

Postcards of 5 Christmas Cards featuring the stained glass windows of St Nicolas' Church



St Nicolas



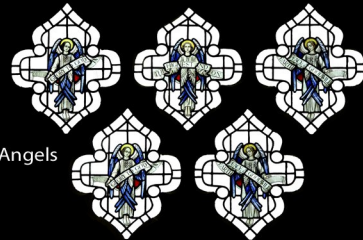
Angel Choir



Virgin & Child



Nativity Window



Five Angels

Available soon from St Nicolas' Church and Saint Nicolas' Place, Kings Norton

Photography & design by David Ash



A Church of England Team Parish serving all in Kings Norton and Druids Heath through the Parish Church of St Nicolas and the District Churches of Hawkesley and Immanuel

parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk

www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Tennis Lessons

Age range: Birth to 11 years
Opening Times: 07:30 - 18:00
Open 52 weeks a year
Term-time only places available for 3-4 year olds
Breakfast and After School club
for Children at Kings Norton Primary School

Large Garden **library**

Sensory Room



French Lessons

Dance Lessons

RHYTHM TIME



Westhill House
Day Nursery

36 Rednal road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8DR

www.westhillhousedaynursery.co.uk
lisa@westhillhousedaynursery.co.uk



Hawkesley Christmas Fayre

26th November at

Hawkesley Church Centre

(At the school, Off Shannon Road, B38 9TR)

From 11am to 2pm

Adults 20p children Free.

Crafts and fun for children!



Books for sale/music/bring and buy/
raffle/games/tombola/tea and coffee/
lunches/mince pies...and much more!!

30 THE GREEN
KINGS NORTON
Tel: 0121 458 1362

A. W. DAVIES AND ASSOCIATES DENTAL SURGEONS

5 MIDDLETON HALL ROAD
KINGS NORTON
Tel: 0121 458 1368

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
TUESDAY 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
THURSDAY 8.30 am - 12.30 pm & 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm
FRIDAY 8.30 am - 1.30 pm
At Middleton Hall Road
TUESDAY 8.30 am - 12.30 pm



J & D Mason
OPTICIANS

Providing Quality Eyecare
For Over 30 Years

2 The Green
Kings Norton
B38 8SD
0121 451 3485



- Free NHS Sight Tests
- Free Glasses with NHS Vouchers
- Diabetic Photography

Bourne Jaffa & Co Solicitors

A Complete Service For All Legal Requirements

- Family Matters
- Personal Injury & Litigation
- Conveyancing
- Probate & Wills

Family & Court Matters
Personal Injury and Litigation

Conveyancing
Probate & Wills

0121 451 3338
72 The Green B38 8RU

0121 451 1661
1 Redditch Road B38 8RN
Kings Norton, Birmingham

Magazine Editorial Team

- Alison Blumer - Treasurer
- Jim Clarke
- Revd. Jayne Crooks - Chair
- Evelyn Finn - Advertising
- Alan Haynes - Editor
- Susan Haynes

CONTACT US AT:-

Kings Norton Parish Office
St Nicolas Place
81 The Green, Kings Norton
Birmingham B38 8RU

0121 458 3289

e-mail:-
editor@kingsnorton.org.uk
parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk
website:- www.kingsnorton.org.uk

The views, opinions and comments expressed in these pages are not necessarily those of the editorial team of the Kings Norton Parish Magazine, the Kings Norton Parish Team or its staff. Material must contain the name and contact details of the 'sender'. Wherever possible, material submitted for inclusion will be produced in full, but the Editorial Team reserve the right to edit such items, whilst retaining the correct context. We entrust the 'submitter' to ensure that, where necessary, copyright permission has been received to use the material.

**Items for inclusion in the
December 2011 issue are
to be submitted by:-
Friday 11th November
2011**

Welcome.....



Advent begins in November. This is a time when we prepare ourselves for Christmas and it also marks the start of the new Church year.

Our lectionary readings change too with the focus falling on Mark's Gospel. Rev Jayne has written a book review on page 32 of a study guide, 'Journeying with Mark' written by three people who studied with her as she prepared for ordination. Gail's children's page (P28) also focuses on the change to Mark's Gospel this month.

Many people will also be buying their Christmas cards this month. The cards featuring the stained glass windows of St Nicolas Church are now available to purchase (see the back cover for details) or alternatively, there are details of some other cards available in aid of the Ifakara Bakery on pages 10 and 39.

As well as Christmas, we also have our Patronal Festival weekend on 3rd and 4th December to look forward to. There are plenty of activities planned including a Parish Meal with members of the Awdrey family invited as special guests. The tickets go on sale this month so make sure you get yours, more details on page 11.

Alan Haynes, Editor.

From The Rector Who is this Mr Williams?



He was a quiet, intense young man with an impressive dark beard, a rich bass voice and a sudden deep smile. “Mr Williams is here to lecture and to spend time in study” we were told on asking about his unexpected appearance as we began our second year of ordination training.

And he did. His love of the Bible and command of the early church writers were profound and inspiring. He opened up to us the wonders of scripture and of Augustine, Martin Luther, St Teresa of Avila and the Eastern churches. His preaching was direct and sometimes painfully challenging. But we also learned quickly of his commitment to faith and learning being essentially a shared experience, not a one-person show. He loved conversation which engaged all, whether our thoughts were petty or worthwhile. He was endlessly patient as we shared our thinking, our feelings and our faith. And, despite what seemed to us his boundless knowledge, he always thirsted

to know more. When he found that I had just come back from three years in Zambia, he slowly drew out every detail I knew of its life, its struggles, its church and its hopes.

One other picture of him has stayed with me over many years. Although no lover of football, there he would be when our college team played, freezing but faithful on the touchline in the special bitterness of a Yorkshire winter. Our efforts did not deserve such resolute support. He always gave it.

In his first term, Mr Williams became Dr Williams, but even more a trusted friend and guide. Since then he has become Archbishop of Canterbury.

As one who has received his generosity of learning, friendship and faith, it hurts when his commitment to listen, to explore, to reject slogans and seek engagement of unlikely partners is cheaply pictured as dithering or naive. It hurts when he stands firm in the wintry blast of church politics

decision appears to have been taken. Executives and accountants working for corporate chains have seen the opportunity to make a short term profit. Money talks. However, there has been no consultation with those in the local area who will be most affected by the sale. What will be the impact on existing businesses on The Green? Or on traffic flow at the roundabout? These and other questions have simply not been asked. That is why I have been happy to lend my support to the growing campaign to “Save the Navi!”

And so to the rave, and this month it’s back to the cinema. There are a couple of very interesting and unusual films that I have seen in the last few weeks that I would like to reflect on, even if it is only one of the pair that I am able wholeheartedly to rave about. These films are *Tree of Life*, directed by Terrence Malick, and *Melancholia*, made by the Danish film director Lars von Trier.

Both films are bold and ambitious works, which set a small-scale domestic drama within, quite literally, a cosmic setting, and invite reflection on the meaning of life as a whole; as a result, both films have come across to some viewers as pretentious, and I can well see that they would not be to everybody’s taste. Lars von Trier is known as being a controversial director, and his latest film is unlikely to change that. It is a study of depression, drawing on von Trier’s own experience of that condition. The film imagines a scenario in which the earth is set to be destroyed in a collision with another, larger planet, which has been given the name ‘Melancholia’. But unlike standard disaster movies, the issue

raised is not whether we can escape this fate. Deeper questions are asked. How would we react if faced with the prospect of imminent extinction? Does life on earth have any lasting value or meaning? No answers are given, although some interviews with the director suggest that he shares something of the view of the lead character, Justine, who can see little of worth or goodness in life. I found it intriguing that such a bleak world view should have been expressed in a film that has moments of real beauty and even humour.

Tree of Life asks some similar questions, and is also the work of a visionary and original film director. The ethos of Malick’s film, however, is very different from that of *Melancholia*. There are a number of references to the biblical book of Job and, in particular, the passages that celebrate the transcendent majesty of God, the creator of all. Human suffering is present; but it is depicted as being one aspect of a world that is also full of grace and goodness. Whilst the story line of the film is not always easy to follow, I found watching it a profoundly moving and uplifting experience – in some ways, more like an act of worship than seeing a movie. I was reminded of the line from the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins: “*The world is charged with the grandeur of God*”.

