

# St Nicholas Arundel

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## Social Media Policy

This church pledges to abide by the Social Media Community Guidelines of the Church of England.

Our social media accounts are the responsibility of the vicar and managed by the Parish Administrator and The Revd Dominik Chmielewski.

We do not use automation to post content, such as tools that generate tweets from RSS feeds. If you follow us, you can generally expect no more than 1 tweet or post a day, usually less, covering the following:

- alerts about new content relating to the Church (news, events, publicity campaigns, etc)
- alerts about new content/resources relating to the wider Church/diocese or partner charities/charitable concerns supported by the Parish.

### Following

We follow organisations and public individuals which share in or represent the ministry of the Church in the Diocese of Chichester. They include (but are not exclusively limited to) other parishes, Christian groups and charitable organisations. We also follow groups local to Arundel. We do not automatically follow back new followers. Due to resource of time, we infrequently review our follower list. Being followed back does not imply endorsement of any kind.

### Availability

We will update and monitor our social media accounts as often as we can. We accept no responsibility for lack of service due to third party downtime.

### @Replies, Direct Messages, Comments

We welcome feedback from our followers and endeavour to join the conversation where possible. However, we are not able to reply individually to all the messages we receive.

The Vicar or his representatives read all posts, comments, @replies and Direct Messages. We do not engage on issues of party politics or answer questions which may infringe personal privacy.

Communicating directly online is not encouraged. We may send messages to groups, rather than individuals, or share them publicly. If content relating to the parish or individuals is unwelcome or offensive it may be **removed and reported**. Social media users should be aware that the Parish Office is the point of contact for all enquiries relating to the Parish. The usual ways of contacting the office are detailed in the Contact section of our website ([www.stnicholas-arundel.co.uk/contact-us](http://www.stnicholas-arundel.co.uk/contact-us))

### Safeguarding

Twitter is not the place to report any safeguarding issue. Any serious concerns relating to individuals (past or present) should go to Sussex Police. The Diocese of Chichester safeguarding officers are available to speak to anyone who wishes to talk in confidence (01273 421021).

### Law

Whilst sharing thoughts and reflections with friends or followers via social media can seem personal and private, it is not. It is very public and can be shared very quickly. By law, if one or more people can access it, content is classed as published, in the public domain and subject to legislation around libel, defamation,

copyright and data protection. If you wouldn't say something in a public meeting or to someone's face or write it in a newspaper or on headed paper – please don't say it online.

Agreed by the PCC: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019

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### **Additional Information**

St Nicholas Arundel official social media accounts are:

- Twitter: @StNicsArundel
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StNicholasArundel](http://www.facebook.com/StNicholasArundel)