbara on 01926 777367

Recipe for a Diagonal Arrangement in a Box

A box with a lid. This can be a cigar box, tea chest, a chocolate box or a biscuit tin. Any box of your choice can be used. Not too big though, as you will need a lot of flowers.

Foam to fill, which can be bought from us on the day

A selection of small leaf foliage's e.g. Ivy, Hebe, Choisya, Euphorbia

I will use spring flowers but please use any flowers of your choice.

Bunch of tulips

Bunch of small Narcissus

Alternative choice , could be a bunch of Roses, a bunch of Freesia or any other small delicate flower of your choice

I shall look forward to seeing you and to a happy morning with flowers.

Barbara 01926 777367



St. Nicholas
Flower Guild
Demonstration and
Optional
Workshop
A Design in a Box
will be demonstrated.
Saturday 3rd February
10.30am, St Nicholas Church
Details- Barbara Sheppard 01926 777367
£3 including refreshments.
Everyone very welcome
Recipe: Box with a lid eg. Cigar, tea, Chocolates or biscuit tin, oasis, Bunch of Roses, Freesia or small delicate flowers OR Tulips and small Narcissus. Selection of small leaf foliage eg. Ivy, Hebe, Choisya, Euphorbia.



It seems a long time ago that we held the 2023 Christmas Tree Festival but we thought you would be interested in where and how the money that was raised is being used. We were able to send £2500 to Flourish, the charity we supported.

Sue Draper and I went to meet Charlotte Bevan who is CEO and founder of the Leamington based charity. Flourish is local; it is Christian based and supports girls between the ages of 10 and 18 who are struggling with all sorts of mental health issues. The money that we raised from the Christmas Tree Festival will be used to provide help for eight local girls. They will each attend an 8 week course either in school or locally. Flourish provides personalised and structured mentoring programmes using innovative, creative and relevant resources, shaped by girls, to help girls improve their self-esteem, emotional resilience and mental wellbeing. They are girl-shaped and female-led, providing the only specialist mentoring service in Warwickshire.

I think we all know that girls are more likely to suffer from difficulties surrounding mental health problems than boys. This can so easily impact upon their attendance at school and their aspirations for the future. It makes it really important that any glitches that emerge while girls are growing up and particularly in those teenage years, are nipped in the bud and not allowed to become entrenched. Flourish is such a vital resource for girls in our area. With their group and individual sessions for girls and their provision of workshops for parents Flourish provide support that can give that necessary encouragement to girls and parents at what can be a challenging time. Some of the comments from those who have experienced the help that Flourish can give speak for themselves.

"I have learnt that I am worthy. [Flourish] has helped me be happier about myself and more confident in myself" (Mentee)

"I have a more positive view on things; I feel more confident about the future; I feel more in control of my anxiety; I understand myself better." (Mentee)

"It was exceptionally helpful in understanding my teenage children and will help me to be more gracious when relating to them." (Parent)

Parochial Hall Refurbishment

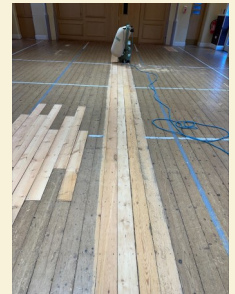
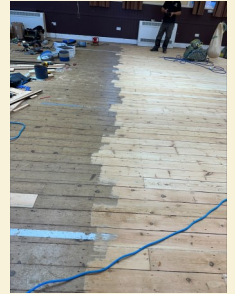
The Parochial Hall was closed after Stay and Play on Thursday 21st December

A gang of Volunteers cleared the piano and chairs from the Hall.

Then Floor Sand Solutions set to work to replace or repair damaged floorboards. Reclaimed boarding was used to get a good match, unlike the work which was done when the Hall was refurbished in 2011.

Working between Christmas and New Year, the floor was sanded, finishing with a fine Sandpaper. Three coats of two pack industrial lacquer were then applied and buffed. It was left to harden until Wednesday 3rd January when classes recommenced. Hopefully everyone will enjoy the bright clean smooth floor

Attached are some Before, During and After photos provided by John Shortt of Floor Sand Solutions plus a view of John operating one of his sanding machines on the final pass. 12 sacks of sanding dust were disposed of!



Malcolm Trewick

Don't forget those nestboxes! - February 14th

On 14th February our annual National Nestbox Week begins.

Now an established part of the ornithological calendar, it aims to encourage people to help out the birds in their gardens each Spring. Everyone is invited to put up more nestboxes in their local area, and a very helpful website gives full instructions on how to do this.

