

The Parish of
**ST NICHOLAS,
SUTTON**
Priest-in-Charge:
Revd Frances Arnold

The Rectory,
34 Robin Hood Lane,
SUTTON
SM1 2RG

22 November 2020

St Nicholas Church and Coronavirus (22)

(letter from Revd Frances, 8 November 2020)

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

Although not unexpected, it is a blow that we are in lockdown again for at least a few weeks. As part of the new arrangements, church services have once again been suspended until further notice.

This time we are allowed to keep the church open for individual prayer, so we will stick to our current opening hours:
Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm

Do call in if your exercise route takes you past St Nicholas. It will be lovely to see you and it will give you the opportunity to offer a prayer for the nation as the Archbishops have asked us to. Whether at church or at home, please pray that people will find strength and hope in these difficult times: pray for those who are vulnerable or afraid, for themselves or the people they love. Give thanks for those who work in our medical and support services and pray that those who are researching prevention and cure will soon succeed.

Please let me know if there is anything we can do to support you during lockdown and continue to pray for and keep in touch with each other.

The Dean of Southwark, The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, has written a prayer for the second lockdown which you might wish to use:

Lord Jesus,
who entered the locked room
and made yourself known to your friends;
be with us in this lockdown
that we may be aware of your presence
and know your blessing upon us. **Amen.**

Do be assured of my prayers for you.
May almighty God keep us safe in body, mind and spirit as we ask him in Jesus' name.
With warmest good wishes to you all,

Frances

Church of England worship

You can find national online resources including weekly streamed services and daily audio at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online> as well as additional worship provision on the BBC, for example Radio 4 Sunday morning worship at 8.10am (or later using BBC Sounds) and the service on BBC1 later in the morning.

Sunday Services from the Bishop of Southwark's Chapel and Southwark Cathedral

From Sunday 8 November Bishop Christopher will be streaming a Eucharist from his Chapel at Bishop's House at 9.30am.

It can be found on the Diocesan Facebook and YouTube feeds and on Bishop Christopher's Twitter feed. @BishopSouthwark and on the Diocesan Facebook and YouTube channels at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthwarkCofE> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/SouthwarkDiocese>

Southwark Cathedral will continue to stream Morning Prayer from the Cathedral each day at 9am.

Night Prayer will continue to be streamed at 8pm Monday to Saturday and at 6pm on Sunday.

The Sunday Eucharist will be streamed at 11am.

These can all be found on the Cathedral website and the Cathedral Facebook and YouTube channels.

Archbishops' Call to Prayer

The Archbishops have called for 28 days of prayer starting from Thursday 5 November and continuing until the end of the period of lockdown. We are invited to prayer throughout this period but particularly to prayer together, wherever we are, at 6pm each day.

The Archbishops have asked that we focus on prayer and service.

We are asked to particularly focus our prayers on those who are isolated and alone, seeking God's wisdom as to how we can best serve them during this second lockdown.

Staying in touch

Stay in touch about ways that we can care for you and pray for you. I'd be glad to hear from you.

My contact details are: rector.stnicholassutton@gmail.com

020 8642 3499

In particular can I make a plea to those who find themselves in pressing need (or who know of others of our number in difficulties)? Please don't feel that you have nowhere to turn. I really want you to contact me or the churchwardens in the first instance. When you do, we will either be able to help you ourselves or point you in the right direction for access to food or emotional support for people who are struggling during the pandemic.

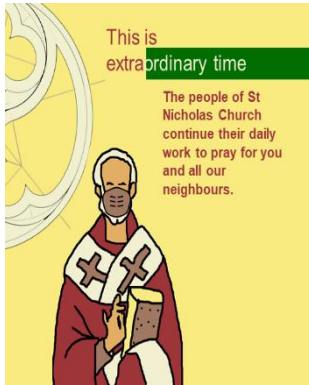
Love one another

Please continue to watch out for each other and contact me or the wardens, John Kerr or Geoff Rendall, if you are concerned for someone.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, SUTTON

22 NOVEMBER 2020, CHRIST THE KING, SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT



Southwark Diocesan Prayer Calendar (monthly)

can be found at

<https://southwark.anglican.org/information/resources/prayer-calendar/>
(this includes the Anglican Cycle of Prayer)

PRAYERS for...

- those suffering the economic, psychological & social effects of the crisis
- the disadvantaged & the vulnerable
- those in authority, including our local leaders in the Council, the Police, the NHS & our MP's
- essential workers including NHS/Care Workers, Emergency Services, Refuse Collectors/Retail Staff
- faith leaders
- those who mourn

Worship

There will be an Order of Service for 10.30am Sunday morning worship each week. I will be leading worship from The Rectory. Please join me by following the Order of Service (which is sent to you and can be found on the website) and singing confidently in your own homes. I think of you all and pray for you each day.

Sunday 22 November is the festival of **Christ the King** and the Sunday next before Advent

I encourage you to make a habit of daily prayer, whether *A Way of Daily Prayer* (attached, or on website under Useful Information-Service Sheets);

Common Worship *Daily Prayer* <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer;>
or *Book of Common Prayer*.