So whilst I found much of interest in *Melancholia*, it is *Tree of Life* that gets my ‘rave review’ this month. Whilst it does not deal in easy answers, it does celebrate life and the universe as fundamentally good and God-given and filled with grace. Thanks be to God!

Rev John White

Rev John Ranting and Raving



Regular readers of the magazine will, I am sure, be familiar with the format of this column by now. First of all, I give vent to my thoughts and feelings on an issue that has made me annoyed or disgruntled. That is the 'rant'. After that comes the 'rave', where I share some reflections on something I've seen or heard about which I feel enthusiastic. In each case, I offer only a personal opinion, with which you are of course quite free to disagree. But both the rant and the rave have the same purpose; to encourage us all to engage with the world and culture around us in a way that is critical, constructive, and informed by our Christian faith and values.

My rant this month is on a matter of local concern, about which I admit to having a vested interest. Living a little distance from Kings Norton, I don't always have the opportunity to go home for lunch, but will eat out here in the parish, be it in the cafe at St Nicolas Place, or getting something to take away from one of the local shops, or the chippie at Hawkesley or on the

Green. A particular treat (especially when there is football on the telly!) is to go across the road to the Navigation Inn on Wharf Road, such as at Sunday lunch on days when time is tight between services.

So I was startled when I heard that plans are afoot to sell the Navigation and the land on which it stands, for it to be knocked down and turned into a supermarket. Some may welcome that, and I'm not trying to say that pubs are better than shops; I remember the lesson I learned from living in a Devon village, which was that a thriving community was likely to be marked by the presence of a church, a pub, a shop (preferably with a Post Office) and a school, and that each can work together for the good of the whole. Rather, my rant is over the way in which this



and is made a target of easy criticism from those who sit in the warmth of their own self-esteem. It also hurts when he acts or moves in ways that I don't agree with – but I never doubt his deep integrity and love of God's truth and life.

Archbishop Rowan's recent visit to Zimbabwe was dangerous – for him and even more for those who came out to meet him, to listen to him and to share in worship. He did not flinch, either in telling out God's desire that all are welcome at God's feast of life or in confronting Robert Mugabe's crude ruthlessness in opening doors only to those who fawn on him. His sermon to our oppressed sisters and brothers in Zimbabwe pulls no punches – but still leaves the door of God's love open to those who would close them to others. *(You can find the full text on www.archbishopofcanterbury.org)*

'Mr Williams' now bears the unimaginably heavy burden of leadership in our Church of England and our Anglican Communion. The questions they face produce much feeling, lobbying, cheap shots and slogan-shouting as we seek to embrace women bishops, as we debate the wisdom of a world-wide Anglican Covenant and as we struggle

to include all, whatever their culture or sexual orientation. Yet, trusting in God's grace, he stays.

For all the passion generated, these matters are not in the same company as the dangers facing the church in Zimbabwe in its witness for the sake of all.

They don't even stand company with the hard questions facing each and every local church and community as economic pressures bite and society changes. All search for meaning, purpose, integrity and the common good. In this, the parish church, both people and buildings, is for all – a place of acceptance, listening, engagement, reconciliation and hope in Christ's Cross and Resurrection. Whatever the economic winter, our task in the Holy Spirit is still to be and serve that common place – with doors open to all.

In all these, we can give thanks to God for giving us Rowan, whatever the faults so many seem to see in him. The many more who know him can testify to his personal gifts of prayer, faith, resilience, wisdom and friendship. They are not gifts for show. They are lived inspiration as in Zimbabwe for each of us by God's

grace to find and grow in them ourselves – as ourselves.

“Our God is a God who wants us to receive what he gives. He pours out his gifts in the world – the gifts of natural resources, the gifts of human skill, the gifts of human love and understanding – and he invites us to use them so that together we may find joy, together we may grow to maturity, together we may be glad and grateful for each other.

His purpose is justice: not an abstract idea of fairness, but a situation where every person has the fulfillment God desires for them, without interference from others who want – in Jesus' own words – to shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against them. 'You lock the door to the Kingdom of Heaven in people's faces, and you yourselves don't go in, nor do you allow those who are trying to enter!' says Jesus to his enemies in Mt 23.12.

Because this is part of our problem. It is not only that some refuse the invitation of God to share his abundant love and generosity. It is all too easy for us human beings to try and block that love and prevent it from reaching others. You know very well, dear brothers and sisters, what it means to have doors locked in your faces by those who claim the name of Christians and Anglicans. You know how those who by their greed and violence have refused the grace of God try to silence your worship and frustrate your witness in the churches and schools and hospitals of this country. But you also know what Jesus' parable teaches us so powerfully – that the

will of God to invite people to his feast is so strong that it can triumph even over these mindless and Godless assaults. Just as the Risen Jesus breaks through the locked doors of fear and suspicion, so he continues to call you and empower you in spite of all efforts to defeat you. And in the Revelation to John, the Lord proclaims that he has set before us an open door that no-one can shut. It is the door of his promise, the door of his mercy, the door into the feast of his Kingdom.”
(From Archbishop Rowan's sermon among the Anglicans of Zimbabwe.)

These are not words dreamt up for others. They are lived as well as spoken, as I know. I am hugely grateful for sharing that year with the then unknown Mr Williams. It marks me still. I am even more glad and grateful that God's gifts in him are now known to many more than a green bunch of ordinands in training. Please pray for Zimbabwe's people, for our Archbishop and for all church leaders that through them each of us may discover the richness of God's hope, promise and resilient love in us for the sake of others.

Canon Rob Morris

Diary Dates for No-

Norton. Most of my family lived either in or within about 3 miles of The Green. It is true that I love to travel and to see new places and new things and in doing so, can spend many weeks away, but ultimately Kings Norton is home. This is where I am comfortable and this is where I belong.

Why is your Christian faith important to you? My faith is my rock. Not only does it give me the stability and comfort I need in my life, but also, and more importantly, it gives me the guidance to try and become a better and more compassionate person to others. It has taken me a long time to realise my faith was with me all of the time, I just needed to explore my inner thoughts and feelings to discover it and embrace it. On saying that, I realise I am on a journey, facing many challenges and difficulties and just because my faith is with me, doesn't mean my life will be a bed of roses.

What are your hobbies and interests? Having worked in the creative industry for many years, I love a good challenge. It doesn't matter what it is or where it is, I'll always give it my best shot. Yes, I do get satisfaction, but I am more likely to beat myself up over the parts I could have done better! I can turn my hand to most things, from DIY to complicated systems drawings to gardening, I'll have a go at anything really. I love walking and cycling and I swim when I can. Walking is really the only way to discover the hidden gems

of our wonderful country. I also own a river cruiser and can often be found meandering down the River Avon on a warm sunny afternoon.

What are your best memories? Easy one! They are the memories of my childhood – days out at the weekends with my parents, picnics and fishing with dad. I miss him. Latterly, repeating those similar things with my daughter. I hope she will treasure the memories too.

What's your favourite holiday place? Jersey in the Channel Islands is, by far, my favourite. It is where I took Tracey my wife, on our first holiday together and we have returned many times since. Corbiere Lighthouse is where I asked Tracey to marry me. She said yes, making it a very special place.

If you went on Desert Island Disks, what would be your luxury and book? My luxury would be a complete set of tools enabling me to build a very comfortable house to live in, a satellite dish and TV so I would know when I was going to be rescued! My book would have to be a complete set of John Grisham novels.

What are your hopes for the church in Kings Norton? To continue to welcome all who wish to visit this wonderful place. To encourage younger people by engaging with them and giving them time to explore their needs and to give them a say in how the church is used.



Justice of the Peace, Stephen Adams



What is your name?

Stephen Adams. I was baptised at St Francis Church in Bournville and my middle name, so I was told, would have been Francis. However, my parents realised, just in time, that my initials with an F in the middle was definitely not appropriate and the idea was dropped!

Where were you born?

I am a very proud 'Brummie', born at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I lived with my parents in Oxford Street, Stirchley and attended Raddlebarn Infant and Junior School until I was 11. I was fortunate enough to pass the 11 plus enabling me to go to Lordswood Boys' Grammar. When I became a 'terrible teenager', we moved to a house in West Heath where my mum is still living.

What is your occupation?

I guess I was always destined to become an Engineer. I was always messing about with wires, bulbs and basically anything electrical. Coupled with a love of model railways, I guess my future was set. I remember being a bit too ambitious one day. I think I was about 8 years old and somehow managed to blow up the house

electrics. Not one of my better days...! On leaving sixth form, I joined the Post Office (BT) as an apprentice Telecomms Technician, attending North Birmingham Polytechnic on block release to obtain the necessary qualifications. I spent 11 very happy years at BT, progressing from climbing telegraph poles and digging holes to working in the Birmingham Radio Tower and the Television Network Switching



Centre. In 1983, I moved across to Central Television where I worked in the Master Control Room (the place from where the pictures on your TV originate) as a Senior Broadcast engineer. Following that, a move to Central News for a few years before moving on

again to Programme Production incorporating Outside Broadcasts, Special Events and Regional Marketing. I left Central in 2005 in order to do some freelance work, which in turn led to my becoming Controller of Broadcasting for Horse and Country Television.

In 2001, I was appointed as a Justice of the Peace to the West Midlands Commission area.

Why Kings Norton? Simple answer really - I love my roots. I have always lived within about 10 miles of Kings

November and December

Saturday 12th November

10am - 2pm Craft Fair at Saint Nicolas Place

Sunday 13th November

10.30am Remembrance Sunday Services in each church
4pm Annual Memorial Service

Thursday 17th Nov: 7.30pm Church Council Saint Nicolas Place

Saturday 26th November

10am-2pm Hawkesley Christmas Fayre

December 3rd and 4th

St Nicolas Festival Weekend

"Celebrating God's gifts in our Church and Community"

Special events in Church and in Saint Nicolas Place all day on Saturday 3rd, Parish Festival Service and Parish Lunch on Sunday 4th.

The Awdry Family will officially open the new Interpretation Scheme at Saint Nicolas Place and will share the weekend with us.

There will unsurprisingly be a Thomas the Tank Engine theme to the day. Church will also have displays about St Nicolas himself and the King James Version's 400th anniversary.

The Cafe will be in full swing - and there will be much more.

Sunday 11th December: 3.00 pm, St Nicolas Church A Concert by Bournville Young Voices

Saturday 17th December : 6pm - 9pm

"Carols and Candles on the Green"

Join us for an evening of carol singing on the Green and a Candlelit Christmas tour of Saint Nicolas Place. With fun activities and a "Pie and Pea" supper to warm you from the cold! Please book in advance.

Ticketed event for Saint Nicolas Place: £6.00 per person including supper.

Full details of all our **Christmas** and **New Year Services** in every congregation will be advertised in November.

Saint Nicolas Place

A new arrival! At last, the long-awaited coffee machine is in place! For those who like good coffee, here it is, along with our growing range of good things to eat. Do drop in for a taste.

An even bigger arrival is what is grandly called our Interpretation Scheme. We have waited so long for the information boards, the inter-active displays and much else which will enable many more of every age to discover the amazing story of our buildings for themselves. The official opening is on Saturday 3rd December during our Saint Nicolas Festival - by the Awdry family. Thomas may be there!

Do come - and explore.

We will also in December come to the end of current grant support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. In 2012, all costs will have to come from earnings and fund-raising. We are getting ready for this – a tough task, but one that we will manage with hard work and generosity.

Confirmation 2012

Bishop David, Bishop of Birmingham is coming to St Nicolas on Sunday 29th April for our annual Confirmation. At this service, all who wish receive God's gift and promise for full Christian living. Preparation will begin in the New Year – but now is the time to ask about whether it might be for you. It's also time to think and pray about anyone you know who might want to be confirmed – but needs encouragement.

Some may be put off because they do not think they are good enough. As Bishop David, your clergy and everyone else in church do not think they are good enough – but still receive God's grace and promise, don't be discouraged by your own sense of inadequacy. We all have it – which is where God's work of love begins.

Rob Morris

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR



**Saint Nicolas Place
Kings Norton Green**

**Saturday 12th November
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Refreshments

**Gifts, cards, jewellery, bags, paintings, pottery,
woodcrafts, scarves, glassware, knitwear, jams,
Christmas Tree decorations, books, tombola,
and much more.**

Solve those Christmas gift problems!

Plus

Black Adder Clog Dancers and Ingrid's Accordions

Also the hugely popular Farmers Market

L A FALLON LIMITED HARDWARE & PLUMBING

3 THE GREEN, KINGS NORTON, BIRMINGHAM B38 8SD

TEL/FAX: 0121 458 1679

WE CARRY A FULL RANGE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 5L MORTICE, YALE, ERA, STERLING LOCKS & EURO CYLINDERS/LOCKS
 - DOOR HANDLES, CUPBOARD CATCHES AND ALL TYPES OF IRONMONGERY
 - TEE HINGES, SUFFOLK LATCHES & BUTT HINGES
 - WARDROBE RAILS & FITTINGS, CURTAIN RAILS, WIRE & FITTINGS
 - FULL RANGE OF GARDENING TOOLS/BARBED WIRE/GALV WIRE
 - A RANGE OF TOOLS FOR ALL TRADES
 - JOHNSTONE'S & BERGERS PAINTS, STAINS, VARNISHES, PAINT ROLLERS & TRAYS, BRUSHES, FILLERS, SEALERS & ACCESSORIES.
 - ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF LIGHT BULBS & BATTERIES IN THE MIDLANDS.
 - FLUORESCENT TUBES, FUSES, CABLE, CONDUIT, ELECTRICAL FITTINGS
 - FANS, ELECTRICAL HEATERS & CALOR GAS HEATERS
 - VACUUM BAGS, VACUUM BELTS, **CALOR** GAS, REGULATORS, HOSES, COAL
 - SMOKELESS FUEL, WOOD LOGS & KINDLING
 - COMPOST, FARMYARD MANURE, GROWBAGS, ERICACEOUS & FERTILISERS
- ***SHRUBS AND BEDDING PLANTS NOW IN STOCK*****
- A LARGE RANGE OF HOUSEHOLD & KITCHEN UTENSILS, INCLUDING BROOMS, MOPS, BUCKETS, ELECTRIC KETTLES, TOASTERS, IRONS AND VARIOUS ITEMS
 - BIRD SEED, PET FOOD, HAY, STRAW, SHAVING AND SAWDUST NOW IN STOCK

KEY CUTTING WHILE 'U' WAIT

SHARPENING SERVICE AVAILABLE FOR GARDEN TOOLS AND LAWN MOWERS

DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

OPEN: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
SATURDAY 8.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

CALOR GAS STOCKIST

PHONE FALLON'S FIRST

CALOR

CALOR

The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals

“Putting animals on the agenda of the Christian Church.”

On Sunday 9th October, The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals (ASWA) led the annual animal welfare Sunday service at St. Nicolas. Every year ASWA hold the service at a different Church around the country.

There was a very enlightening sermon by the ASWA chairman, Rt Revd Richard Llewellyn which focused on the real cost of the food we eat from farm to plate.

God has given us ‘dominion’ not ‘domination’ over animals (Genesis 1:26). This means ‘loving care’ not ‘ruthless exploitation’. Please hold this thought when you are in the supermarket. Please view the ASWA website for more information:
www.aswa.org.uk.

Thank you to all who came to the service and to Rob for the use of St. Nicolas Church. I am also grateful for ASWA who organised the service and to the members of ASWA who were in attendance and had travelled quite a distance.

David Moorcroft



News from Moundsley Hall Care Village

Congratulations to the staff and residents of Moundsley Hall Care village who recently opened another new home for 30 clients. The newly built Buckingham House is spacious and each room has its own en-suite bathroom facility. Clients will be offered a high standard of nursing care from the staff who are committed to providing good professional and respectful care to its clients. In September a group of Moundsley's staff was present at the blessing of Buckingham House by the Rev. John White after a tour of the building. Best wishes and prayers for all at Moundsley Hall Care Village.



Fay Fearon.

Stuck for ideas for Christmas Gifts? Want to choose an alternative or ethical gift for someone, but are overwhelmed with which charity to choose? We may have the answer for you!