More details at: <https://www.nestboxweek.com>



Looking back



Folk dancing at the Castle on Boxing Day morning and the Lion's Duck Race at the Ford



Berries still on the Holly bushes in the Abbey Fields



The ford flooded, with a stranded car, and swans standing on the bank of the lake during the floods in January.

***This
Month in
History
1924***

and 100 years ago ...

on **5th Feb 1924**, BBC Radio broadcast the 'six-pips' Greenwich Time Signal for the first time.

On **12th Feb 1924**, George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue was performed for the first time, in New York.

The Parish Pump

Mothers' UNION

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH KENILWORTH

At the end of December St Nicholas' Branch spent £250 on books and sensory toys to give to two of our local Day Nurseries; (Castle Hill and Kenilworth Nursery, Bertie Rd). Thirty-two books in five different languages were distributed equally between the two nurseries, along with a number of small sensory toys. These were gratefully received, and children and parents were equally happy to have some bedtime reading.

Right: *Mary Leeson Mothers' Union Member and Rachel with some of the books.*



Our next Meeting in the **Parochial Hall on 21st February** will be our Annual General Meeting.

Please join us at 2.00pm if you would like to hear more.

Alison Wiggins

We are collecting toiletries again this year, and baby's nappies and wipes, honey, oil and tinned fish.

This is going to **Coventry Carries of Hope**, who support refugees, asylum seekers, and other migrants in Coventry.

There is a box at the back of St Nicholas' Church for your donations.

All these will be blessed at the **Wednesday 10.00am Communion Service on 7th February in St Nicholas' Church** before being taken to Carriers of Hope in Coventry.

A Quick Quote ... with Valentine's Day in mind



"Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction."

Antoine De Saint-Exupery

Snowdrop Teas

at St Nicholas Church

Sunday 1.30-4pm
18th February

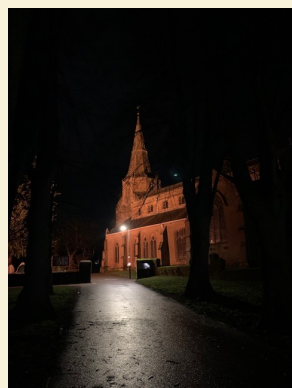
Pots of tea, coffee, homemade
cakes served in St Nicholas Church.

All income to Parish Funds.

Come and see the snowdrops in
the churchyard. All are Welcome.



*St Nicholas'
Church at night*



St Nicholas' Church Teas return **Sunday, 17th March, 12.00 - 5.00pm**

We welcome you all to come and enjoy pots of tea, filter coffee and homemade cakes, served Café style, in the beautiful surroundings of St Nicholas' Church and outside, weather permitting.

All income goes to Parish Funds.

Every second Sunday of the month, throughout the summer.

Volunteers to help with cake making and serving are always welcome.

Please contact Janet on 01926 857931



The last few months have been busy and encouraging for children and families work.

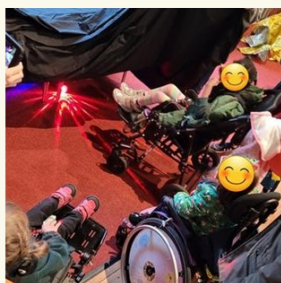
At Stay and Play we have been focusing on different bible stories and theming our sessions and crafts to complement these. We have looked at Noah's ark, Daniel in the Lion's Den, Joseph and his coat of many colours and, of course, the nativity. During our last session before Christmas, we had a party where we made party hats, had bubbles and fed Rudolph!



This term, we are focusing on the creation story and looking at a different day each week, again, theming the crafts to each one.

At the beginning of December, a Sensory Nativity happened in church, where we welcomed over 200 children and adults into church to experience the nativity story in a very sensory, hands-on way.

We had lots of groups from nurseries from the community attend and well as two groups from Evergreen special school in Warwick, which was fantastic and really encouraging to welcome people with additional needs into church. It was a great success and enjoyed by all.



Continued from page 18 - Children and Families

The crib service welcomed in lots of people, filling the church on Christmas eve and seeing lots of children dressing up to retell the story of the first Christmas.

As always, we value your prayers and support and please do contact me for any information or to volunteer!

Clare (kids@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk)



fun

StN kids is back!

games

Every 1st and 4th Sunday in the
month

Bible stories

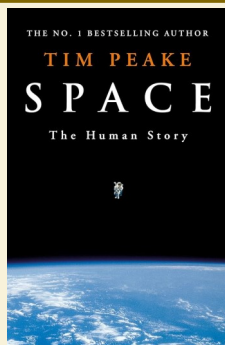
10 - 11am

songs

crafts

St Nicholas parochial hall
High Street Kenilworth

dancing



Space - The Human Story

By: Tim Peake

Publisher: Century



Tim Peake is a British Astronaut who went on a successful 186 day mission to the international Space Station with the European Space Agency in 2016.

He is also a test pilot and served in the British Army Air Corps.

This fascinating book is not about himself, except in passing, but about some of the brave men and women who make up the 628 remarkable people from a variety of nations who have left Earth and pioneered travel in Space from the 1950s until the present day.

This is the first book to attempt to chronicle ways the exploration of Space has changed in the last 60 or so years and how the qualifications and prior experience of astronauts have developed and how they might develop in future.

Perhaps Walter Cronkite of the CBS News best summed up the view of the early astronauts:

“You get the feeling that people think of these men not just as superior men but different creatures. They are like people who have gone into another world and returned, and you sense that they bear secrets that we will never entirely know”.

There are dangers at every stage of a journey into space from the blast off to the reliability of the equipment and the extreme difficulty of going outside the space craft while it is in orbit. But perhaps the most dangerous part is the re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere. Yuri Gagarin had a very difficult re-entry after he had circled the Earth and finally landed 250 kilometres from his designated landing area. In the words of Tim Peake, “Gagarin landed softly in a freshly ploughed field, somewhat alarming a small girl and her grandmother who were planting potatoes. He asked if there there was a telephone anywhere nearby, and was told the nearest phone was quite distant, and it was suggested that he borrowed a horse and cart to get there.”

Fortunately the local military turned up very quickly. They had seen his orange parachute, and supplied him with more appropriate transport!

This book is an exceptionally interesting and informative read. I heartily recommend it.

2nd February – Candlemas

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2nd February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child – to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So, where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day – hence the name, Candlemas.

The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

Lego Club @ St. Barney's

Lego Club is back for 2024!

Where? *St. Barnabas' Church, Albion Street, Kenilworth*

When? *Doors open for squash and hot toast at 3.30pm*

What? *At 4pm - a Bible story and lots of Lego until 5pm*

Who? *A warm welcome for ages 5 to 11 years and carers*

DATES for this term: 16th, 23rd, 30th: 20th, 27th February: 12th March and an Easter special on 19th March.

Then back for the summer term on 9th April

God in the Arts: Music - February 2024

'Glorious the song when God's the theme': Nunc Dimittis

This month, Revd. Michael Burgess looks at great works of music

St Luke tells us in his Gospel that the angels sang praises to God at the birth of Jesus, and he has given us three poems that have become part of Christian song: the Magnificat, the Benedictus and the Nunc Dimittis.

The first two are full of praise and rejoicing. The last comes as Mary and Joseph fulfil the Law of Moses and bring the child Jesus to Jerusalem. In the temple they meet Simeon and Anna. Simeon represents each of us who can look back over life with gratitude in the face of death as he says, 'Lord, now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace.' It is a story that has inspired preachers and artists, and also composers.

In the Christian Church these words of the Nunc Dimittis have become part of worship at the end of each day, not just the end of life. Cathedral and parish church choirs have sung settings of these words in that great tradition of Anglican choral music at Evensong – settings that have captured the sense of quiet resignation, but also conveyed the glory of the light that is Jesus shining for all people. Rachmaninov's setting is part of his Vespers, the night-long vigil sung in the Russian Orthodox Church on the eve of great feasts.

Rachmaninov composed the work (and it comprises 15 pieces) at great speed, but even so, the Vespers are now seen as one of the great masterpieces of religious music.

This was no more so than in his beautiful setting of the 5th canticle, the Nunc Dimittis. Just 36 bars long, it begins with a rocking, undulating figure in the upper voices. A solo tenor enters as the voice of Simeon, and it ends with the basses moving down to a low B flat: 'a sigh of wonder and resignation on the threshold of eternal rest and peace,' one critic has called it.

Rachmaninov later recalled, "After I played the passage at the end of the 5th canticle where the basses slowly descend to that low note, the conductor shook his head, saying, 'Now where on earth will we find such basses? They are as rare as asparagus at Christmas!' Nevertheless, he did find them." It was one of the composer's favourite pieces, and he asked for it to be sung at his funeral in the hope that it would send his 'ship of death gently towards the unknown region.'"

