



**St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

8am: Holy Communion (CW)

10am: All Age Communion (with choir)

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

10am: Sewing and Knitting Group in Church rooms

12noon-10pm: Prayer Vigil for Bishop Andrew at Guildford Cathedral

5.30pm: Evensong with Prayers for Bishop Andrew at Guildford Cathedral

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

12noon: Holy Communion By Extension

6pm: Prayers for Ukraine at the Flagpole

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

9.30am: Toddler Praise – in church rooms

7.30pm: Lent Course – The Gift of Christ

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

10am: Time for Prayer – Guided prayer and calm music

10.30am: Lent Course – The Gift of Christ

12.30pm: Lent Lunch in the church rooms

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**

9.30am: Little Nic's Baby and Toddler Group – in church rooms

10am: MU Communion

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: All Age Worship

*Coffee and Demonstration of Vision 2030 (PCC Approved Church Re-ordering) after both morning services, see notices for more info!*

12noon: Baptism of Elwyn Ciecholewski

6pm: Choral Communion

*Gluten-free wafers are available for all communion services. Please ask one of the welcome team who will be happy to help you with this or with any other questions you may have.*

## **COLLECT:**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*or*

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **FIRST READING: 2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10**

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

‘At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.’

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

## **GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21***

‘Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

### **A Prayer for Bishop Andrew:**

God of our hope and salvation, we thank you for Andrew, our brother in Christ and father in God: for his discipleship and leadership, and for his love and care of our diocese. At this time of his illness, we pray that you would visit him with your healing love, comfort and strengthen him with your Holy Spirit, and protect him and his family with your holy angels. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### **Church and Christian Ministry:**

- In the Anglican cycle of Prayer – The Church of Ireland
- In the Diocese – For Bishop Andrew, Beverly and their family, and also for Bishop Paul and the senior leadership of the Diocese
- In the Parish – For us as a church, that we may pray, fast and give through Lent together

### **National and World Affairs:**

- For the fragile peace process in the Middle East
- For those living in constant fear in places of conflict

### **Community and Family:**

- For those who live in Summerlands.
- For the Worldwide Church

### **The Sick and those in Need:**

- Bishop Andrew, Judy Borcik, Hazel Cherry, Claire Currie, Val Davies, Edward, Tony Garstone, Rodney Hill, Bryn Jones, Nigel Lynn, Jean Quallington, Ray, Colin Tilbury, Val, Muriel Young
- *(And for those with long-term prayer needs):* Atticus and his parents Clare and Alex, Neil Charman, Annie Cotterill, David, Stella Goldsmith, James Goudie, Helen Allen, Jane, Kirsty, Lottie Lack, Jack Lewis, Mo, Brian & Jill Pettyfer, Ron & Lillian Reynolds, Peggy Ringshall, Martin Root, Steff Shepherd, Sheila Smith, Dolores Spurgeon, Bert Steed, Val Thorogood, Nick Vrijland, Marilyn Wood, Judy Wedderspoon

### **The Departed:**

- All we have known and loved, who have left us through the years, and especially at this time Colin Cooper, Maureen Kay, Michael Trent, and Karin Wijeratne.

# WEEKLY NOTICES:

## Bishop Andrew

Please do read the letter from Bishop Andrew that is attached to the weekly email, as he has now handed over the interim leadership of the diocese to Bishop Paul. His letter is a most moving testimony, so please do take time to read this which he has said "*may well prove to be my last message to the Diocese of Guildford.*" (you can find it attached to the weekly email and also in the back of church).

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of February there will be a prayer vigil at Guildford Cathedral for Bishop Andrew between 12noon and 10pm, and a special Evensong at 5.30. Please do consider to join, pray for him, Beverly and their family.

There is a card for Bishop Andrew in the back of church, please do sign it.

Vision 2030 (PCC Approved Church Re-ordering) The Project Team will be available during coffee following the 8 am and 10 am services on 1st March 2026. To exhibit art work and floor plans demonstrating the proposed changes planned for re-ordering of the church and to explain the progress to date and future steps. It will also be an opportunity to provide your feedback to the Project Team and PCC on the proposed structural changes.

