

- ◆ **Oasis:** The December session is called *“Light, Dark and Shades of Grey”* and will be led by Jane at St Thomas’ Church, Vicarage Way, Colnbrook SL3 0JY. Jane writes *“Into the darkness of the world Christ came bringing light and life. As we journey through Advent towards the celebration of Christ’s birth, take time to pause and be still in God’s presence. This is an opportunity to reflect together on the themes of darkness, light and shades of grey as we remember that we live in the light of eternity amongst the shadows of earth.”* **Tuesday, 10th December, 2019 from 10am – 1pm.** Please book by 3rd December by contacting Rob Penn Tel:07768483385 or email robipenn@aol.com

- ◆ **Christmas Classics Concert:** Tickets are now available for this very special concert. Professional singers, Peter and Verity Auty are kindly presenting a concert of opera and Christmas music on **Sunday, 15th December at 4:00pm** in St Nicolas Church.



Please do all you can to ensure we have a full church.

Pre-booked tickets are £10 (£5 for under 16s) and tickets are £15 on the door. So book in advance at church or by emailing musicforamoment@hotmail.com.

- ◆ **Sue Blore’s Luscious Lunches:** Sue will be holding another Sunday Lunch to help raise money for the heating in St Nicolas Church. A two course, traditional lunch will take place in her home on **19th January at 1pm.** A donation of a minimum of £10 is requested. If you would like to join her please ring 01628 661815. If she isn’t in, leave a message with your phone number and she will return the call.
- ◆ **Temporary Heating: *Parents and carers are reminded to keep children away from the gas heaters on both sides of our church .***

Services/Events next Week

Wednesday, (4th): 12:00 to 3:00pm—**Open Wednesday** with a service at 12:30 followed by Ploughman’s Lunch; St Nicolas Church

Thursday, (5th): 1:30 to 3:00pm—Taplow Tots and Tea; St Nicolas Church

Sunday, 8th December: 2nd Sunday in Advent

09:15—Matins at St Anne’s Church, Dropmore

10:45: Parish Communion at St Nicolas Church, Taplow

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: janeecresswell523@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) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday

We are part of



St Anne’s Church, Littleworth Common

St Nicolas’ Church, Taplow

Advent Sunday

Sunday, 1st December, 2019



Faithful to God

Caring for each other

Serving the Community

Welcome to this morning’s Holy Communion Service. At St Nicolas, children are invited to join our Sunday School after the first hymn.

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading: Romans 13:11-14 *An Urgent Appeal*

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Gospel: Matthew 24:36-51 *The Necessity for Watchfulness*

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

“Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that wicked slave says to himself, ‘My master is delayed,’ and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know. He will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.



Anthem: *The Truth from above* Trad. arr. Vaughan Williams

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Week's News and Notices

- ◆ **Worship Sub Committee Request:** With this pew leaflet today is a request from the Worship Sub-Committee to contribute **two thoughts** about our Parish Communion Service. Please could you consider this and *leave your thoughts in the red box at the back of church next Sunday*. Thank you.
- ◆ **Traidcraft: Today,** our stall is open before and after the Service at St Nicolas for the last time this year. Takings so far this year amount to £1,228.95. Please support.....

- ◆ **Bowled Over:** Jim has his **'Woodwork' Stall** open after the morning service at St Nicolas **today**. Stocks are running down...next Sunday will be the last opportunity to buy. All takings (£320 in last two weeks) for the heating fund. Thank you for your support.

- ◆ **Our Own Advent Course:** Starting **tomorrow**, Jane is leading a three session Advent Course on the next three Mondays in the warmth of the Rectory! **'Alive in Christ'** is based on Paul's letter to Colossians, a letter addressed to the smallest, least important town of any New Testament letter. Yet Paul provides us with an essential description of what it means to live as a Christian disciple and what it means to be the Church. **Please sign up in church to be part of this Advent group meeting on Monday 2nd, 9th and 16th December 2019 at 7.30pm.** Hot drink on arrival, with home made vegetable soup available to those who have come straight from work without time to eat! Numbers capped at twelve people for reasons of space.



- ◆ **Sunday School Cake Stall:** The final monthly cake stall will be **next Sunday morning** at St Nicolas. All proceeds for the heating fund. 
- ◆ **Winter fuel Allowance:** All those in receipt of this allowance will be receiving notification of it about now. If you know you can easily manage without this allowance this year, might you consider donating your allowance for our church heating? It could make a significant contribution to helping us get this job done. If you can do this, please would you have a word with Phil to transfer the money. Thank you.

- ◆ **Carol Singing:** There are several opportunities to spread the Gospel through carol singing this advent. We are singing around Taplow Riverside from 6:00pm on Tuesday, 17th December. If you can join our choir, please sign the form in church. There will also be carol singing at St Nicolas Church on Wednesday, 18th December from 1:30 to 3:00pm (refreshments available).
- ◆ **Burnham Christmas Fair** (Thursday, 5th: 6:00-8:00pm): The Churches Together stall would welcome help with setting up, clearing up and helping on the stall. If you could help, please have a word with Jane.