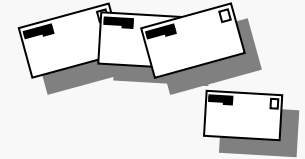
There are gift cards for sale (each with an envelope) available in the parish office (or with Sylvia in St Nicolas Church) which will support the work of Ifakara Bakery and the Free Bread Fund. Cards can be bought for any amount above £5 and every penny will go to the charity as the cards were provided free by our printers. There is information about the charity

inside the card and space for your own greeting - and also space to tell the recipient how many loaves their gift has bought - 1 loaf costs 25p so, for example, a gift of £10 will have provided 40 loaves - enough for many many people to get a nutritious meal.



Sylvia Fox

Dear Editor,



I would like to thank the clergy, in particular Rob and John, the Parish Office staff, Sylvia and Greta Lacey for being very helpful regarding finding a suitable place for my wife Joyce's memorial stone in the old churchyard.

Their kindness has been shown to me and my daughters, Karen, Nicola and Rachel from the time of Joyce's severe stroke in February until she died in October of last year. Prayers were said for Joyce in church very soon after the stroke, and many people from the church would stop me on The Green or in local roads to ask how things were, including myself. This is still happening, a friendly word asking how my family and I are.

Once again, St Nicolas Church has shown itself to be caring and kindly to the local community which, of course, Jesus on many occasions asked his followers to do.

This has reminded me of the Cotteridge Church where we attend (Joyce in spirit) and the community work that goes on there.

Alan Cheney.

Have you planned your Christmas Card list yet?

Please give a thought about whom at St Nicolas you might be sending Christmas cards to. Instead of covering the large table in St Nicolas in cards, often for folks you'll be seeing over Christmas anyway, please give a thought to sending your greeting this way instead.

Very soon, a large card will appear in St Nicolas – but with a design linked to bread!!! Inside will be plenty of space for you to write your greeting on, to all your friends at church. Outside will be a bowl to collect donations (the money that you would have spend on the individual cards) and the donations will go to the Ifakara Bakery.

Details of their work can be found at www.ibpfreebread.com or through the wonderful talks that Eugene and Margaret Schellenberg give about the work of the Ifakara Bakery and the Free Bread Funds. Maybe imagine you are buying a loaf with each card you would have bought.....at 25p each.

Sylvia Fox

STOP THE TRAFFIK

PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD



Human Trafficking starts in communities and can be stopped by communities. People in the West Midlands can work together to stop trafficking in their community.

How? Read on...

Stop the Traffik Community Roadshow
2pm -5pm, Saturday 19th November 2011
Hawkesley Primary School, 376 Shannon Road,
Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 9TR

Next summer, the Olympics takes place at venues all around the country. Thousands of hopeful athletes will choose to travel from around the world to win gold. Every minute of every hour of every day, other people are forced to travel around the world to make gold for someone else; trafficked. Deceived or coerced against their will, men, women and children are bought, sold and transported for forced begging, labour exploitation, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude and other forms of exploitation. Stop The Traffik Community Roadshows aim to equip local communities to tackle human trafficking ahead of the Olympic Games.

Why? Everyone needs to know what human trafficking is and how it affects them.

What? An interactive community workshop exploring the impact of trafficking and what we can do about it.

Where? The Birmingham Roadshow is being organised by local community members and professionals who want to lead the fight against human trafficking.

Who by? Members of the Stop the Traffik team, frontline professionals and local community activists.

Who for? Anyone in the West Midlands who wants to make it harder for trafficking to occur - faith groups, local charities, police officers, social workers, health workers, teachers, community services, local businesses and others.

To register for the Birmingham Roadshow, email act@stophetraffik.org with your name and address, indicating that you wish to attend the BIRMINGHAM roadshow.



Birmingham Methodist District

To find out more about trafficking: www.stophetraffik.org
For more information contact Kerry at adavuproject@gmail.com

Sarah Crooks

Saint Nicolas Festival December 3rd and 4th 2011

This year we are going to celebrate our generous Patron Saint (who else is the patron saint of prisoner and bankers?!) by re-launching our Saint Nicolas Place ... to draw in those from the community with whom we would like to share our wonderful buildings.

The new Interpretation fixtures will have arrived by then and various voices will tell parts of the story of each of the rooms. (See if you can guess which present day friends the voices belong to!)

On the Saturday, there will be presentations explaining how and where all the prize and grant money has been spent and what our future financial needs may look like; showcasing each of the different ways in which our buildings are and maybe put to use (community, corporate, wedding, artistic, heritage, educational to name but some); chance to savour seasonal food from our own Saracen's Head Cafe; time to meet Santa and discover about the traditions of St Nicolas the Saint; see a Bible Exhibition; relive the restoration project through photographs; buy gifts and cards from the Conservatory Shop.

The day will begin at 10.00 am in festive spirit and will have a famous Kings Norton friend to open the Interpretation.

The Sunday will begin with a Celebration Service, followed by a parish meal in the Ashford Hall – with members of the Awdry family as our guests. Guided Tours can be booked for the afternoon and then there will be Taizé Evening Worship at 6.00 pm to reflect on the whole weekend.

Please come to as much as you can manage – and bring friends and family. Tickets for the parish meal will be on sale in November.

Autumn Watch KN Style

We've had a few listings of bird and mammal sightings in the churchyard since we started and one fabulous set of sheets from 12th October came up with 17 different species of birds – in just one hour!

Between 8.00 am and 9.00 am on 12th October, one of my near neighbours observed and recorded blue tits, great tits, coal tits, long-tailed tits, pied wagtails, nuthatches, gold crest, wrens, robins, mistle thrushes, blackbirds, magpies, a jay, crows, wood pigeons and even a green woodpecker and a sparrow hawk!

Don't worry if you don't know many birds by species. Write down the ones you know, describe the others and check out the species listed about in a bird book or on google. You'll soon know some more species.

The forms are available on the parish website, in the Parish Office or in St Nicolas Church if you would like to give an hour (or more) to discover what wildlife we share the churchyard with. The data collected will help us in our designing of external interpretation over the next months. Observations/listings can be done at any time convenient and safe to yourself.

Sylvia Fox

Sleep Tight Grave Tending Services and Restoration

Headstone, memorial cleaning and general maintenance
of a beloved one's resting place

For what ever reason - maybe age, family, work commitments or sheer upset
Sleep Tight Grave Tending Services is here to assist.

Please contact Brian for further information on 07870 802792
or email blee64@live.co.uk

Michael J Gill

Painter & Decorator

*Trading locally for 27yrs with over
40yrs experience*



Please phone 0121 458 3830 for a free estimate

- ⇒ National movement with a commitment to develop, mobilise and serve frontier youth work in all parts of the UK.
- ⇒ Pioneering movement, which is flexible, creative and experimental, one that respects, listens to and identifies with those at the edges of society and church.
- ⇒ Missionary community expressed in local, regional and national ways. A community which is in costly solidarity with those who are marginalised in society and church. One which is engaged in theological reflection of its activity.

I have chosen just one of their projects to show how all these words are very definitely put into real action.

StreetSpace/Church on the Edge is a project that is best described as “youth work that starts where young people are in the community.” It usually begins with adult youth workers (often Christians working from and with churches) making contact with young people in their own area and developing relationships of mutual trust. This slowly grows to working with the young people to take action on the things that concern them most in their area. In areas of Bristol and Exeter, this has meant getting lighting and improved ramps in their skate park. In some of the areas, this relationship of mutual respect has developed into a meaningful expression of church alongside the adults, or of multi-generational community action projects. FYT call this 'church on the edge'. Sometimes this kind of work can be very lonely and the church projects supported by FYT benefit from support and mentoring of youth workers. The benefits from it can be very far reaching.

Sylvia Fox



Mission Focus - Frontier Youth Trust

FYT or Frontier Youth Trust is one of the Charities which the parish as a whole supports in finance as well as in prayer.

They are a Christian network dedicated to **mission with young people at risk**. Directly involved in youth work through a wide range of projects, agencies, churches and individuals, they are also very active in training youth workers, producing resources, campaigning with and for young people and researching youth work related themes. They are nationwide, and the Birmingham part of the network is based in St George's Community Hub, Newtown. They frequently work in partnership with other youth charities and church dioceses. They can be found at www.fyt.org.uk

Their mission statement says it all really -

Principal activity: Frontier Youth Trust (FYT) is working with young people at risk towards justice, equality and community; we are a Christian network dedicated to advancing the Kingdom of God. Based upon our direct experience of youth work and research, we also support, resource, inform, advise and train those working with and on behalf of disadvantaged young people. FYT believes that the most effective youth work is built upon Christian principles.

Frontier Youth Trust – our objectives:

1. Initiating, developing and resourcing direct work with young people at risk.
2. Developing research, training, resources and advice based on our direct work.
3. Giving a voice to local young people and their communities, enabling them to change those structures and systems that do not promote justice, equality and community.

Frontier Youth Trust – our values:

Women's Fellowship

Our meeting will take place on Thursday 3rd November in the North Hall, St. Nicolas Place at 7.30pm.

The programme is to be a Singalong with Tony Breedon and his keyboard. All are welcome to attend.

Alison Blumer, Chairman.

Kings Norton History Society

KINGS NORTON HISTORY SOCIETY meeting to be held on Monday 28th November when we are delighted to welcome Ted Rudge once more to tell us the "HISTORY OF THREE VILLAGES", the villages being Balsall Heath, Moseley and Kings Heath before and just after their transfer to Warwickshire and Birmingham in 1911 and the involvement the church and gentry of the villages played in the establishment of local Horticultural events.

Doors open at 7.00 p.m. and the talk will start at 7.30. Visitors are always welcome at the Society's meetings.

Claire Simpson, Chairman.

Graveyard Clearing

Please add the dates in your diary and come to one or more of the sessions if you can.

Nov 5th, 19th and 26th from 10am to 12 noon each time. Please wear stout footwear & gloves and bring a rake if you can. See you there!

Richard Harper



Mission Focus - St Mary's Hospice

One of the Parish charities this year has been St Mary's Hospice. A charity almost everyone knows about and supports in some way during each year. But what do we actually know about the way it works and what it does?



So, what is a Hospice?

Hospice is a term for services providing care for people with a life limiting illness. Another term for this is 'specialist palliative care'. Palliative means to relieve symptoms without curing the actual illness. The concept of hospice has been evolving since the 11th century. Then, and for centuries thereafter, hospices were places of hospitality for the sick, wounded, or dying, as well as those for travelers and pilgrims.

Birmingham St Mary's Hospice cares for people as in-patients (25 beds) or during the day time only at the Day Hospice (20 beds) or at home. It also provides support for their families.

How can someone be referred to St Mary's Hospice?

Referrals come via the patient's GP, Hospital Doctor or District Nurse (in Birmingham or Sandwell). They can get a blank referral form from the Hospice by telephoning the Hospice.

How much will it cost a patient?

Services are free of charge to patients because St Mary's Hospice is a charity. The hospice costs are met mainly through public support.

What illnesses do Hospice patients have?

Many have cancer but others might have neurological conditions (like MS or MND) or heart, kidney or respiratory diseases that cannot be cured. They usually have very complex symptoms which can be improved by palliative care. St Mary's Hospice doesn't just see people at the end of their lives; they also see people very early in their illness to offer psychological, spiritual support and symptom control.

How much does it cost to run St Mary's Hospice?

The most current running costs I could find listed were around £6.3 million per year, which means it costs £725 every hour to provide care for the patients.



SAINT NICOLAS PLACE
KINGS NORTON BIRMINGHAM

CHARITY QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT

Come along to take part in an amazing quiz here at Saint Nicolas Place. It will be a night to remember with many things going on, including a hearty home made curry that you can delve into and, on top of that, you can bring your own alcohol! We will also provide free childcare for you in which you can rest in the knowledge that your child is being entertained in a well equipped youth room by a fully CRB checked member of staff.

All proceeds go towards maintaining Saint Nicolas Place.

Ticket Price: £10.00

Friday 25th November

7.30pm onwards

Kings Norton Farmers Market

The Green Kings Norton Birmingham
2nd Saturday each Month

Get
FRESH

Next Market is 12th
November 2011
9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.



founded 1616, re-established 2005

the first Community Interest

Farmers Market in Britain



We are all invited to Messy Church on Farmers' Market Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon in St Nicolas Church.

The next one will be on Saturday 12th November. These are craft sessions on a Biblical theme for all ages - a great opportunity to have fun and get to know each other. We look forward to seeing you there!

KINGS NORTON FARMERS' MARKET

Kings Norton Farmers' Market was re-established in 2005 and we meet on The Green, Kings Norton on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9am to 2pm.

The Market has proved to be a popular venue with shoppers and has won the FARMA (National Farmers' Market Association) Midlands Farmers' Market of the Year Award in 2007 and 2008 and was Regional Finalist for 2010.

There is an average of 30 stalls selling a wide range of produce varying from fresh vegetables, green grocery, bread, fresh and cooked meats, pastries, cakes, pies and eggs – all locally produced. Other vendors sell fish, home made soup, honey, plants, flowers and many other products combining to make a visit to the Market a unique shopping experience.



Our motto is "GET FRESH" because we believe in local fresh produce being made available to the general public directly from the producers.

We are a Community Interest Company and all profits generated by the Market are used

to support local community projects.

Please note that whilst parking is at a premium on The Green, there is free parking available in the car park of the Navigation Inn, in Wharf Road, a short walk from The Green.

For more information, please go to our website: www.kingsnortonfarmersmarket.co.uk or telephone Terry Bowen (0121 459 9383) or Rod Kent (0121 458 1887). Thank you.

About £1m comes from the shops, about £2.7 million from community fund raising and the rest from the NHS.

How long do patients stay in the Hospice?

This depends on what the patient needs but is usually about two weeks. Occasionally it's longer if a patient has very complicated needs.

Do all Hospice patients actually come into the Hospice for care?

No, many of them stay at home and get support from their GPs, District Nurses and the Hospice's own Community Specialist Nurses. They can come into the Hospice for care if it becomes necessary.

Sometimes patients are admitted to the inpatient unit for respite care, usually to give their family or carers a break.

Patients who are near the end of life may choose to come into the Hospice to die. We always aim to support patients to be wherever they want to be to die.

Is Birmingham St Mary's Hospice a religious place?

No. Although it was started in 1979 by a Christian Matron working with the neighbouring Roman Catholic Priest, it is not connected to any one religion; it welcomes people from all faiths as well as those who do not have any religious beliefs. Spiritual care is an important aspect of the care that we provide and we aim to meet the differing needs of each of our individual patients.

And some "how might I help individually?" questions...

How do I become a volunteer at the Hospice?

You can phone the Hospice and ask for a Volunteer Application Form. We recruit volunteers in the same way that we recruit staff. We arrange an interview and take up references.

How do I make a donation to Birmingham St Mary's Hospice?

To make a donation, you can:

- Send a cheque made payable to "St Mary's Hospice" by post to Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, 176 Raddlebarn Road, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7DA;
- Hand cash in at the Hospice Reception or one of our shops;
- Buy products or donate products in one of the Hospice shops;
- Pay by debit or credit card over the telephone by calling the fundraising department on 0121 472 1191;
- Make a regular gift by standing order, directly from your bank account.

Sylvia Fox

Real Easter Egg company reveals Christmas tree campaign

A campaign to make the UK's 20 million Christmas trees a bit more meaningful this December has been launched.

The campaign is in response to news that 46% of people say Jesus is irrelevant to their celebration of Christmas. To help parents, grandparents and godparents communicate the Christmas story to the next generation, The Meaningful Chocolate Company has produced the UK's first ever interactive set of chocolate Fairtrade tree decorations, based on the characters of the Nativity story.

Each box of Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations contains a limited edition Christmas card, a sticker set and six hand wrapped, high quality, Fairtrade chocolate decorations. The Christmas story, which can be found on the card, enables adults or children to read the story while placing character stickers on the decorations. Once completed, the decorations can be hung on the tree as a reminder of the real meaning of Christmas.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said "The Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations are an opportunity to buy an interactive gift that allows the telling of the Christmas story at home. The card also includes an invitation for people to go to church to hear the Christmas story there. So, not only is it educational, it's also a piece of evangelism."

The Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations cost £3.95. Church orders can be made through www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk or exclusively from Traidcraft. Orders should be made by 14th November 2011 as supplies are limited.