On 2nd February we shall hear these words as part of the Gospel on the feast of Candlemas. Simeon prays them because his cup is now overflowing. He has looked on the salvation of God. Music allows us to look on that glory and salvation also, and Rachmaninov, in his moving setting, has captured the calm trust of that moment, which shines out like the brightness of the light of Jesus.

Revd Michael Burgess - The Parish Pump

St Barnabas' Church News



‘TEA 4 ALL’ Saturday, 3rd February from 1.00pm till 4.00pm

We serve tea, coffee, cold drinks and delicious cake from 2.00pm, all free. Any voluntary donations go to church funds.

The doors are open from 1.00pm when you are welcome to join us for lunch before “TEA 4 ALL”

Warm Hub at St Barnabas’

A reminder that the Warm Hub at St Barnabas’ Church continues throughout the year. It is held on **Tuesdays** from **11.30 until approximately 1.30**. Drinks, food and fellowship are available to everyone, free of charge.

There are also books and jigsaws for people to borrow.

It is our hope that more people will join us on Tuesdays and that they can benefit from relaxing in a warm and friendly place. Chatting over a cuppa & socialising helps to reduce feelings of loneliness and is known to help with mental health.

Please tell those whom you think may benefit from the Warm Hub, that they would be very welcome to join us, they can bring their friends and family too; it’s for all ages.

‘Leavenses

Before the Warm Hub we have a service at 11 o’clock. The numbers for this service of ‘Leavenses are increasing, which is very encouraging. Please do come along for this informal service, consisting of a short talk, hymn and prayers.

This service began in 1998 and has become an important part of worship and outreach at St Barnabas’ Church. ‘ There is plenty of room for more people, so we hope to see you on Tuesday at 11 o’clock!

Friday mornings coffee and chat

Each Friday, from 10.15 to 11.30am. Please do come along and catch up with friends while enjoying a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits in St Nicholas’ Church.



On why rural church-goers like to freeze in church

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace,' the vicar of St James the Least of All, to his recently ordained nephew, Darren...



The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Winter certainly exposes the difference between those of you who live in cities and us rural folk. While you bask in your centrally heated flat, and complain about the half an inch of slush outside, we country folk wear overcoats in our houses, open all doors and windows to let the heat in and battle through snow drifts, measured in feet, to get the morning paper.

Colonel Wainwright has acquired a new toy: a snow blower, of sufficient power that I believe it could clear the Antarctic. He kindly volunteered to clear the paths around the church. Working outwards from the church door, the path to the church soon became snow-free. Unfortunately, he only realised when his job was complete that the blown snow then formed a ten-foot drift under the lych gate.

Miss Margison, ever helpful in the worst sense of the word, decided to unfreeze the pipes in the church hall. A blow torch was not the ideal solution, although the resulting burst did make some rather attractive ice sculptures round the kitchen equipment. The village badminton team that uses the hall has now temporarily changed sport to ice hockey.

Inevitably, congregations have soared. There is nothing like adversity for making people want to prove they have the moral fibre to overcome it. Much satisfaction seems to be obtained on discovering who has not dared venture out, which is taken as judgement on their strength of character. The Prentices upstaged most people by arriving on a sleigh. Mr Prentice was warmly wrapped in a travelling rug, while his wife pulled it. As they both explained, they couldn't possibly let the pony work in such conditions.

What I momentarily thought was applause during my sermon was merely people keeping their hands warm and the hymns were drowned out by the stamping of feet. Our organist complained that the cold made his fingers so numb that he couldn't play properly – although I didn't notice that things were much different from normal.

No, my dear nephew, a few flakes of wet snow may close your car park for health and safety reasons, but we shall continue to triumph heroically over adversity. We return home after Mattins, knowing we have proved our Christian commitment in being utterly uncomfortable.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

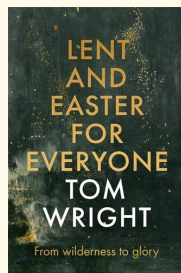
Books for Lent and Easter 2024

Lent and Easter for Everyone – from Wilderness to Glory

By Tom Wright, SPCK, £10.79

Join Tom Wright on a transformative journey through the Gospels, as he explores the life and impact of Jesus. Offering seven weeks' worth of daily readings and reflections, the book enables you to relive Christ's journey – from His temptations in the wilderness to the darkness of the cross and beyond, into the glory of Easter.

Whether used individually or in groups, Lent and Easter for Everyone can be a trusted companion, encouraging spiritual growth, deepening understanding, and fostering a renewed sense of hope and purpose in your Christian journey.

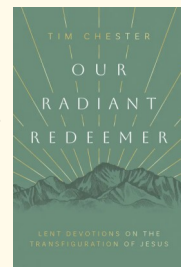


A Our Radiant Redeemer – Lent Devotions on the Transfiguration of Jesus

By Tim Chester, 10Publishing, £7.54

This devotional looks at the transfiguration of Jesus in depth, giving readers a glorious lens through which to view Jesus during Lent and Easter. As we see Jesus in His glory, we are reminded of how marvellous He is and how brilliant our future with Him will be. We will be moved to worship Jesus with our whole lives, giving thanks for all that He is and all that He has done.

Each of the 40 devotions includes prompts to reflect and to pray.

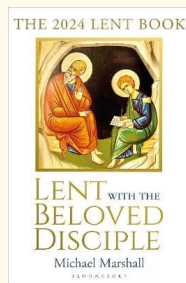


Lent with the Beloved Disciple – the 2024 Lent Book

By the Rt Revd Bishop Michael Marshall, Bloomsbury, £10.99

The 2024 Bloomsbury Lent Book invites you on a six-week journey in the company of the 'beloved disciple' as found in the narrative of the Gospel of St John. As the only disciple to have stayed close to Jesus at every stage from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion at Calvary, John records certain subtle details and signs which indicate a deeper and far lasting significance.

Michael Marshall explores what these signs are and how, with prayerful reflection, they draw us ever more deeply into the personal, eternal and cosmic significance and awareness of all that Christ accomplished by His death and resurrection. Ideal for both individual use and for small group study.

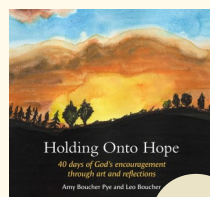


Holding Onto Hope: 40 days of God's encouragement through art and reflections

By Amy Boucher Pye & Leo Boucher, BRF, £12.99

Here is a 40-day journey exploring the themes of hope and new life, through vivid biblical images.

It starts with how all creation praises God, from the flowers of the field to the streams in the desert and the trees clapping their hands. It then explores the agricultural pattern of sowing, growing and harvesting, before moving to the gracious promises and invitations God makes to



Word Search For February

The month for romance



February is the month of romance. Millions of Valentine cards will be sent in the next week or two, as we celebrate our romantic love for that special person in our lives. But there are other kinds of love to celebrate: and on Candlemas we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby son to the temple to present Him to God. Jesus' whole life was a loving present to us from God. Through His death for us on the cross, and His resurrection, His love can now transform anyone's life. Romances can die, but God's love for us is always there. But it won't do us much good – unless we accept it!

N	L	A	A	I	B	E	P	E	N	G	A	I
A	R	H	S	R	C	R	R	P	R	T	S	K
E	E	C	H	N	T	A	E	D	D	N	R	I
R	O	M	A	N	C	E	S	N	T	A	E	S
N	O	I	T	A	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	S
P	F	E	L	P	R	I	N	P	M	U	E	A
S	R	S	T	O	R	T	T	I	P	A	N	M
O	L	F	S	F	V	N	P	H	L	T	T	E
R	G	E	Y	T	E	E	R	S	E	S	A	L
R	M	O	G	I	R	L	F	R	I	E	N	D
Y	B	A	B	N	F	A	D	O	A	R	C	N
S	F	T	R	C	A	V	E	W	I	N	E	A
T	E	E	R	Y	T	G	U	H	Y	A	E	C

The Easy one

		3		8			2	
8	7		2	9	3			
	4	2	6			5		
5	1			3			7	4
2	3						9	5
7	8			4			3	6
		7			9	4	1	
			4	5	1		6	7
	9			6		3		

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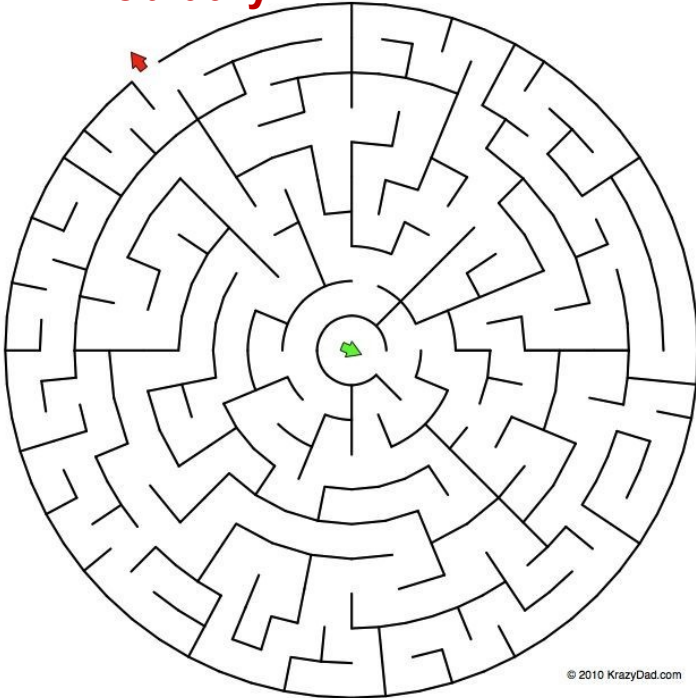
The Medium one

