



Sunday 16th July 2017 / 5th Sunday After Trinity

I write this reflection while on my placement in Israel/Palestine and one of the first thing that hits you upon arrival is the heat (which we are told by the locals is exceptionally hot this year). Our Gospel reading is the parable of the sower, a parable which for has been enhanced by my time here, for the ground seems so rocky, dry and scorched, not at all fruitful. However, on Wednesday, we went to the Judean Desert where I was struck by the many plants and trees growing there. I was reminded that in the unexpected places there is good soil. Earlier that day we were in Gush Etzion-Bethlehem, a place which is a 'hotspot' for protest and conflict. It is a contentious area with a heavy military presence because it is a crossing way for both Israelis and Palestinians. Yet, on this pathway there is good soil through the work of an organization called Roots. Roots is a place where Israelis and Palestinians can safely sit together, and through dialogue, dignity, trust, and a mutual recognition and respect for each other, relationships are being transformed. At grassroots level, this is a place of hope, and of rebuilding relationships. It is not easy, but it is a conscious and intentional decision in working towards reconciliation. In the place of rocky and thorny ground, good soil is being nurtured and sown.

~ Gail Rogers

Worship In The Parish Today

St Nicolas'	9:00am	Holy Communion
	10:30 am	Holy Communion
	4:00pm	Baptisms
	6:00 pm	Compline
Hawkesley	10:30 am	Morning Worship
Immanuel	10:30 am	Holy Communion

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 55.10-13h 9.9-12	OT p 696
Romans 8.1-11	NT p 153
Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23	NT p 13

Collect for today

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Children & young people are welcome at every service.

Tiny Tots: Thurs. 9.00 am
Bumps & Babies: Mon 1.00 pm
BOTH AT ST. NICOLAS' CHURCH

Sundays for Children (3yrs+)

1st Sunday - Oasis at Saint Nicolas' Place
2nd Sunday – All Age at St Nicolas' Church
3rd Sunday - Godly Play @ SNP
4th Sunday - All Age @SNP

**Next GPS Youth Group:
19th July 2017**



Foodbank News

We have had some very successful supermarket collections but still need to keep our stocks up to meet demand. Our urgent needs are tinned meat, tinned fruit, tinned carrots, tea, 500g bags of white or brown sugar and long-life whole milk. Many thanks.

3D Course / Diocesan course for Developing Disciples

The diocesan discipleship course will be tutored on Tuesday evening in Kings Norton and at other venues and times across the city starting in September. It is the first step towards accredited ministry in the Church of England. If anyone would like more information, please ask one of the clergy or the lay minister for more information and a form

Saint Nicolas' Place. Our tearoom is open Mon - Sat 9.00 am - 4.00 pm. Green's Tea Room for excellent food and service. The shop is open from Monday to Saturday, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm. For events & bookings call 0121 458 1223. Or visit saintnicolasplace.co.uk.

Please pray for the Diocesan link with the Anglican Church in Bolivia and our links with Father Walter Toro of Jesus the Good Shepherd Church in Tarija, Bolivia and with Pastor Tammy Firestone and the congregation of La Trinidad Church in Cochbamba.

Please pray for residents, workers, staff, pupils and parents of:

Fairlie Crescent, Fairmead Rise, The Fairway, Farnbury Croft
 Cadbury Sixth Form, Hawkesley Church Primary Academy & King's Norton Primary School

Please pray for those preparing for Baptism and Marriage.

Please remember in your prayers:

Beryl Wilkes, Joan Pearce, Ray Davies, Beryl Jones, Edna Mullis, Natasha Markovic, Nan Hoadly, Florence Bonner, Lillian Hillier, John Clark, Joan Gunter, Olga Groves, Joyce Hawkins, Em & Tina Drakeford, Leon and Melissa Brown, Connie Wilson, Simon Hambly, Dorothy Gardner, Addie Tilley, Paul Shelton, Delsie Burges/Brooks, Mason Green, Oscar Hooper, Jacob, Christine, Joan Grimmitt, Jayne Slater, Olivia Grimes and Doug Sansom

Please remember those who are ill, receiving treatment or recovering from surgery:

Yvonne Whittingham, Jonathan Rogers, Annie Edwards, June McCoy, Bob Evans, Sandra Sandilands, Marlene Collier, Gabrielle Pond-Baker, Sandra W, Thelma Mitchell, Gill Broadhead, Jean Gates and Veronica Clark.

Children Charlie Ramsey, Twins Stella & Francesca and Sahar Kaussar.

Please pray for those who have died and for those who grieve for them:

Baby Amy Dyke, Hazel Whitson; Ken Newton, Kenneth Davies

Open Church

St Nicolas' Church is open as often as possible. Do visit, pray, light a candle or share conversation over coffee at the times shown below.

Wednesday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon & 6.30 - 8.00 pm
 (Candlelit Church).

Thursday 6.30 - 8.00 pm for all marriage and baptism enquiries.

Saturday 10.00 - 12.00 noon for coffee, Knit & Natter & space for quiet prayer.

This Week: 17th – 22nd July 2017

in St Nicolas' Church unless otherwise stated

Monday	1-2:30pm	Bumps & Babies
Wednesday	10am – 12 noon	Open Church /Open Bible
	12 noon	Holy Communion
	5pm	GPS
	6:30-8pm	Candlelit Church
	8pm	Open Bible
Thursday	9am – 11am	Tiny Tots
	6:30-8pm	Wedding & Baptism Bookings
Saturday	10am - 12 noon	Knit & Natter

From Monday 10th July we are hosting an art installation in St Nicolas Church arising out of the Birmingham Inter-Faith conversations. Do take time to view it.



Next Sunday: 23rd July 2017

St Nicolas'	9:00am	Holy Communion
	10:30 am	Holy Communion
	6:00 pm	Evening Worship
Hawkesley	10:30 am	Holy Communion
Immanuel	10:30 am	All Age Worship

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 44.6-8	OT p 683
Romans 8.12-25	NT p 153
Matthew 13.24-30,36-43	NT p 14

I do not at all understand the mystery of grace - only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us.

- Anne Lamott

For more detailed information about what's on in Kings Norton, pick up a copy of the **Parish Magazine.**

When visiting our churches, please take care of your personal belongings as you would in any public space.



St Nicolas' Church has an induction loop (T-Loop). This operates with any standard hearing aid when switched to the >T= position.