Parish Breakfast Come and enjoy breakfast on 8 March from 8.45 to 9.30 catered by the Men's Group. Suggested donations of £5 for Continental and £10 for Cooked, children under 13 no charge. Good food and good company - no tickets needed, just turn up. Any profits towards essential maintenance of the churchyard machinery.

World Day of Prayer, Friday 6 March 2026, 10 am: I will give you rest, come. Service for World Day of Prayer at Jesus Christ Redeemer of Mankind Catholic Church, Cranleigh, followed by refreshments. The service is prepared by Christian women from Nigeria. A service for everyone!

## FLOWER ARRANGING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 14 March:** Posy making for Mothering Sunday. 9.30 -10.30 in church. "All hands on deck"! It's fun and easy to do. Bring scissors. More details in the March Parish Magazine.

**Saturday 21 March:** Flower Ladies Coffee morning in Church. 10am.

Anyone who is interested is very welcome.

**Easter Lilies:** Donations towards Easter Lilies for church, in memory of a loved one, can be left at the Church Office in a marked envelope.

**FOR SALE** I have some bowls of TETE-A -TETE miniature daffodils for sale - ALL proceeds will go to the Rectory Fete Plant Stall. Prices range from £5 to £10. I will bring them to church for the 10am Service on SUN 22nd FEB. Please bring cash and support this. (I could deliver in Cranleigh if necessary) Win Bracking 275573

**TREASURER** Sadly, our current treasurer Alistair will be standing down as Treasurer. So we are in urgent need of a new Treasurer. If anybody would be able to talk to us about this role, please contact The Churchwardens, Richard Tuck (Chair of the Finance Committee) or the clergy.

**CONFIRMATION** We have had some people asking about being confirmed and we would love to get a Confirmation Service organised. Confirmation means to commit yourself publicly to Christ and His Church, take on the baptism promises that were made for you if you were baptised as a child, and it means the Bishop prays for God's Holy Spirit to be with you as you try to be a follower of Jesus. If you haven't been baptised we'd of course also love you to join and be baptised! Would you like to know more? Please talk to Erik or send him a message ([erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)).

**ELECTORAL ROLL** If you are not already on our church electoral roll, please fill in a form from the back of church and return it to the church office as soon as possible, but no later than March 15th.

Being on our electoral roll confirms that you are a part of our church and enables you to attend and to vote at our Annual Church Meeting in April. There is no financial cost to you or the church.

You do not need to re-apply this year if you filled in a form last year. If you are not sure whether you are already on our roll, please contact Nicola who can check for you. She can also provide you with a digital form to fill in if you would prefer.

A lay person is entitled to apply for enrolment if he or she –

(a) is baptised

(b) is aged 16 or over

(c) is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, and

(d) is resident in the parish, or has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

**LENT** How are we supposed to understand how our Christian life can strengthen our special relationship with Jesus Christ, when the world that God created for our special relationship with Him is in such dire straits? Sharing with others how that is for you and our Church family would be a good way forward.

In the church for an hour for 5 weeks from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February from 7.30pm for 8.00pm and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 10.30am for 11.00am (each preceded by a half hour of light refreshments), you are invited to come to share with others the York Course during Lent entitled 'The Gift of Christ - responding and living fruitfully', to explore what this gift really means for us.

Week 1. 25/26 February - The generosity of God

Week 2. 4/5 March - Finding our gift

Week 3. 11/12 March - Being with Jesus and being fruitful

Week 4. 18/19 March - When things go wrong – getting back on track

Week 5. 25/26 March - God changes everything – it's all good

You are invited to use the sign-up sheets to be found on the cross aisle shelf.

**LENT LUNCHES 2026** As part of our commitment to use our new kitchen to serve community lunches, we are planning a series of Lent lunches, to take place in the Church Rooms 12.30pm-1.30pm every Thursday during Lent, starting on February 26th. To include vegetable soup, a bread roll and home-made cake for a £3.50 donation. Gluten-free available.

Please put these Thursdays in your diary now. If you are in Cranleigh on a Thursday lunchtime you will be most welcome and do bring a family member, friend or colleague! No need to book in advance.

**ADVANCE NOTICE** Another date for your diary. **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30pm - an Auction of Promises, with Cheese and Wine.**

Come and bid for a range of tempting offers - or make an offer yourself that we can put up for auction in our in-house special event. To be accompanied by Cheese and Wine.

More information coming soon, but please be thinking about what skills or chores you could offer for auction. It might be to bake a cake, a loaf of bread, or a part of a meal. It might be to wash a car, do some gardening, make a flower arrangement, take a portrait or offer a piano lesson! Offer a beginner's golf lesson, some concert tickets, or a hairstyling session, or some advice on whatever is your area of expertise!

Please note, for safeguarding reasons, your offers should not involve children, going into someone else's home, driving someone in your car, or handling their money.

All money raised by the auction will go to church funds. The Social Team

**MEMORY LANE** will enjoy a Walk in the Park on Monday 9th February when those with dementia are encouraged to stroll around Knowle Park. Back in the Arts Centre, guests are being treated to Motoview on Monday 16th February when Zoe Susijin will bring the equipment from the Leisure Centre for all to experience during the afternoon.

*For further details on events please call Memory Lane 01483 274398 or email: [mamwild@aol.com](mailto:mamwild@aol.com).*

**CHURCH WHATSAPP GROUP** is a great way to stay in touch during the week, keep up-to-date with what is going on, and share prayer requests. If you would like to be added contact Nicola in the office.

**CAR PARK EXEMPTION** members of the church can have their car registration added to our exemption database so that you can park for free whilst attending on church business. If you haven't already done this, please contact Nicola in the office to add your details.

**If you would like to receive this notice sheet by email each week, please contact Nicola in the church office.**

# TIME FOR LUNCH

## 12.30-1.30

Thursdays in Lent

starting 26<sup>th</sup> Feb

St at  
**NICOLAS**  
CRANLEIGH

Church Rooms



VEGETABLE SOUP &  
BREAD ROLL

GF option

HOMEMADE CAKE

GF option

- \* Join us on your lunch break!
- \* Bring the kids, a friend or a colleague
- \* No need to book

**£3.50** donation  
cash/card



# The Gift of Christ

what does this really mean for us in these troubling times?

Join us this Lent  
for a 5 week York Course,  
with discussion, video  
and fellowship



**Wednesday evenings: 7.30pm refreshments, 8pm start**

**Thursday mornings: 10.30am refreshments, 11am start**

Starting Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

St  
**NICOLAS**  
CRANLEIGH

[nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) for more information

# Parish Breakfast



**Sunday 8 March**

**8.45am to 9.45am**

**St Nicolas Church Rooms**



*Continental  
Breakfast  
suggested donation  
£5.00*

*Cooked  
Breakfast  
suggested donation  
£10.00*



*Children under 13 no charge – donations welcome*

Any profit towards churchyard machinery maintenance

**Keep in touch**

**Rector – (In Vacancy)**

**Curate - Revd Erik Heemsker** (*Day off: Monday*)

Tel: 07368 871589. Email: [erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**(Part Time) Curate - Revd Dr Sue Tresman** (*available Sun, Mon & Tues*)

Tel: 07799662178. Email: [susan.tresman@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:susan.tresman@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Administrator – Nicola Craven-Smith**

*Works Monday, Wednesday and Friday (Office is open 9.30am-1pm)*

Tel: 01483 273620. Email: [nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Churchwardens – Susan Clarke** [susan@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:susan@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) **and**  
**Alan Walton** [alan@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:alan@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Lay Associate Minister (Children and Families) – Claire Jones**

Email: [claire.jones@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:claire.jones@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Young People and Families Leader– Steff Shepherd**

Email: [steff@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:steff@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Officer – Katherine Tuck**

Email: [safeguarding@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

Safeguarding emergencies phone 07909 920184

**Diocesan Safeguarding Team**

Tel: 01483 790379. Email: [safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk)

**Church Website:** [www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

*Do you have a question about faith or the church? Or would you just like to get to know us better? Erik and Sue are always very happy to meet for a cup of coffee, tea, or a pint, just get in touch with us using our contact details above!*



Your giving helps us to run this church and continue to serve our community. You can join us in supporting this work by giving of your time, skills and money. You can make a donation (one-time or regular) by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity.