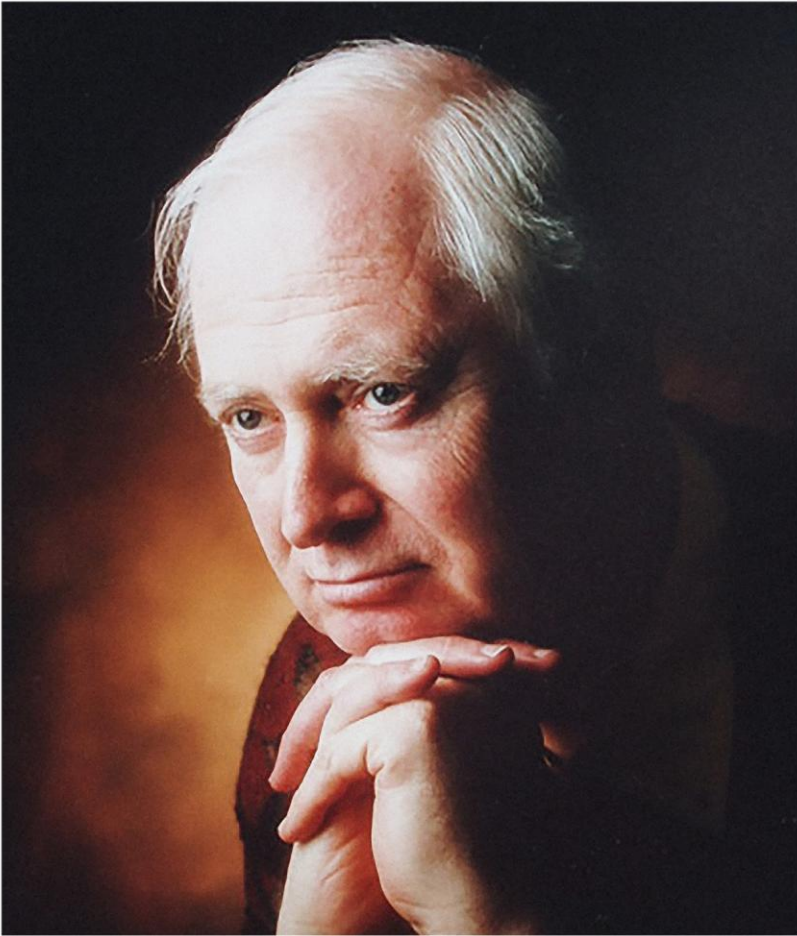


# Nicholas Martin Plumley



7 April 1940 – 10 May 2026

The Parish Church of St Nicholas, Arundel

Tuesday 9 June 2026

2 o'clock

*With many thanks to the musicians for this service:*

Andrew Brown, Organist

Fiona Brown, Organist

Melanie Plumley, Organist

St Nicholas Choir with family members

*The organ music before the service:*

Mein junges Leben hat ein End', *Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck*

Elegy, *Sir George Thalben-Ball*

Cantilène Improvisée, *Charles Tournemire*

Méditation from Trois Improvisations, *Louis Vierne*

Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele, BWV 654, *J.S. Bach*





*At the church door the priest sprinkles the coffin  
with holy water, saying*

**In the waters of baptism Nicholas died  
with Christ and rose to new life. May he  
now share with him eternal glory.**

*The cortège then makes its way into church as  
the organ plays 'Alle Menschen müssen sterben,  
BWV 643', J.S. Bach.*

*Please stand as the cortège enters the church.*



## Greeting

“I am the resurrection and the life”, says the Lord.  
“Those who believe in me, even though they die,  
yet shall they live, and everyone who lives and  
believes in me shall never die.”

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

*All* **Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*Words of introduction follow.*

### **Prayer of Penitence**

*The priest invites the people to confess their sins.*

*A short silence is kept before the priest and people say:*

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us  
our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Kyrie Eleison**

*The choir sings the Kyrie Eleison from  
the Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd.*

Kyrie, eléison. Kyrie, eléison.  
Christe, eléison. Christe, eléison.  
Kyrie, eléison. Kyrie, eléison.

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

## Collect

O God, almighty Father,  
our faith professes that your Son died and rose again;  
mercifully grant, that through this mystery  
your servant Nicholas, who has fallen asleep in Christ,  
may rejoice to rise again through him.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*All sit for the readings.*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9*

*Read by Jonathan Isles*

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, 'Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.'

The word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

### Psalm 121

*Please remain seated for the psalm.*

*Members of the congregation are invited to join with the choir in the singing of the psalm if they wish.*



I will lift up mine eyes ' unto the ' hills :  
from ' whence ' cometh my ' help.

**Chant**  
John Stainer  
from Beethoven

My help cometh even ' from the ' Lord :  
who ' hath made ' heaven and ' earth.

