

£3. Please contact a member of the Social Committee or sign the sheet at the back of church by Sunday, 3rd December.

- ◆ **Oasis: Monday**, Tomorrow morning from 10am to 12.30pm, Revd. Andrew Allen, priest at St. Mary's Church in Slough and regular leader of Oasis sessions, will help us to get ready for the seasons of Advent and Christmas by leading a quiet morning on: *"Preparing the way"*. To attend, please contact Jo Saunders Tel:01628 663302 or email josau@btinternet.com
- ◆ **St Nicolas School Governor Vacancy**: Another vacancy has arisen on the Governing Body of our school. It would be good if we can identify someone from our church community who may feel called to this ministry: ideally (but not essentially) with a background in education. If you would like to know more, please have a word with Jane.
- ◆ **The next Choral Concert Opportunity**: St Nicolas will host a concert presented by Taplow Girls' Choir (Gillian Dibden), Maidenhead Suzuki Strings (Helen Styles) and Maidenhead Suzuki Flutes (Julia Bentley Dawkes) on **Sunday 3rd December at 6.00 pm**. Tickets will be available at the door or at [thelittleboxoffice.com/taplowchoirs](http://thelittleboxoffice.com/taplowchoirs) £10 (£8 students under 16).

### **Next Week's Services**

**Open Wednesday (22nd November)**: the church will be open from 12.00 with a service at 12.30 followed by ploughman's lunch and then the church will close at 3.00pm.

### **Sunday, 26th November: Feast of Christ the King**

10.45: Joint Choral Matins in St Nicolas Church

10.45: All Age worship in St Nicolas School Hall.

Further information on **St Nicolas Church Website**: <http://st-nicolas-taplow.org>  
If you need to **contact the Vicar**, you can ring her on 01628 661182 or email her: [janecresswell523@gmail.com](mailto:janecresswell523@gmail.com)

**Notices in the Pew Leaflet**: If you have a notice or news for the *Pew Leaflet*, please email it to [Jim Oliver \(oliverjim1@sky.com\)](mailto:oliverjim1@sky.com) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday date you want it in. This leaflet is on the website from the Friday preceding each Sunday.

	<b>St Anne's Church, Littleworth Common</b>	
	<b>St Nicolas' Church, Taplow</b>	
<b>2nd Sunday before Advent</b>		
<b>19th November, 2017</b>		

*Faithful to God*

*Caring for each other*

*Serving the Community*

*Welcome to this Holy Communion Service led by Rev'd Joseph Fernandez who is a 3rd year curate at Wraysbury and is looking after us while our Vicar, Jane is away recovering from an operation on her foot. At St Nicolas, a particular welcome to the family and friends of Olivia and George Cockerill who are to be baptised today.*

### **Collect (or Prayer for Today)**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **First Reading: Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their

flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

### **The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30** *The Parable of the Talents*

Jesus said "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten



talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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**Anthem:** *O salutaris hostia* Edward Elgar

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### **Post Communion Prayer**

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

### ***This Week's News and Notices***

◆ **Joint Parochial Church Council:** Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 21st November 7.45pm** at the home of Jim and Carole Oliver (details to PCC members with the agenda). Please remember the PCC in your prayers as we address the needs of our church.

◆ **Open to God in Advent:** The Bishop of Oxford, Dr Steven Croft encourages all the churches in the Diocese to explore the Beatitudes using a newly written three session course focusing on the three themes of being contemplative, compassionate and courageous. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church if you are interested in joining a group at the Rectory at 7.30pm on Tuesday

evenings 5th, 12th and 19th December or a group in the church during Open Wednesday at 2pm on 6th, 13th and 20th December.

◆ **Operation Christmas Child:** once again, Julia is organising this for us and **today is the day** for us to collect all the boxes. Thank you to everyone who has joined in this valuable project this year.

◆ **Our Patronal Festival:** This year, The St Nicolas festival is on **Sunday, 10th December**. The service is followed by a Festival lunch Buffet with wine. Everyone is welcome, Adults: £5 Children:

