

## A year in the life of St Nicholas' Church

We believe that God sent his son, Jesus, to save us and give us eternal life. Our worship is based round this fact, as we explore what it means for us in our daily lives.

Every week we have a number of different services, where, although the worship is different, we thank God for

sending Jesus, say sorry for what we have done wrong, and ask him, by his Holy Spirit, to help us become the best possible version of ourselves. At many of our services we have Holy Communion, where we commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection.



## Baptism

During the year we usually have a baptism service once a month.



## Confirmation

About once a year we have a confirmation service, where candidates repeat their baptismal promises and are welcomed as full members of the Church of England. At this service the bishop comes to confirm the candidates. It's a good opportunity for the various congregations come together to worship and welcome the candidates.

## The Church Year

Throughout the year we celebrate a variety of events, many based on events in Jesus' life.

### Advent

The church's year starts four Sundays before Christmas, with a time of preparation, looking back to Jesus' first coming and looking forward to his return. Each Sunday we light another candle on the advent wreath to remind us of this. During advent we also celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, St Nicholas.

### Christmas

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of God's son, who was sent to be our Saviour. On Christmas day the two main morning congregations come together to worship, to celebrate our unity through Christ and to enjoy our different styles of worship.

**Lent**

Lent is another time of preparation, leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. During Lent we run a series of study groups, to try and encourage people to learn more about their faith. Also during Lent is Mothering Sunday, when we celebrate all the hard work of our mums! We give out bunches of daffodils to every mum who comes to a service.

**Easter**

At Easter we celebrate Jesus' death for us and his resurrection, giving us new life. Again, the two main morning congregations come together to worship (and to receive Easter eggs!).

**Harvest**

We celebrate God's creation and thank him for all the people who are responsible for providing our food. We also remember the important work of [Traidcraft](#) and the [Fairtrade Foundation](#), for working to make the production of food fairer. To show our support for this we have become a Fairtrade Church and sell fairly traded goods after our services.

**Social Events**

We regularly have barbecues, parties and a variety of meals, to have fun together and to get to know one another better.