



Letter #70 Church Family email 06/05/2021

Tel: 01732 740340
office@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org
www.stnicholas-sevenoaks.org

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

'Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve ... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.' [Joshua 24:15]

This Sunday evening twenty young people will be asked publicly who they will serve. Confirmation is a wonderful opportunity for them to profess their faith in the Lord Jesus openly before family and friends. Yet, as they profess public allegiance to Christ in a world where there is so much opposition each one of us also needs to reflect where we stand. The words above, spoken by Joshua, remind us that however long we have followed Christ, each of us are confronted with the same choice. So, let us use the opportunity of our Confirmation Service not only to pray for these young people but may it also be a call for each one of us to renew our own pledge to follow the Lord Jesus.

Sunday 9th May 2021

Services continue 'in person' and on livestream. To attend, please reserve a seat noting that you will receive an email confirmation as a sign that you have followed the instructions correctly! Online access (and Zoom Coffee events) can be found [here, together with our Covid-safe procedures](#).

Service times are as follows:

- **8am Holy Communion at St Nicholas [no livestream]**
- **St Nicholas @ 9.15am – in person [[booking required here](#)] & livestream**
- **St Nicholas @ Lady Boswell's – there will be two services at Lady Boswell's**
 - **one at 9.30am [with livestream] [[booking required here](#)]**
 - **and one at 11am [[booking required here](#)]**
- **St Nicholas @ 11am – in person [[booking required here](#)] & livestream**
- **St Nicholas @ 6:30pm – Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Maidstone - in person [all seats already reserved] please join us on Zoom [using the link shown here](#)**

Congregational singing will take place in the St Nicholas churchyard before the 9.15 service (8:55am), in the car park after the 11am service and between the two services at Lady Boswell's at 10:30am.

Prayer focus

1. Please pray for the Confirmation Service with Bishop Rod Thomas at 6.30pm. It will be the first 'in person' evening service for over a year. Pray for the 20 young people to be confirmed that they would each continue to walk closely with the Lord in the days ahead.
2. Pray for God to speak to us powerfully on Sunday. Gavin continues in 1 Corinthians 15 at 9.15am, Matt on Exodus 2 at 11am and I'm looking at the next section in Hebrews 11 at Lady Boswell's. Pray for our hearts to engage with the Lord that we may be strengthened and revived.



3. Please pray for those returning to the building in these days that they would be kept from anxiety and especially that as they gather with others, they would receive real encouragement in their faith in Christ.

Personal News

From time to time I have shared the position concerning my health and I want to provide a brief update. Sadly, but not unexpectedly, the medics have confirmed that though I have been double vaccinated I do not have any antibodies. The reason is that my immuno-suppressant medication is doing a very good job of hoovering up the vaccine. So, I remain in the 'clinically extremely vulnerable' group and will need to proceed with great caution. However, the Haematology Consultant has indicated that whilst community rates are low, Sue and I can return to the buildings provided all precautions are taken. It was a delight to be present at Lady Boswell's to preach last Sunday morning and we very much look forward to being in the St Nicholas building this Sunday evening for the Confirmation. Ongoing prayer would be much appreciated.

Kirsty Birkett | Webinar on 'Coming to Terms with Depression'

Last week Thursday 29th April this webinar was held. Many have commented about the sane, practical and encouraging message which was communicated through the speaker and for the helpful contribution of Gavin and Hannah. The recording of the webinar can be [accessed here](#). A resource list relating to issues such as depression and anxiety can be [accessed here](#).

Ascension Day | Thursday 13th May 2021 | 12.30pm Communion at St Nicholas

Ascension Day is often a neglected festival within the Church year and yet its message about Christ's triumph is absolutely essential. We will be holding a Communion Service at 12.30pm in the church to which all are welcome. (No need to reserve a seat)

'Hong Kong Ready'

The UK is expecting many people to arrive from Hong Kong in the coming months and this is an initiative, involving OMF, to ensure that churches are suitably equipped and encouraged to provide a warm welcome. Andrea Trevenna has prepared this short video clip about this initiative which can be [accessed here](#).

Annual Parochial Church Meeting | 8pm Tuesday 18th May 2021

The APCM will be held using the Zoom webinar format to ensure as many as possible can access this meeting. Nomination forms can be downloaded by clicking on the link: [Nomination to the PCC](#) and [Nomination for Churchwarden](#) or hard copies are available from the church office. Please join me as we review, plan and pray for the Lord's blessing to be experienced.

Finally, a song and a prayer

The song is '[There is a higher throne](#)' by Keith and Kristyn Getty.



St Nicholas Church
SEVENOAKS

The prayer is the Collect for the Sixth Sunday of Easter:

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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. Amen.

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay

Reach

Nurture

Equip

Send

To know Jesus and make Him known locally and globally