My Favourite Bible passage - Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

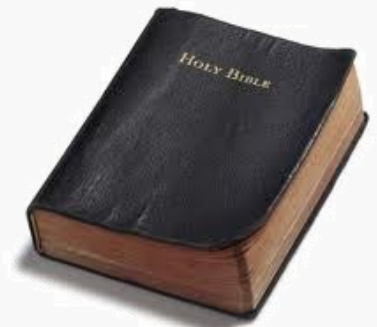
I have always enjoyed singing this Psalm. It reminds me of my days singing in the choir at St Nicolas and particularly the many weddings we sang at each Saturday. I'm not sure how much notice I took of the words at the time, but as I have grown in my faith, it is a passage that I have continued to read regularly and it has always been a source of comfort and reassurance.

I'm sure Susan and Sylvia will be able to think of many settings and tunes that this Psalm has been sung to, but Crimmond has always been my favourite, although I did like the version that was used as the theme tune for 'The Vicar of Dibley'. While these may be familiar to readers, I suspect that there is one place that I have sung this Psalm regularly that may come as a surprise to some - The Hawthorns, home of West Bromwich Albion. I have no idea how this tradition started (although there are a few theories) but it is always sung when things are going well and to hear 20,000 plus people singing these words at the top of their voices is very rousing. Initially I wasn't sure about the appropriateness of this, but I have decided that since the words are not changed or used in any kind of sectarian way that actually it is very positive to hear so many people singing words of praise to God with such gusto!

Alan Haynes

What is your favourite Bible story? Why not help celebrate the 400th anniversary of the KJV Bible by writing it down and sending it to us so we can share it with our readers?

Editor



Book review - Journeying with Mark: Lectionary

Authors: Paula Gooder, Mark Pryce & James Woodward

Pub: SPCK

RRP: £9.99, but often cheaper online – e.g £8.99 from Amazon.co.uk



As many of you know, the Revised Common Lectionary, used in this parish, provides the calendar of readings used both at midweek and at Sunday services. The Sunday gospel readings in particular

follow a 3 year cycle with the first year (Yr A) using Matthew, the second (Yr B) Mark and the third (Yr C) Luke for the majority of texts, with additional readings from John's gospel in all three years. From Advent Sunday (Nov 27th) we shall be in Year B and thus concentrating on the text of Mark's gospel, which is exactly the subject of this recently published and easy to read slim volume. It's written by 3 people with whom I have had the privilege of studying and working alongside and who I respect enormously, both for their wisdom and practical common sense.

The book divides the year up into its seasons (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Ordinary Time) and devotes a chapter to reviewing the gospel readings for each of these. Within each chapter there are sections by Paula on *Exploring the text*, by Mark on *Imagining the text* and by James on *Reflecting on the text*. Each chapter concludes with a practical suggestion as to how the ordinary person might incorporate the theme of these gospel readings into everyday life, some

questions to stimulate further thought and a prayer.

Here's a taster from Paula's introduction:

Mark's Gospel is probably the best known of all the Gospels. There is something about its lively, punchy style that draws us right into the story it is telling. Mark's Gospel, more than any other, encourages us to enter imaginatively into the world of Jesus: to walk with Jesus and his disciples, to feel the anger of the authorities and the wonder of the crowd, to see Jesus' miracles and hear his preaching. Mark's style of writing is vivid (he uses the phrase 'and immediately' more than any other Gospel writer), fresh and animated. It draws us into its story and encourages us, who read it in the twenty-first century, to respond to 'the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God' (Mark 1.1) just as much as it did its readers in the first century.

I am only part way through reading this book, but can thoroughly recommend it as good preparation for next year's lectionary gospel readings.

Revd Jayne



Modern & Traditional Memorials
0121 459 2355
 Professional and friendly advice
 COLOUR BROCHURE AVAILABLE

The Memorial Company
 277-279 Pershore Road South,
 Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3EX



www.memorialcompany.co.uk



in association with 

Hope Counselling & Training offers a series of 1 and 2 day professional development courses aimed at health & social care staff and pastoral/family support workers and carers.

<p>Introduction to Dementia</p>  <p>An introductory course suitable for all health and social care professionals and for all who care for and support people with dementia.</p> <p>26 November & 3 December 2011 26 & 27 January 2012 16 & 17 February 2012</p>	<p>Considering a career in counselling?</p> <p>Counselling Taster Programme</p>  <p>A 2 day taster programme designed to offer an insight into counselling and the skills/techniques used by counsellors and other professionals who work in a 'helping' capacity.</p> <p>14 & 21 January 2012 10 & 17 March 2012</p>	<p>'Open the Box'</p>  <p>A one day, visually impacting workshop specifically designed for those who support people with low self esteem and lack of confidence to address their defences and underlying fears.</p> <p>10 December 2011 18 January 2012 22 February 2012 21 March 2012</p>
--	---	---

For course information and fees visit: www.hopcounselling.org.uk or call us on 0121 603 2886

harlequinprint
limited

- Letterheads
- Brochures
- Business Cards
- Leaflets
- Labels
- Flyers
- Envelopes

Full Design &
Print Service

www.harlequinprint.co.uk
Email: sales@harlequinprint.co.uk

0121 459 3454

26 Castle Road, Kings Norton Business Park,
Birmingham B30 3HZ.

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES (UK) LTD

An appointed representative
of Falcon Group plc, which is regulated by
the Financial Services Authority.

- Pensions & Annuities
- Investment & Saving
- Mortgages Protection
- Equity Release / ISA's / Unit Trusts

Your home may be repossessed if you do
not keep up repayments on your mortgage

BIRMINGHAM AREAS

Tel/Fax: 0121 475 9655
Mobile: 07830 254899
129 Wychall Road, Northfield B31
e-mail:
john.clapham@theifsgroup.com
website: www.theifsgroup.com

Enjoy Learning To Drive

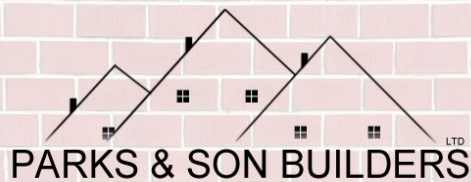
- Qualified Grade 5 Instructor
- Ford Fiesta TDCI
- Beginners Special Offer
- 1st Five Lessons £59.95**
- Multi-Buy Discounts
- South B/ham & Surrounding Areas

0121 453 9931

DAVID SMITH



www.davidsmithdriving.co.uk



FENSA
HomePro
2 BRANSFORD RISE
CATHERINE DE BARNES, SOLIHULL, B91 2TP

FOR ALL YOUR PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

PVCu GUTTERING & FASCIA
FLAT ROOFING
ROOF SLATING
BRICK WORK
FENCING
SLABBING
PVCu DOUBLE GLAZING
10 YEAR GUARANTEE

FREE ESTIMATES - WORK GUARANTEED
FAX/TEL NO: 0121-705 7504

Painter & Decorating Contractor

Interior / Exterior / Domestic / Commercial
Houses, Shops, Schools, Offices, Elderly Homes, Ceramic Tiling
Insurance Work Welcome Free Quotations & Advice



Stuart Aston

3 Elms Close, West Heath, Birmingham B38 8HY
Tel: 0121 475 5902 0777 6230620



NORTON DECOR

A Full Design and Home Improvement Service,
Repairs, Painting and Decorating

83 AVERSLEY ROAD, KINGS NORTON B38 8PJ
TEL: 0121-458 6498

DOVETAILS

OF KINGS NORTON

46 Calverley Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8PW
Tel: 0121 459 3443 Mobile: 07790 592942

CARPENTERS & JOINERS

Doors, Kitchens, Stair Spindals, Skirting, Etc.

Email: dovetailsofkingsnorton@hotmail.co.uk

A small family business Established 1989

Apprentice trained. Over 35 years experience
V.A.T. Registration No. 8608 728 95
Company Directors: A.S. Crowton, S. Crowton.



SAINT NICOLAS PLACE
KINGS NORTON BIRMINGHAM

Gift Shop



Warm up for Autumn and Winter

Visit the Saint Nicolas Place Gift Shop and Check out our New Lines.

Harvest of Arden Preserves.

Jams, Chutneys and Marmalades.

New Line ! Fruit Curd: Apple Curd. Lemon Curd.