		5			7	3		
	1					2		
7				1	5			6
	5	9			6			
			3			4	2	
6			5	4				7
		1					8	
		8	2			6		

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Solutions on page 32 

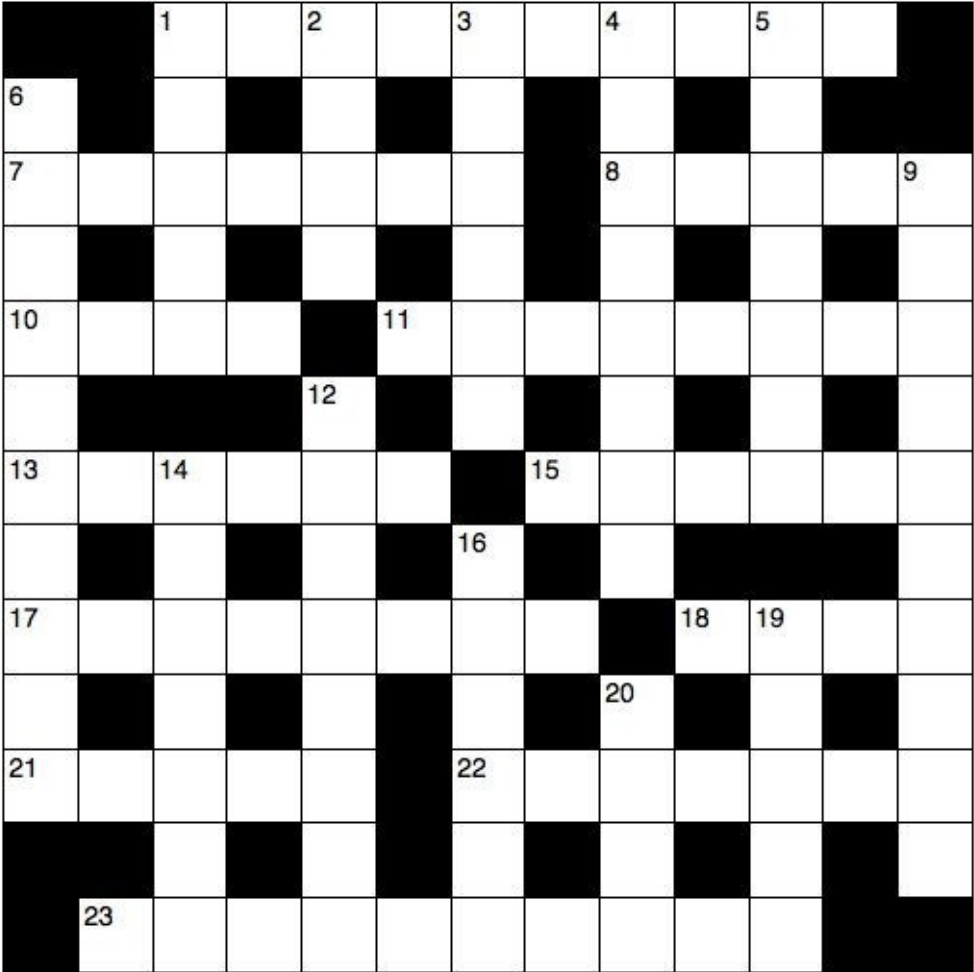
The MAZE for February



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Crossword for February

Print out and Play Puzzle pages



Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 10 Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11 Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13 Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15 Breakwater (6)

Crossword Clues continued (for crossword on page 28)

- 17 Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)
- 21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)
- 22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

Down

- 1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)
- 3 So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5 Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6 God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)
- 12 'The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my — ' (Luke 1:46–47) (7)
- 16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)

The Parish Pump

Solution on page 31 ➞

Why not sponsor the Flowers at St Nicholas' Church?

