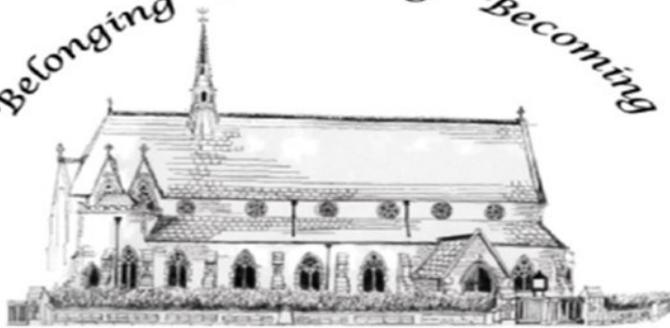




Belonging Believing Becoming



All are welcome, everyone belongs!

On page **2** ... Latest Church Family News, Upcoming Events

On page **3** ... Our Regular Events, Contact Details, Rule for Life

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK — Mike Anderson

As we enter meteorological Spring, it's no surprise that England had 35% above average rainfall this Winter!

Umbrellas were very much needed, but they weren't recently invented! About 4000 years ago, the Assyrians, Greeks and Chinese all had umbrellas although they were intended to protect from the sun not the rain. In fact, the Latin root word 'umbra' means 'shade'. The Chinese were first to cover them with wax making them water repellent.

Anyway, umbrellas are great and Psalm 91 talks about living in 'the shelter of the Lord', 'in the shadow of his wing' and that encourages me to think of God as an all-embracing umbrella offering protection through the storms of life.

It's infuriating when it looks fine, so you don't take a brolly, then things change and you get soaked! Fortunately, because God is always with us, we don't have to grab his protective power at the door as we leave.

But I wonder if, like me, you sometimes forget that sense of God's presence and only become aware of the need for it when troubles are raining down.

This Lent, I'm going to try to be more mindful of taking God's protection with me! And to help me, I've got a little cocktail umbrella, that's going to live in my coat pocket (as well as one in my guitar case!) I'm hoping as I encounter them, they'll remind me that God is with me. I'm not expecting that there'll be no stormy times – but maybe I'll remember that, with God's protection, I can battle through a bit better!

PS - I'll leave some little umbrellas at the back of church so do pick one up as a reminder of God's protective love and maybe take one for a family member or friend and tell them why!

In your daily prayers, please remember especially the following members of our church family:

- Stephanie Cater, Brian Fairclough, Sarah Russell, Dorothy Williams, Mike Oswald, Janet Humphries, Sue Kirby, Lesley Davies, Agnes Yarwood, Peter Fallows, Bernadette Hallman, Alf & Maureen Fairclough, Carol Swinyard, David Brooks, Catherine Howe, Rob Scott, Rob MacDonald, Roger Jenkins, David Mason, Dave Smyth, Gwyneth Shackleton, Gordon Orritt, Stuart Prendergast, Adam, Ellie Clark, Anne & Joe Johnson, Cathrine Munikwa, Gill Sanderson, Chris Oxley, Joanne Duthie, Lol Crilly and the bereaved family & friends of Rev. Joan Foster



Names for this prayer list can be e-mailed to: stnicspa@gmail.com

St. Nicholas Church, Bridge Road, Blundellsands, Liverpool L23 6SS



Keep up to date online with our church family at:

www.stnicholasblundellsands.org and [stnicholaschurchblundellsands](https://www.facebook.com/stnicholaschurchblundellsands)

LATEST CHURCH FAMILY NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS



We will be hosting one of our popular Quiz Nights on **Friday 20th March at 7pm**. Teams of up to 8 people are very welcome!

Cheese, chutney and crackers will be provided, but please bring your own drinks, nibbles and glasses!

Tickets are £5 for adults (children are free) and are available from Derek at derekp99@gmail.com or text to 07799037470 with the number of tickets required.

Please also advise him of any food intolerances/dietary requirements



As we approach Easter, we will be collecting small eggs (e.g Creme eggs and similar sized of all varieties) netted chocolates (like bunnies and eggs) and Easter themed sweets, for the Foodbank.

If you would like to donate, please bring your gifts to church and put them in the Foodbank box. Your kindness will make a big difference to those in our area who may not otherwise receive an Easter treat.

The last day to donate will be Sunday 29th March.



It is with sadness that we have learned of Rev. Joan Foster's passing. Joan began her ministry journey at St. Nic's under vicar Roy Baker.

There will be a funeral communion at the church where she was Vicar, St Albans, The Ridgeway, North Harrow HA2 7PF, on **Saturday 14th March at 2pm**, followed by food and drinks in the Church Hall. The family would be very glad to see anybody who would like to make the trip.

If you would like to share memories of Joan, phrases to sum her up, and any photos you might have (ideally in digital form), please send to nickfostermusic@me.com



Our next Men's Working Party is this **Saturday (7th March) at 9am**.

If you are pretty 'handy' and could help around the church site with basic repairs and maintenance, we'd really appreciate your time and expertise.

We'll even throw in a bacon butty!

We do hope you can join us. Thank you in advance.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH



Prayer For March

God of light and life, please bless us this month. Help us to persist in drawing close to you in prayer, companionship and worship. Help us to take your kindness and generosity to everyone around us in our attitudes, words and service. Please make us more like you.

Amen.

 St. Nicholas Church, Blundellsands



OUR REGULAR SERVICES/EVENTS

SUNDAYS

8.30am - Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer on **1st Sunday** of each month)

10.30am - Eucharist

10:30am All Age Service on **2nd Sunday** of each month (No Eucharist)

4.30pm - Picnic Praise on **1st and 3rd Sundays** of each month.

MONDAYS

6:00pm – Prayers together in the council chamber

WEDNESDAYS

9:00am -10:00am Church is open for private prayer

10:15am - Eucharist and Bible Study

THURSDAYS

9:00 am - 1:00pm - 'Soupa Thursday'.
Tea/coffee, toast, soup, company and chat

6:00pm - 7:00pm - Bridge Youth Group



St. Nicholas Church, Blundellsands



THIS MONTH'S RULE FOR LIFE

**Called to pray, read and learn.
Sent to tell, serve and give.**

Suggestions for March...

Read our Deanery Lent Reflections each day - in the booklets, on our website or our Facebook page

Pray - for each church pictured on the front of the Reflections

Learn - a new person's name every time you come to church

Tell - your family and friends and neighbours about our wellbeing services, the next Party Sunday on 29th March and our Holy Week get together and invite them along.

Serve - consider what roles or rotas you might like to contribute to as we prepare for our annual meeting in April

Give - what you can afford each week or month to support St Nic's community work

Please e-mail items for newsletter

(by Wednesday 9 a.m.)

to: stnicspa@gmail.com



Our 10:30 Sunday Service is
LIVE STREAMED

@



[stnicholaschurchblundellsands](https://www.facebook.com/stnicholaschurchblundellsands)



Feel free to contact us:

Rev. Beth Anderson (Vicar)



07734 088 039



bethanderson68@hotmail.com



Palm Sunday 29th March 2pm - 5pm

Party Sunday!

Holy Week (Mon, Tues, Wed) 7pm

Meditations

Maundy Thursday 7pm

L23 Maundy Thursday service at All Saints & St. Frideswyde's

Good Friday 2pm

An hour at the cross

Easter Sunday 8:30am and 10:30am

Easter Eucharist



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