New Books by Birmingham's Favourite, Alton Douglas.

Re-live your memories with his range of "Birmingham in the .." series.

Countryside Books Range.

Local Walking Guides, Historic Buildings, Folklore and Customs

Saint Nicolas Church Christmas Cards.

by David Ash

Saint Nicolas Place Christmas Cards.

Book your tickets for our fantastic Winter programme in the Shop.

Comedy Night. November 13th £10 & £8 concession
With Maureen Younger, James Dowdeswell, Andrew Watts & Barbara Niece

'Historic Halloween' Costumed Guided Tour
Tour followed by Hearty Supper . £20 adults . £7.50 children

Murder Mystery "Bloodshed and the Blitz"
by popular re-enactor Matthew Hunter of "Horrible Histories" fame
Sat 19th November 7pm. £ 25. including 3 course supper.



September 2011 Baptisms

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"

4 th September	Matilda Lily Ainley
4 th September	Teagan Rose Bagley
4 th September	Rose Megan Brooke
4 th September	Gerry Eric Rylie
4 th September	Lexie Rosemary Houghton
4 th September	Evie-Grace Powell
18 th September	Zach Daniel Horton
18 th September	Phoebe Elizabeth Walker
25 th September	Faith Jane Love

September 2011 Marriages

"Those whom God has joined together"

2 nd September	Andrew Stuart Rea and Hayley Louise Price
3 rd September	Douglas Fawke and Angela Evadne Daley
3 rd September	Michael John Davey and Tamsin Verity Carter
9 th September	Paul Michael Whelan and Lindsay Jayne Smith
10 th September	Thomas Howard Benjamin Price and Caroline Dodd
16 th September	Matthew Desmond Smith and Michelle Katharine Carey
17 th September	Gregory and Jacqueline Peckover
17 th September	Stuart John Paul Clews and Jane Alexandra McCleary
17 th September	Mark Antony Bennett and Laura Kim Smith

Harry L Marks

MONUMENTAL MASONS

Quality Manufacturing Since 1898

To Deliver Your Requirements

Kings Norton's Nearest Manufacturing Mason

Unique Materials - Individual Designs - Extensive Displays

Additional Inscriptions & Renovations

"See Our Craftsmen At Work"

0121 444 1840

"The Sculptor"

Visit Our Showroom & Workshop at:

Cemetery Works, Woodthorpe Road, Brandwood End,
Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 6EH

Bates and Sadler

EXPERTS IN MEMORIAL
DESIGN AND LETTERING
LARGE STOCKS ON DISPLAY

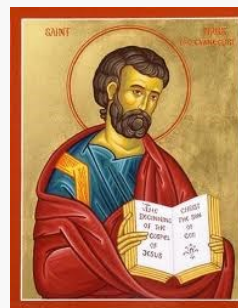


HARBORNE
MARBLE CENTRE
295 Harborne Lane - Harborne
tel: 0121 471 4437

Marble for all purposes -
Stone - Marble - Slate
Hearths - Etc.

promise and expectation. Mark portrays Jesus as frequently commanding silence to his true identity.

In the account of the Passion of Christ, Mark shows that God's glory is revealed not in strength but in weakness. For Mark, his Gospel is about suffering and glory and the two go hand in hand. He believes that the salvation of Jesus could only be accomplished through the cross.



Mark's Gospel has two endings.

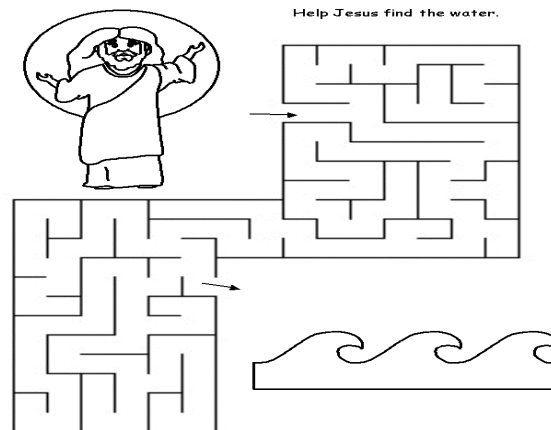
- Shorter ending (16:1-8) Mark ends his gospel at the resurrection of Jesus Christ where the women find an empty tomb.
- Longer ending (16:9-20) thought to have been added later, probably not by Mark, gives accounts of Jesus' resurrection appearances, his command to spread the Good News in the world and his Ascension.

Mark is asserting that Jesus is the Messiah and the Revelation of God and that this story witnesses to 'the beginning of the Good News'.

Mark opens his Gospel with Jesus' baptism. Have a go at the maze below!

Jesus is Baptized Maze

Help Jesus find the water.



CHILDREN'S PAGE... with Gail.



Hello everyone!

On 27th November, we not only enter into the season of Advent, but we begin a new lectionary year. This means we will now concentrate on **The Gospel of Mark**. Together let's learn a little bit about Mark's Gospel...

There are four Gospels in the New Testament; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Gospel of Mark is the second Gospel. It is also the shortest.

It is thought to have been the first of the Gospels to have been written down and '*...the beginning of the Good News...*' Mark 1:1

It is sometimes called the 'Imminent Gospel' because of its sense of urgency. An example of this is found in Mark's use of the word 'immediately' which occurs nearly forty times.

Just like in the other Gospels, Mark tells of the story of Jesus Christ. However, Mark doesn't record the birth of Jesus but begins his gospel at his baptism.

It is carefully structured:

- The baptism of Jesus
- Being cast out into the wilderness
- Jesus gathers his disciples
- Jesus' ministry around Galilee (Chapters 2-9)
- Journey to Jerusalem (Chapter 10)
- Events of Jerusalem – Jesus' last week and the Passion Narrative (Chapter 11-16)

More than in the other gospels, Jesus hides his 'messianic identity'. Messianic means the promised and expected deliverer and Jesus fulfils this

A friendly 24-hour service is offered from our Kings Norton Funeral Home

A family run business with a personal and
compassionate outlook, giving service
to the people of Birmingham and
the surrounding areas

Since its birth at the beginning of the last century
this Birmingham based family business has built a
foremost reputation for its professional service,
furnished with care, understanding and sensitivity.

Now in its fourth generation, S. Gascoigne & Sons
Ltd continue to offer the people of Birmingham a
premier personal and professional service.

S. GASCOIGNE & SONS LTD.

FAMILY OWNED

Funeral Directors and Monumental Masons

277-279 PERSHORE ROAD SOUTH

(NEXT TO ST. NICOLAS CHURCH)

KINGS NORTON

BIRMINGHAM B30 3EX

0121 458 5859

24 HOUR SERVICE

September 2011 Funerals

"I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord"

- 6th September Blessing Antigha. Burial at Kings Norton Cemetery.
- 8th September Glenwen Hall, 84. Service in St Nicolas Church, cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 8th September Peter Henry Thomas, 82. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 12th September John Powell, 87. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 12th September John Dennis Taylor, 86. Cremation at Yardley.
- 13th September Precious Rose Brotherton, 2 hours. Service at St Nicolas Church, burial in St Nicolas churchyard.
- 14th September Rose Louise Warren, 84. Service in St Nicolas Church, burial at Lodge Hill.
- 16th September Irene Beatrice Warner, 95. Cremation at Robin Hood.
- 19th September Patrick Leonard Holohan, 69. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 21st September George Henry Mitchell, 89. Cremation at Lodge Hill.
- 30th September Richard Robertson. Interment of ashes in St Nicolas churchyard.

At Saint Nicolas Place

Women's Fellowship Seniors' Club (Over 65's)

7.30pm 1st Thursday; Secretary: Carol Devic
Every Wednesday 1pm – 3pm
Christine Bowen & Marlene Collyer

Guides and Brownies

Rainbows: Mondays 5.30 - 6.30 pm
Brownies (188th Birmingham): Tuesdays 6.00-7.30 pm
Brownies: Thursdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm
Guides (247th Birmingham): Mondays 7.15-9.00 pm

Guides and Brownies at Hawkesley Church Centre

Rainbows (1st Kings Norton): Mondays 5.30 pm
Brownies (259th Birmingham): Wednesdays 6.30 pm
Guides (141st Birmingham): Thursdays 7.00 pm

Scouts and Cubs (198th & 129th Birmingham)

Tuesdays at Oddingley Hall,
Oddingley Road, B31 3BS

Beavers (6-8yrs): 5-6 pm Penny Hattersley 628 5694
Cubs (8-10½): 6.15-7.45 pm Gareth Jones 624 0226
Scouts (10½-15½): 8 pm Rob Keenahan 244 0789

Saint Nicolas Place

81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU.