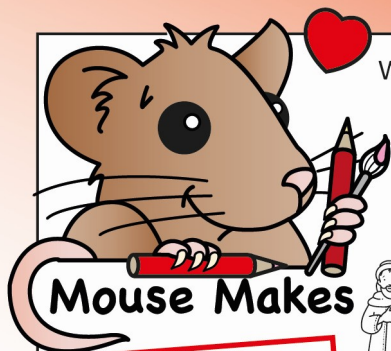


Celebrate a special occasion, a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc. or in memory of a loved one.

Flowers can be sponsored through the Flower Guild or contact the parish office.

(Contact details on Who's who, pages 34-35)





Mouse Makes

Who were the first couple?

_____ and _____

Genesis 2:22-25

Who's wife became a pillar of salt because she disobeyed the angel's warning?

_____ Genesis 19:26



Which of Laban's daughters did Jacob love?

_____ Genesis 29:18

Who was Moses' wife?

_____ Exodus 2:21

Who married Boaz to become King David's great-grandmother and a distant relative of Jesus?

_____ Matthew 1:5



FIND THE BIBLE VERSE

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter **before** it in the alphabet.

XIBU HPE IBT
KPJOFE UPHFUIFS,
MFU OPU NBO
TFQBSBUF.

NBSL
UFO WFSWF
OJOF

DID YOU KNOW?

King Solomon had **700** wives! They were princesses of royal birth and he loved them all, but his wives caused him to turn away from God
See 1 Kings 11:1-3

CONNECT THE BIBLE COUPLES

ADAM	ELIZABETH
ABRAHAM	MARY
ISAAC	HANNAH
JACOB	PRISCILLA
BOAZ	EVE
ZECHARIAH	RUTH
ELKANAH	REBEKAH
AQUILA	RACHEL
JOSEPH	SARAH

Which couple helped the Apostle Paul in his ministry?

_____ and _____ Romans 16:3

E E Z R E E L I Z A B E T H R
S V Q S L R Z J I B O A D A M
R E B E K A H O J R A O Q N O
U I S A A C A S A A Z P R N S
T H A Q N H Z E C H A R I A H
H R U T A E V P O A I E B H I
S A R A H L T H B M A R Y S D
P R I S C I L L A Q U I L A

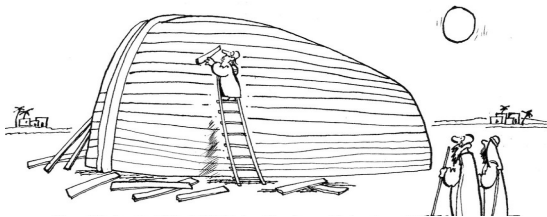
ABRAHAM
ADAM • AQUILA
BOAZ • ELKANAH
ELIZABETH
EVE • HANNAH
ISAAC • JACOB
JOSEPH • MARY
PRISCILLA
RACHEL
REBEKAH • RUTH
SARAH
ZECHARIAH

Holding Onto Hope ...

His people, such as how He writes eternity onto our hearts. There are compelling images of God as our help and refuge, our shade and rear guard. God also changes His people – clothes us, renews our minds and strengthens us. Finally, we focus on our new life in Christ through images such as new wineskins, the imperishable seed and the City to come.

The Parish Pump

Smile



“I haven’t the heart to tell Noah I think he’s got his plans upside down.”

Crossword solution, from page 28

		P	R	O	S	P	E	R	I	T	Y	
P		R		V		A		E		I		
R	A	I	S	I	N	S		A	D	M	I	T
O		D		D		T		F		O		R
V	I	E	W		C	O	N	F	E	T	T	I
I				K		R		I		H		D
D	I	S	T	I	L		G	R	O	Y	N	E
E		A		N		S		M				N
N	A	V	I	G	A	T	E		W	H	I	T
C		I		S		A		R		A		I
E	N	O	C	H		T	R	O	D	D	E	N
		U		I		U		M		E		E
	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	E	S	S		

The Parish Pump

Easy Sudoku February solution

Medium Sudoku February solution

1	6	3	5	8	4	7	2	9
8	7	5	2	9	3	6	4	1
9	4	2	6	1	7	5	8	3
5	1	6	9	3	2	8	7	4
2	3	4	8	7	6	1	9	5
7	8	9	1	4	5	2	3	6
6	5	7	3	2	9	4	1	8
3	2	8	4	5	1	9	6	7
4	9	1	7	6	8	3	5	2

4	8	5	6	2	7	3	9	1
9	1	6	8	3	4	2	7	5
7	2	3	9	1	5	8	4	6
2	5	9	4	8	6	7	1	3
8	3	4	1	7	2	5	6	9
1	6	7	3	5	9	4	2	8
6	9	2	5	4	8	1	3	7
5	4	1	7	6	3	9	8	2
3	7	8	2	9	1	6	5	4

Word Search from page 26 - Answers and solution

Valentine

Rose

Romance

Love

Present

Restaurant

Hearts

Kiss

hug

Girlfriend

boyfriend

fiancé

worship

repentance

Angels

baby

temple

Mary

Candlemas

presentation



The GRAPEVINE

Contributing to The Grapevine

There are 11 monthly editions of the magazine with December and January being a double edition.

If you wish to contribute an article for **The Grapevine**, it would be most welcomed. The deadline for all copy is currently the 25th of the preceding month when all items should be with the editor (Tony Shakespeare) at 7 Rosemary Mews, School Lane or email:

grapevine@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk



Smile



Next Sunday I think I'll do a new take on the Virgins and the Oil.

Church Newsletter

Make sure that you receive the Church Newsletter, delivered by email, for church news, updates, details of services and things taking place within the parish.

We use mailchimp to send out our weekly newsletter. *(It may go into your spam or junk folder if you cant see it).*

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please *unsubscribe* via the link at the end of the newsletter

If you are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, please go to the website, www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk scroll down to bottom of the page, add your email address in the box and click subscribe.

Subscribe to our newsletter

Enter your email address below to receive our weekly newsletter. Your address will not be used for any other purpose.

Email Address *

Subscribe

**The Parish Church of St Nicholas,
Abbey Fields, Kenilworth, CV8 1BP
And St Barnabas' District Church,
Albion Street, Kenilworth, CV8 2FY**
Registered Charity Number 1126227

Postal and Parish office address:

St Nicholas' and St Barnabas'
Church,
The Parochial Hall, 28, High Street,
Kenilworth, CV8 1LZ



Who's Who?

Vicar

Clergy Team	Rev. Richard Moore	07539 431186 richard@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk
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Readers	Heather Alford	858308
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Pastoral Assistant	c/o parish office	857509
Pastoral Care Coordinator		pastoralcstn@gmail.com

Churchwardens	Tim Wilkes	857299
	David Morgan	tbc

Parochial Church Council Secretary	Mark Lovegrove	07532 490990 markdlovegrove@btinternet.com
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Gift Aid Officer	Jane Kempton	janekempton@hotmail.com
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Administration

Parish Administrator	Debby Bailey	857509
Parish Office		office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Dail Lloyd	07975 807330 safeguarding@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk
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Bellringers	Cathy Weir	cathy.weir68@gmail.com
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Organist & Choir Master	James Hunt	c/o parish office 857509
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Flower Beds	Janet Cherry	857931
-------------	--------------	--------

Flower Guild	Annie Ralphs	annieralphs@virginmedia.com
--------------	--------------	--

Who's Who? *(continued)*

Children and Young People

Children and Families Worker Clare Edwards 07862 303317
kids@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Communications

Website Controller: Andy and Liz Cherry
web@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Magazine Editor Tony Shakespeare 07861 762477
grapevine@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Diocesan website www.dioceseofcoventry.org

Prayer and Fellowship

For detail of our various groups, contact the office who will be able to pass your details onto the group leader.

Parish Office

The Parish Office is located in the Parochial Hall, High Street.

The Office is open and you can contact Debby, the Parish administrator during the usual office hours

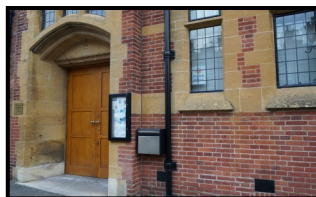
10am – 1pm on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday. Otherwise, if you have an urgent enquiry which needs responding to in a time sensitive manner please contact the churchwardens or Revd Richard Moore.

Email or telephone:

01926 857509 | office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Our postal address is: **St Nicholas' and St Barnabas' Church,
The Parochial Hall, 28 High Street, Kenilworth, CV8 1LZ.**

To post anything by hand, there is a post box outside the Parochial Hall



Why not celebrate a special occasion, a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc. or in memory of a loved one by **sponsoring the flowers at St Barnabas' Church.**

Sponsor forms are on the notice board at St Barnabas' Church. or ring Rita on 07450069399, or speak to her in church.

Christmas Flowers at St Nicholas' Church