He will not suffer thy ' foot to . be ' moved :  
and he that ' keepeth thee ' will not ' sleep.

Behold, he that ' keepeth ' Israel :  
shall ' neither ' slumber nor ' sleep.

The Lord himself ' is thy ' keeper :  
the Lord is thy de'fence up-.on ' thy right ' hand;

So that the sun shall not ' burn thee . by ' day :  
' neither the ' moon ' by ' night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from ' all ' evil :  
yea, it is even ' he that . shall ' keep thy ' soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy ' coming ' in :  
from this time ' forth for ' ever ' more.

Glory be to the Father, and ' to the ' Son : and ' to the ' Holy ' Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ' ever ' shall be :  
world without ' end. ' A-men.

## **New Testament Reading**

*Romans 6:3-9*

*Read by Amanda Brown*

Brothers and Sisters: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were buried, therefore, with him by baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

The word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand for the Gospel Reading.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia alleluia.

*All* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are those who die in the Lord  
for they rest from their labour.

*All* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Gospel Reading**

The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John 6:51-58*

At that time: Jesus said to the Jews, 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'

So Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live for ever.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Homily

*Please sit.*

## Prayers of Intercession

*Composed by the Revd. Paul Plumley, a brother of Nick.  
All kneel (or remain seated).*

## The Peace

*All Stand.*

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange the sign of peace.*

## Offertory Hymn



Angel-voices ever singing  
round thy throne of light,  
angel-harps for ever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless thee  
and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that thou regardest  
songs of sinful man?  
Can we know that thou art near us,  
and wilt hear us Yea, we can.

Yea, we know that thou rejoicest  
o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure  
for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer  
of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer  
all unworthily  
hearts and minds and hands and voices  
in our choicest psalmody.

**Tune**  
Angel Voices,  
*E. G. Monk*  
1819-1900

**Text**  
*Francis Pott*  
1831-1909

Honour, glory, might and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
blessed Trinity!  
Of the best that thou hast given  
earth and heaven render thee.

*After a pause the priest says*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

*All* **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

Look favourably on these offerings, O Lord,  
so that your departed servant Nicholas  
may be taken up into glory with your Son,  
in whose great mystery of love we are all united.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Christ our Lord.

In him the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned,  
that those saddened by the certainty of dying  
might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come.  
Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended,  
and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust,  
an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions,  
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,  
we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

*The choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus from  
the Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd.*

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus Deus Sábaoth.  
Pleni sunt cæli et terra glória tua.  
Hosánna in excélsis.  
Benedictus qui venit in nómine Dómini.  
Hosánna in excélsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.  
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my body,  
which will be given up for you.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice  
and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take this, all of you, and drink from it,  
for this is the chalice of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which will be poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in memory of me.

The mystery of faith:

*All*

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity.

Remember your servant Nicholas, whom you have called from this world to yourself. Grant that he who was united with your Son in a death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection.

Remember all our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

*All*

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All* **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*As the host is broken, the choir sings the Agnus Dei  
from the Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

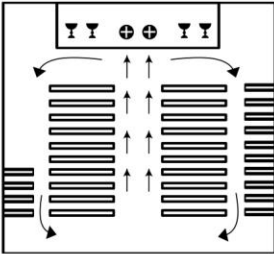
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

## Holy Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**



Holy communion is given from the sanctuary step.

All baptised and communicant Christians may receive the body and blood of our Lord in Holy Communion.

If you are not baptised, or have not been formally admitted to Holy Communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate you would like a blessing.

Please note that in accordance with diocesan instructions intinction (dipping the host in the chalice) is not permitted.

People in the nave pews receive first from the front to the back, approaching the sanctuary in two lines and returning to their seats via the north or south aisles as appropriate. People from the aisles follow from the back to the front, approaching the communion station from the central aisle and returning to their places via either the north or south aisle.

## Communion Anthem

*'Thou knowest Lord the secrets of our hearts', Henry Purcell.*

## Prayer after Communion

*After a period of silence the Post Communion prayer is said.*

*Please stand.*

God, our shelter and our strength,  
you listen in love to the cry of your people:  
hear the prayers we offer for Nicholas.  
Cleanse him and all the faithful departed of their sins  
and grant them the fullness of redemption.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## Hymn



**Tune**  
Savannah,  
*From Choralbuch*  
c. 1740

**Text**  
*Charles Wesley*  
1707-88

Love's redeeming work is done;  
fought the fight, the battle won:  
lo, our sun's eclipse is o'er!  
Lo, he sets in blood no more!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal!  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;  
where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Dying once, he all doth save;  
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
following our exalted head;  
made like him, like him we rise;  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to thee by both be given:  
thee we greet triumphant now;  
hail, the resurrection thou!

*All sit.*

## **The Eulogy**

*Alan Thurlow*

### **The Commendation**

*All stand.*

Nicholas has fallen asleep in the peace of Christ. Confident in our hope of eternal life, let us now entrust him to the love and mercy of our Father and surround him with our love and prayer. He was adopted as God's son in baptism and was nourished at the table of the Lord; may he now inherit the promise of eternal life and take his place at the table of God's children in heaven.

*The prayer of commendation follows.*

Into your hands, Father of mercies, we commend our brother Nicholas in the sure and certain hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with him on the last day.

Merciful Lord,  
turn toward us and listen to our prayers:  
open the gates of paradise to your servant  
and help us who remain  
to comfort one another with assurances of faith,  
until we meet with you and our brother for ever.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*As the coffin is sprinkled with holy water  
and incensed Fr Timothy Newton sings  
In Paradisum from The English Missal.*

Into Paradise may the Angels lead thee:  
at thy coming may the Martyrs receive thee,  
and lead thee to the holy city Jerusalem.

May the choir of Angels receive thee, and with  
Lazarus once poor mayest thou have eternal rest.

### **The Committal**

We read in Scripture:

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,  
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,  
and that I should raise it up at the last day.

We have entrusted Nicholas to God's merciful keeping,  
and we now commit his body to be cremated:  
earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust:  
in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who will transform our frail bodies  
that they may be conformed to his glorious body,  
who died, was buried, and rose again for us.  
To him be glory for ever.

Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord.  
And let light perpetual shine upon him.  
May he rest in peace.

*All* **Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## Hymn



How shall I sing that majesty  
which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie;  
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
thy throne, O God most high;  
ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,  
whilst I thy footsteps trace;  
a sound of God comes to my ears,  
but they behold thy face.  
They sing because thou art their Sun;  
Lord, send a beam on me;  
for where heaven is but once begun  
There alleluyas be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
in flame it with love's fire;  
then shall I sing and bear a part  
with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
with all my fire and light;  
yet when thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,  
which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
a sun without a sphere;  
thy time is now and evermore,  
thy place is everywhere.

**Tune**

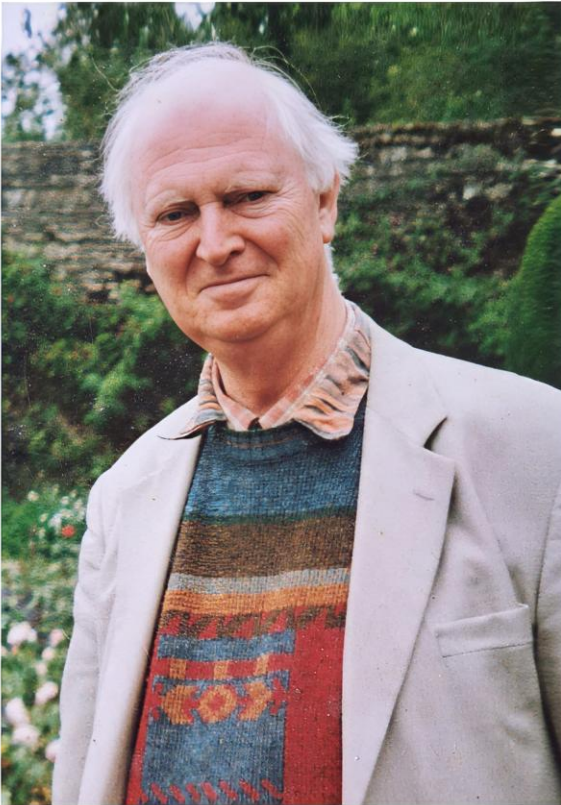
Coe Fen, *Kenneth Nicholson Naylor 1931-91*

**Text**

*John Mason*  
c. 1645-94

**Organ Voluntary**

Fugue in B minor, BWV 544, *J.S. Bach*



Sarah would like to invite everyone to adjourn to the Arundel Cathedral Centre straight after the service for refreshments kindly prepared by Alastair and Fiona Maxwell.

Please turn right out of the church, walk about 200 yards along the road, and you will see a red brick building shortly after the Cathedral.

Sarah is very grateful to the Arundel community, Fr David and St Nicholas' Church for all their support and friends who have travelled both from near and very far to be with us today.

She would particularly like to thank those very involved in helping with Nick's care during his years of dementia:

Deirdre Harper & Ailsa Spurway  
Arundel Surgery  
Sage House Dementia Support  
St Wilfrid's Priory Care Home

There will be an opportunity to leave a donation to St Nicholas' Church, Arundel as you leave the church or you can make a donation online to Sage House Dementia Support, Tangmere, nr. Chichester via the following link:

[www.dementiasupport.org.uk/giving-in-memory](http://www.dementiasupport.org.uk/giving-in-memory)

