

The monthly newsletter from the churches of St Nicholas Stevenage + St Mary's Graveley





www.saintnicholaschurch.org.uk www.stmarysgraveley.org.uk

Dear friends,

September 2025

Across town, schools are soon to be resuming for the new academic year. We have been praying at church that they will have a good start and a blessed term ahead.

It is good for all of us of whatever age to occasionally re-commit to learning and development. The book of Proverbs reminds us where to begin:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

- Proverbs 9:10

The disciples 'feared' Jesus when he stilled the storm, in the sense that they were in awe of Him and his effortless power over titanic forces of nature. If we have that same awe of Jesus, we have attained to the beginning of wisdom.

From that beginning, we can go far into wisdom (which is more precious than mere knowledge) by meditating on His word. So may we all stand in awe of the Lord.

Revd Edward Keene

Rector, Stevenage (St Nicholas) and Graveley with Chesfield (St Mary)

SUNDAY WORSHIP



7 September Psalm 27 (SotW)
14 September Psalm 28 (HC)
21 September Psalm 29 (SotW)
28 September Psalm 30 (HC)

TYPICAL MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES



- Monday 2pm Home Group (Poplars/Shephall)
- Monday 8pm **Home Group** (near St Nicholas)
- Tuesday 2pm-4pm St Nicholas (usually) open for visits and quiet prayer
- Wednesday 12noon-2pm St Nicholas (usually) open for visits and quiet prayer
- Wednesday 7pm Evening Prayer
 (Prayer and Praise on the Wednesday following the first Sunday of the month)
- Wednesday 8pm Home Group (near Oval)
- Thursday 10am-12pm St Nicholas open during church maintenance team operations
- Thursday 2:15pm Weekly Prayer Meeting
- Thursday 3pm-4pm drinks & biscuits drop-in
- Thursday 8pm **Home Group** (St Nics estate)
- Thursday 8pm Home Group (Chells Manor)
- Friday AM/PM door-to-door outreach <u>Calendar – St Nicholas Church</u> (saintnicholaschurch.org.uk)

Flower arranging – Please see Chris Chambers for more details – full training given. Occasional <u>Thursdays</u> 10am-12pm, & 6.30pm-9pm at St Nicholas. More details on the church noticeboard. **Bellringing practise** – Various times

Other midweek activities, including courses, special services and events are as announced.

Please speak to the Rector for more details of any of the above

EVENTS COMING UP



Annual Benefice Away Day – please speak to or email David to sign-up or for more details. Over 80 of us are signed up already. Don't miss out! Those who have signed up should have received an email with dietary needs, travel, and donation details.



Please speak to Amanda Steele for more details or to sponsor riders.



Church Walking Group – The next walk is at 10am on Friday 26th September, location TBC, and will include sponsorship in aid of local charity Cancer Haircare. Latest updates on our webpage: Next Group Walk - St Nicholas Church

Weston Concerts Free Organ Recital Saturday September 27th 7.30pm Holy Trinity Church, Weston

Anne Page is well known to audiences in the UK and abroad as an organist of great virtuosity, integrity and musicianship. She made her London debut at the Royal Festival Hall playing 20th century masterpieces, and an international recital career followed. During 2011/12 she performed the complete organ works of Bach on 14 instruments in 11 chapels and churches

Anne's recital will last an hour and is completely free, though we welcome donations

In the afternoon (2pm till 4 pm) Anne will run a masterclass for bursary students of the Beds and Herts Organists Association. Anyone is welcome to attend to hear the participants.



FURTHER AHEAD



Weddings coming up in the churches:

- Sat 27 Sept: David Taylor & Alys Kent
- Fri 3 Oct: Tony Baccas & Jo Quinlivan
- Sat 4 Oct: Robert Coverdale & Liz Bond
- Thus 23 Oct: Jon Maggs & Chermaine Fraser



Do you struggle to know how to pray for other people? Would you like confidence to do so? Then come along to this focus session and grow in exercising the gift of prayer.

KEY CONTACTS

RECTOR: Revd Edward Keene, St Nicholas House, 2A

North Road, Stevenage, SG1 4AT

Day off: Mondays rector@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk

ASSISTANT MINISTER: David Sydenham assistant@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk

CHURCH WARDENS:

St Nicholas: Karen Walker – 07427 576870 St Nicholas: Paul Schimmel - 07743 786414 churchwardens@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk Two vacancies for churchwardens

Contact Form - St Mary's Church, Graveley

(stmarysgraveley.org.uk)

General enquiries - 07733 995779 admin@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk