



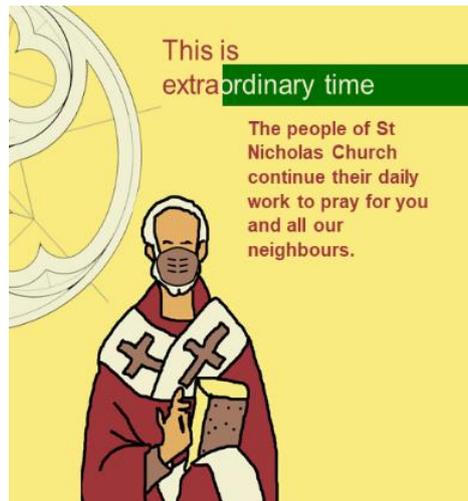
The Parish of
**ST NICHOLAS,
SUTTON**

*Priest-in-Charge:
Revd Frances Arnold*

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

26/29 July 2020

St Nicholas Church and Coronavirus (19)



Dear Sisters & Brothers,

"How amiable are thy dwellings thou Lord of Hosts" *Psalm 84*

We are pleased to be opening St Nicholas Church tomorrow, 30 July, for the first time since lockdown began on 23 March. You are invited to come for private prayer and reflection. Risk assessments have been conducted, guidelines observed and we've been working hard to make sure the church can open again safely. Thank you to the PCC and to all who have helped make this possible.

It will be different to the 'Open Thursdays' we are used to, but we are thankful to God that we can open the church once again for private prayer.

It will take us longer to re-open for public worship, although planning is underway. We will let you know as soon as possible when this is likely. In the meantime, you will find a Sunday service booklet and readings sheet available on the website each Sunday for you to worship at home and the Southwark Archdeacons have made available a series of online sermons for parishes during August (please look at the website).

Certain groups of people may be at increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19, including people who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions. Those who are considered to be extremely clinically vulnerable to COVID-19 will have been advised to shield. We will all have our own feelings about coming back to church, as with other restrictions being eased; you are most welcome as and when you feel ready. The church will continue to be open for private prayer each Thursday from 10:30am-12:30pm, depending on the current situation.

We ask for your prayers and understanding as we open this sacred and special place again.

God bless,

Revd Frances, John Kerr, Geoff Rendall

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.

Bishop Christopher's service is available on his Twitter stream:

@BishopSouthwark and on the Diocesan Facebook and YouTube channels at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthwarkCofE> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/SouthwarkDiocese>

The Southwark Archdeacons have been putting together a series of Sermons and Services, which will be streamed in full each Sunday in August on our Diocesan Youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/southwarkdiocese>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthwarkCofE>) platforms and available to rewatch.

Sunday 2 August Eucharist with Sermon (Archdeacon of Wandsworth)

Pastoral Network

A big thank you, as ever, on behalf of all of us, to the Mothers' Union/Lunch Team joint initiative who are continuing with their marvellous work in co-ordinating telephone/WhatsApp support and supply of provisions to those self-isolating. A particular thank you to Nicki Richards, Jeff Richards, Emma & Keith Cann, Liz & Chris Cann, Lily Bande, Helen Yately, Paul Butler and Diane Young.

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

I will be taking leave during August. Please contact the Churchwardens in my absence.

John Kerr 020 8642 3682

Geoff Rendall 0785 660 4522

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.

And 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.

Thank you too for your continued prayers and support.

With warmest good wishes to you all,

Frances

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

26 JULY 2020 7th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

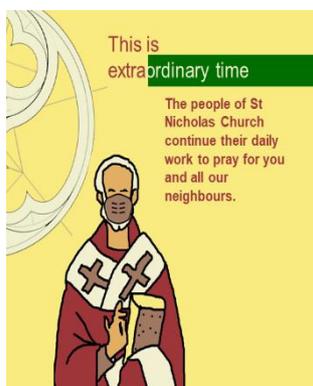
IN THE PAST WEEK...

BLESSINGS...

- NHS staff
- Sutton Community Support Hub
- Shops open in High Street
- Waterstones
- Sutton Police
- Bus drivers
- Street Pastors
- Picnics
- Bubbles
- Less pollution

WE MISS...

- Worshipping together
- The organ and the piano and Pam, Isabella and Paul's playing
- Sharing the Peace (hands or elbows)
- Celebrating birthdays together
- Coffee on Sundays and soup on Thursdays
- Light coming through the church windows



Thanks to Jeff Richards for producing this Trinity poster. (You can see the posters outside church)

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THIS WEEK I...

- Took part in a weekly meeting with the Churchwardens
- Chaired my first PCC meeting by Zoom (we hadn't met since 5 February!)
- Continued with preparations for re-opening the church
- Took part in a video with Jeff and Nicki Richards, which shows people what to expect when they return to St Nicholas

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
- the family and communities mourning George Floyd & those who stand against racism and social inequality, striving for social harmony

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 2 August is the **8th Sunday after Trinity**

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 2 August Trinity 8

MP 1 Maccabees 3.1-12, 2 Peter 1.1-15

EP 1 Kings 10.1-13, Acts 13.1-13

Monday 3 August

MP 1 Samuel 14.24-46, Luke 23.13-25

EP Ezekiel 28.1-19, James 2.1-13

Tuesday 4 August

MP 1 Samuel 15.1-23, Luke 23.26-43
EP Ezekiel 33.1-20, James 2.14-end

Wednesday 5 August *Oswald, king, martyr, 642*

MP 1 Samuel 16, Luke 23.44-56a
EP Ezekiel 33.21-end, James 3

Thursday 6 August *Transfiguration of Our Lord*

MP Ecclesiasticus 48.1-10, 1 John 3.1-3
EP Exodus 34.29-end, 2 Corinthians 3

Friday 7 August

MP 1 Samuel 17.31-54, Luke 24.13-35
EP Ezekiel 34.17-end, James 4.13-5.6

Saturday 8 August *Dominic, priest, founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221*

MP 1 Samuel 17.55-18.16, Luke 24.36-end
EP Ezekiel 36.16-36, James 5.7-end

Prayer List – Barbara, Vere, Stan, Roger, Kathleen **Departed** –Pearl

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

OUR CHURCH SERVICES AND THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH COVID-19 Thank you for your patience as we worked to open St Nicholas for private prayer. It will take us longer to re-open for public worship, although planning is underway. We will let you know as soon as possible when this is likely. In the meantime, you will find a Sunday service booklet and readings sheet available on the website each Sunday for you to worship at home.

THANK YOU to Jeff Richards for his latest video – *Welcome to St Nicholas* (what to expect when you visit), which you will find on our website (Latest News) and on Facebook. And thanks for all his inspiring creativity (videos, rambles & posters) during Lockdown.

Here's the link <https://youtu.be/O-3a5IpXDAo>

FROM SUTTON COMMUNITY WORKS

Sutton Foodbank - we need more volunteers (Please see attached advert)

We are also recruiting new **Street Pastors**. Our next training is in September - Please email Caroline at:

admin.sutton@streetpastors.org.uk

School Pastors - Similarly we are going back into 4 secondary schools in September plus a new grammar school. We have training for School Pastors in September.

Please email: sutton@streetpastors.org.uk for more info

RAMBLES IN THE CHURCHYARD – permitted! Jeff Richards is posting a series of Churchyard rambles.

Here is a handy short link <https://bit.ly/ChurchyardRambles>

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 12 August The **Annual Inspection of the Gibson Tomb** will be carried out by the Rector and Churchwardens in accordance with the will of Mary Gibson, but this will not be a public event this year.

Thank you for your understanding.

www.stnicholas.suttonteam.org.uk

PCCSecretary.StNicholas@suttonteamministry.org