Ancient buildings given new life by community and church in partnership.
Explore your heritage, volunteer, gather for meetings, functions and events
or just enjoy our Cafe and Shop (open 10am - 4pm Mon-Saturday).

All enquiries – and to plan and book your event - phone **0121 458 1223**
Email: info@saintnicolasplace.co.uk Website: www.saintnicolasplace.co.uk

Staff Team Director: Abigail Roberts Bookings/Events: Andrew Driscoll
Heritage and Learning Officer: Matthew Knox

Kings Norton Parish Office

St Nicolas Place, 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8RU. 0121 458 3289
e-mail:- parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk Open: 10 am - 1pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri
Parish website www.kingsnorton.org.uk
Please use Parish Office to contact clergy and lay officers, to place prayers and notices in
our weekly newsletter and monthly Events Diary – and for all churchyard enquiries.

Hawkesley Anglican Methodist Church Primary School

Shannon Road, Hawkesley, Kings Norton, B38 9TR 459 6467 Fax: 459 6468
School website: www.hawkesley.bham.sch.uk

KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

People, Places and Contacts

Please use our website www.kingsnorton.org.uk, ask at services or Open Church times or at Parish Office on 0121 458 3289 (Mon-Fri 10am – 1pm). The weekly newsletter and monthly events diary have the latest information. Churchyard enquiries to Parish Office

MINISTRY TEAM:

Canon Rob Morris (Team Rector)	458 3289/459 0560
The Revd Dr John White (Team Vicar)	458 3289/07854 412949
The Revd Jayne Crooks (Team Priest)	458 3289/459 3733
The Revd Donald Sampson (Methodist Minister)	458 3289/476 7223
Mrs Fay Fearon (Reader)	458 3289/451 1914
Mrs Ruth Howman (Reader)	458 3289

WARDENS

St. Nicolas Hawkesley	Paul Shelton, Anne Hughes 458 3289 Jim Clarke 550 3455/07939 838086 Elaine Cooper
Immanuel	Alan Haynes 459 4711

PCC (Church Council)	Secretary: Judy Ash Treasurer: Tracey Adams
Parish Administrators:	Judy Ash, Sylvia Fox, Christine Gadd
Christian Giving Officer	Jean Brownsword 458 3289
Churchyard Care Team	Richard Harper 458 3289
Bible Reading Fellowship	Julie Caley 458 3289
Flower Co-ordinator	Alison Blumer 486 2837
Organist and Music Director	Sylvia Fox 07778 449170

*Tuesday: Training and groups 6-9pm; Friday: Juniors 6.30-7.45 p.m.; Seniors/Adults 8-9pm.
Handbell Ringers Mondays 3-4.30 p.m. - please phone first to check we are meeting if you are hoping to come along.*

Immanuel Music Group	Susan Haynes 459 4711
-----------------------------	-----------------------

Oasis/ Sunday School/

Immanuel	Nicky Moorcroft (Oasis leader)
St. Nicolas and Hawkesley	contact via Parish Office 458 3289

Parish Magazine: Editor	Alan Haynes 459 4711 editor@kingsnorton.org.uk
Treasurer (Subscriptions)	Alison Blumer 486 2837
Advertising Manager	Evelyn Finn via Parish Office 458 3289
Parish Website	David Ash e-mail webmaster@kingsnorton.org.uk

Bell Ringers Ringing Master	Practice Tuesdays at 7.30 to 9.15 p.m. in the Tower Jim Dunn 744 6334
--	--

The co-operative funeralcare

when you need us we'll
be there

As the region's leading funeral director, Midlands Co-operative Funeral Services have been providing a caring and sympathetic service for more than 70 years.

- 24 hour professional care and attention
- Pre-payment funeral bonds and probate advice service
- Beautiful flowers for all occasions
- Quality memorials in a range of designs



1290 Pershore Road, Stirchley 0121 458 5151

828 Bristol Road, Selly Oak 0121 472 2459

All Midlands Co-operative Funeral Homes in the region can be contacted on the numbers above, these include: Castle Bromwich, Coleshill, Great Barr, Hall Green, Kingstanding, Notts Green, Oldbury, Pype Hayes, Quinton, Redditch, Rubery, Selly Oak, Shirley, Solihull, Weoley Castle, West Bromwich, Yardley and Yardley Wood

www.midlands.coop/funeralcare

Midlands Co-operative Society Limited



The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish in partnership with the Methodist Church, serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas Parish Church and Hawkesley and Immanuel District Churches.

We believe that the church in Kings Norton exists:

To be a worshipping transforming partnership in Christ

To live out God's radical hospitality for all

To be equipped for work in God's world

St Nicolas Parish Church *on The Green B38 8RU*

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 am Holy Communion Oasis for 5-11's
2nd Sunday: 10.30am Parade Service - All Age Worship 11.45am Matins (BCP)
4pm Holy Baptism (*1st and 3rd Sundays*)
6 pm Evening Worship

Every Sunday evening we offer prayer, music and quiet for all to share in as you wish. Do come..

1st Sunday : Taizé Prayer 2nd Sunday: Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing

3rd Sunday : Night Prayer and reflection 4th/5th Sundays: Special services/Evensong (BCP)

Mon, Wed, Thu 9am Morning Prayer

Thursday 11 am Holy Communion (BCP)

BCP is the Book of Common Prayer from 1662. Other services are a mix of ancient and modern words and music, mostly from the Common Worship Service Book 2000.

Hawkesley Church (Anglican/Methodist)

at Hawkesley School on the corner of Shannon Road and Old Partway ,Kings Norton, B38 9TR

Sunday 10.30am Worship and Children's Activities (5 -11's):

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd & 4th Sundays – Morning Worship.

Tuesday 10am Hawkesley Coffee Morning (every two weeks)

Immanuel Church

at The Fairway Centre on the corner of Wychall Lane and The Fairway, Kings Norton, B38 8XJ

Sunday 10.30am Worship - and Oasis for children of primary school age.

1st & 3rd Sundays – Holy Communion;

2nd Sunday – Morning Worship

4th Sunday – All Age Worship

Open Church

We open St Nicolas Church as much as we can so that all may share God's peace and promise in a space where they have been found and trusted for centuries. There is a place for you within its story. Please pray that more will know it as a safe place for prayer and healing, where sorrow and joy are held in God's love.

We welcome volunteers to share in our offering of welcome, refreshment and care through St Nicolas, Hawkesley and Immanuel, to steward St Nicolas in Open Church times and care for our churchyard, flowers and brasses. Do ask.

Open Church times

Do visit, pray, light a candle or share quiet conversation over coffee as you wish

Wednesday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 6.30 – 9pm (Candlelit Church)

Thursday 6.30 – 8pm for all Marriage and Baptism enquiries

Saturday 10.00 am – 12 noon for coffee, knit-and-natter, prayer

*with **Messy Church** for all ages every 2nd Saturday (Market Day)*

Candlelit Church

Every Wednesday, 6.30 – 9 pm with informal learning together at 8pm.

Quiet spaces, candles, conversation, creativity and music.

Arrive at any time; stay for any length of time - as you wish.

Tiny Tots

Thursdays, 9.30 am (term time) in St Nicolas Church for 0-5's and parents/carers.

Growing in Faith

We are growing fresh ways for all to grow in faith – those making their very first step, those who have made many and those who are discovering God's love afresh after times of change. Please ask in each church for details.

Baptisms and Marriages

Please visit St Nicolas on Thursdays between 6.30pm and 8pm to ask any questions and arrange bookings with our clerks. One of the clergy is also present to help if there is a question over whether your service can be held in this parish.

Helping to keep our parish church open for all

It costs around £800 each week to keep St Nicolas open. We welcome all financial support through donations and especially through regular Planned Giving. Do ask for details and, if a taxpayer, please ask how you may Gift Aid your offering.