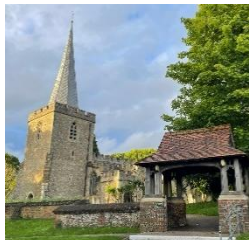




THE HERALD

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



www.saintnicholaschurch.org.uk

www.stmarysgraveley.org.uk

Dear friends,

October 2025

As our harvest celebrations approach, I am reminded of how much we have to be thankful for, and how naturally we are not inclined to spend time in thanksgiving.

The New Testament is filled with exhortations for thanksgiving, for example:

*And whatever you do,
whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

(Colossians 3:14)

Even the Lord Jesus took time to give thanks to the Father before serving food (see Matthew 14:19, 15:36 and 26:26) – despite being the eternal Son through whom all things were created! (Colossians 1:16)

Most of us will be in the habit of giving thanks for food before we eat it. Why not look out for other opportunities throughout the day, whatever you are doing, to give thanks to God the Father through the Lord Jesus, for all of His goodness to us?

David Sydenham

Assistant Minister, Stevenage (St Nicholas)
and Graveley with Chesfield (St Mary)

SUNDAY WORSHIP



5 October	Psalm 31	(Harvest SotW)
12 October	Psalm 32	(HC)
19 October	Psalm 33	(SotW)
26 October	Psalm 34	(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)
 - Thursday 8pm – **Home Group** (Oval)
 - Friday AM/PM – door-to-door outreach
- [Calendar – St Nicholas Church](http://saintnicholaschurch.org.uk)
saintnicholaschurch.org.uk

Flower arranging – Please see Chris Chambers for more details – full training given. Occasional Thursdays 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

Harvest Thanksgiving
Sunday 5th October

Extra gifts can be donated to the Foodshed via donation baskets around the town in:

- Asda
- Tesco: Broadwater, Town Centre
- Co-op: Symonds Green, Oval, Shephall
- Nationwide
- Sainsbury's: Corey's Mill
- Community Centres: St Nicholas, Hampson Park, Oval
- The Geek Retreat
- St Peter's Church, Broadwater
- Grace Community Church
- The Coptic Orthodox Church Centre UK
- Bunyan Baptist Church

foodshed

HARVEST WISHLIST

Tinned Meat	Pasta Sauce
Tinned Fish	Beans + Pulses
Tinned Fruit	UHT Milk
Tinned Veg	Crisps
Coffee	Biscuits +
Sugar	Treats

Harvest Thanksgiving – Sunday 5 October at St Nicholas and St Mary's. St Nicholas will be collecting donations of dry goods and non-perishable items for The Foodshed, please see the notice above for items they particularly need.

Donations from St Mary's, especially of fresh produce, will be given to The Haven homeless shelter.

Focus session:
How to pray for others

3pm - 4pm Sunday 5 October
St Nicholas Parish Room

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.

Bring and Share Harvest Lunch - Sunday 12th October at 12.30pm at St Nicholas. Sign-up sheet in church, or speak to Amanda Steele or Cathy Bibby.

Church Walking Group – The next walk is at 10am on Friday 31st October, location tbc. Latest updates on our webpage: [Next Group Walk – St Nicholas Church](#) As of 29 Sept, the Charity wig walk on the 26 Sept, for Cancer Hair Care, has raised £1185. Thank you to all who have donated.

Serving Opportunities & Needs at St Nicholas - If you feel you could help with:

- AV operating - please speak to Edward Kaahwa or Dan Seifi-Lorimer
- Welcoming on Sunday mornings - please speak to Steve Bamford
- Church-sitting on Tues (2-4pm) or Wed (12-2pm) - please speak to Karen Walker



Weddings coming up at St Nicholas:

- Fri 3 Oct: Tony Baccas & Jo Quinlivan
- Sat 4 Oct: Robert Coverdale & Liz Bond
- Thus 23 Oct: Jon Maggs & Chermaine Fraser

FURTHER AHEAD

Equipping the Saints: *Is God Green?* – A presentation on science, environment, and the gospel by Professor Richard Buggs of Kew Gardens, a Christian evolutionary biologist. Sunday 9 November 5pm to 6:30pm.

RECLAIMING MASCULINITY

Being the man God wants you to be

EAST
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 15
2025

Cornerstone Church,
Nottingham

Standard Ticket: £15
Reduced*: £10

Book online
Speak to David S for more info

Reclaiming Masculinity Event – Saturday 15 November –

if you'd like to sign up, please follow this link: <https://www.christianconventions.org.uk/midlands-mens/reclaiming-masculinity-2025-east/>

And please let David Sydenham

assistant@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk know when you've signed up so everyone can go together as a group.

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

St Mary's: Two vacancies for churchwardens

Contact Form – St Mary's Church, Graveley

stmarysgraveley.org.uk

General enquiries – 07733 995779

admin@saintnicholaschurch.org.uk