

## Thought for the Day

The early church as we see it in the Acts of the Apostles was marked by devotion, shared life, and joyful faith. 'They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship' is a picture of unity born not from convenience but from the transforming presence of Christ among them. This same spirit of belonging echoes in Jesus' words in John 10, where He calls Himself the Good Shepherd and His people the flock who know His voice. The bond between shepherd and sheep mirrors the Church's calling: to live closely, listen attentively, and find safety and abundance in the company of Christ.

In an age when isolation touches many lives, these passages remind us that faith can never be a solitary affair. There are no individual tickets to heaven. Salvation is not a private transaction. It is the entry of a person into a community gathered around the Shepherd's voice.

We are gathered, guided, and renewed together through prayer, breaking bread, and mutual care. The Shepherd still calls us by name, leading us to pastures of peace and purpose. When we open ourselves to that call, our parish life becomes not just a community of believers but a living expression of God's grace, a place where His voice is heard and His joy shared.

David Ash

### **Please Remember in your prayers:**

Mason Green, Paul Cowley, Siobhan and Darlene, June McCoy, Pauline Wells, Joyce Hancock, Maureen Black, Steven Fearon, Greta Lacey, Gabriella Young, Matthew Coulter, Margaret Roper, Eddie Matthews, Mary Barnes, Kate Charalambous, Donald Bullas, Kath Baylis, Angela Brady, Lorraine Langdon, Annette Dickers, Byrnicc McMullen, Claire Phillips, Thelma and Neville Mitchell, Dinah O'Flaherty Olyn Brady and Carol Devic

**Those Who have died and those who grieve for them:** Ken Tinkler and

Doreen Ravenall 

## Notices

**PRAYER MINISTRY** – Will be available after the service in the Lady Chapel on 3.5.26, 17.5.26 and 31.5.26. If you would like prayer at other times, please approach one of the Ministry Team.

### **Orchestral Concert in St Nicolas**

Saturday 23rd May at 7.30pm - pay as you are able (guide price is £12 - but that is only a guide).

Music by Mendelssohn, Mozart and Saint-Saens - including Saint-Saens Cello Concerto. Do come and join us.

### **THE RETURN OF KINGS NORTON FESTIVAL**

Plans for the Festival are well underway and now we need your help.

For the stalls that we are running we need donations – so time to have a hunt in those cupboards or add an item to your shopping list please.

We need donations of the following:

Toiletries – new and unopened

Bottles – of anything! in date and unopened

Jigsaws – complete please

Items for the tombola

Toys – new or excellent condition

Hand Crocheted or knitted items suitable for selling.

Nearer the time we will need plants and cakes but not yet! (or the plants will need watering and the cakes might get eaten.....)

Please put any donations on the table in the baptistry or bring to the Parish Office.

**Men's Group** Monday 18 May 7.30 - Zoe Stewart will give an illustrated talk on walking the Camino de Santiago last year. The meeting is open to all.

**B30 AND SOUTH BIRMINGHAM FOODBANK** -Our stock levels remain very low – with us buying at least 50% of our needs each week. Aldi Kings Norton is becoming a very important partner as we work with them on bulk ordering. **Our most urgent needs** are rice (500g), tinned soup, jam/honey, tinned spaghetti and soap (bar or liquid).

THIS WEEK	HOLY WEEK
<b>SUNDAY 26<sup>H</sup> APRIL</b>	9.00 am Matins (David Ash) 10.30 am Morning Praise (Pauline W & Dorothea M) 6.00 pm Holy Communion (Rev Theresa Morton)
<b>MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	10.00 am-12.00 am Churchyard Team 2.30 Handbells (speak to Sylvia if interested) 7.30 pm PCC Meeting
<b>TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	6.00 -8.00pm Junior Choir (Please speak to Sylvia if interested)
<b>WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	10.00am-12.00pm Open Church 10.00am-12.00pm Knit & Natter @ Hawkesley Church B38 9TR.
<b>THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	9.00-11.00am Tiny Tots 10.00-12.00pm Churchyard Team
<b>FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	7.15-8.30pm Adult Choir Practice (please speak to Sylvia if interested)
<b>SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY</b>	10.00 am – 12.00 pm Open Church
<b>SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY</b>	9.00 am BCP Holy Communion (Rev Stephen Mayes) 10.30 am Holy Communion (Rev Hugh Houghton) 6.00 pm Taizé Prayer (David Ash)

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May APCM at St Nicolas after 10.30 service.  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm Men's Group @ St Nicolas.  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Concert in Church (see notices)  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2026 Kings Norton Festival  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October Craft Fair

**26<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**St. Nicolas, Kings Norton**  
**4th Sunday of Easter**  
**Incorporating Hawkesley LEP**  
Part of the Church of England



#### **READINGS TODAY**

Acts 2:42-end p.116  
John 10:1-10 p.100

#### **NEXT WEEK**

Acts 7:55-end p.122  
John 14:1-14 p.105

#### **Collect for the Week**

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's  
sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be  
gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**QR To Donate! Alternatively, donate at the back of church or using our donation boxes!**



#### **Contact Details**

Parish Office, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU  
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Office Hours: Mon – Thurs 10 – 2 pm Closed on Fridays