Bible readings for Morning and Evening Prayer:

Sunday 22 November next before Advent

MP Isaiah 4.2-5.7, Luke 19.29-38

EP 1 Maccabees 2.15-29, Matthew 28.16-end

Monday 23 November *Clement, bishop, martyr, c.100*

MP Isaiah 40.1-11, Revelation 14.1-13

EP Isaiah 14.3-20, Matthew 9.18-34

Tuesday 24 November

MP Isaiah 40.12-26, Revelation 14.14-end of 15

EP Isaiah 17, Matthew 9.35-10.15

Wednesday 25 November

MP Isaiah 40.27-41.7, Revelation 16.1-11

EP Isaiah 19, Matthew 10.16-33

Thursday 26 November

MP Isaiah 41.8-20, Revelation 16.12-end

EP Isaiah 21.1-12, Matthew 10.34-11.1

Friday 27 November

MP Isaiah 41.21-42.9, Revelation 17

EP Isaiah 22.1-14, Matthew 11.2-19

Saturday 28 November

MP Isaiah 42.10-17, Revelation 18

EP Isaiah 24, Matthew 11.20-end

Prayer List – Stan, Roger, the David family, Mary, Mark, John
Departed – Graham Hall, Betty, Gareth, Ray

Charity of the Month for November is Royal British Legion

You can make a contribution in the collection box just inside the entrance to the church on Thursdays 10.30am-12.30pm.

NOTICES

GIVING DURING DIFFICULT TIMES. THANK YOU to those of you who are able to continue supporting the church by your regular giving during these unprecedented times. This is greatly appreciated.

The church is still functioning at local, national and international level; and it continues to need the financial, as well as the spiritual, support of its members, not least to maintain its support of local parishes and communities.

St Paul's letters are full of useful advice about Christian giving, especially 2 Corinthians, chapters 8 and 9; he even gives specific directions in I Corinthians 16.2. It is almost as if he had foreseen our needs nearly 2,000 ago.

With renewed thanks for all your support in word, deed and prayer.

The Finance Team has asked that anyone who usually uses giving envelopes or gives cash and has been saving up during lockdown could now let the church have cheques for any monies they wish to give.

The Finance Team obviously wishes to avoid having to handle/count/bank any cash so please do not give notes or coins.

Cheques should be made payable to "St Nicholas PCC" and can be taken to church when it opens or sent to

Mr Alistair Cruickshank, 3 Park Ave, Carshalton SM5 3ES.

Or, if you can, please make a bank transfer to:

St Nicholas PCC

Metro Bank

Sort Code: 23-05-80

Account Number: 18151887

PRIVATE PRAYER on Thursdays, 10.30am-12.30pm

You will find details about what to expect in the letter 'Reopening for private prayer & reflection' on the website www.stnicholas.suttonteam.org.uk and in the Welcome video <https://youtu.be/O-3a51pXDAo>

CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS! St Nicholas' Mothers' Union will be stirring up the Christmas puddings via Zoom this year on Stir Up Sunday, 22 November! There will obviously be fewer opportunities to sell them, so we are taking orders! We can make you a family sized pudding (£5) or individual sized pudding (£2).

Please let Nicki know (by text 07702 543765, email nicki@abstraining, or phone 020 8770 1075), giving us your name, address and contact details, the size you would like, and any dietary requirements for your pud, i.e. vegetarian, nut free, alcohol free, etc. Thank you!

IT WOULDN'T BE ST NICHOLAS WITHOUT A RAFFLE! For the first time in living memory, we are not able to hold our Patronal Lunch this year, but we can still have a raffle!

This year it is a virtual raffle with a real prize! We are asking you to pledge the money for your virtual tickets. Tickets are £1 each, and all profits raised will go to St Nicholas Church.

This is what you have to do:

Let us know by text (07702 543765), phone (020 8770 1075) or email (nicki@abstraining.com) how many tickets you would like and how much you are pledging. For example, "I would like to buy 5 tickets and hereby pledge £5". Please note, you will not receive the paper tickets.

The raffle will be pulled on St Nicholas Day, 6 December, and the grand total of pledges announced at the same time!

CATHEDRAL ADVENT PROCESSION Southwark Cathedral will be premiering its Advent Procession on **Advent Sunday, 29 November at 6pm**. All are welcome to join this special service online to mark the beginning of the season of Advent. The Cathedral Lay Clerks will lead everyone from darkness to light, in the candlelit Cathedral as we celebrate the biblical figures heralding the birth of the Messiah. The service will be available online at this link: <https://cathedral.southwark.anglican.org/worship-and-music/worship/live-service-stream/> should you wish to use it for your own online Advent devotions.

www.stnicholas.suttonteam.org.uk

Contact details:

Parish Office, email: administrator@suttonteamministry.org Tel: 020 8643 8271

Rev Frances Arnold (Priest in charge – Rector designate), email: rector.stnicholassutton@gmail.com Tel: 020 8642 3499

All entries for the notice sheet should be emailed by **10pm on Wednesday** each week to: PCCSecretary.StNicholas@suttonteamministry.org and administrator@suttonteamministry.org