



23 November 2025

## Christ the King Welcome to our services today

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's  
4pm Lego Church

**Music: Organist St. John's:** Sam Stringer, **Hymns: 769, 754, 227.**

**Organist St. Mary's:** Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 332, 345, 271, 352.**

**Anthem:** There is a Redeemer.

**The Benefice Online Service: 'Meeting Point'** is for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week.

<https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/sunserv1>

Tues 25 1-3pm Knit & Natter at St John's  
7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's  
Wed 26 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's  
Thurs 27 10am Said Eucharist at St Mary's with Coffee & Chat to 12noon  
Sat 29 *Farmers Market Day in Higham, with bell peal, Coffee & Cake in the Bede House, and Recital in church.*

### **Sunday 30 November 2025 Advent Sunday**

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's  
4pm Christingle Service

### **Collect**

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. **Amen**

### **Colossians 1:11-20**

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of

darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### **Luke 23:33-43**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.’]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, ‘He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!’ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, ‘If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!’ There was also an inscription over him, ‘This is the King of the Jews. ‘One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, ‘Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’ But the other rebuked him, saying, ‘Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.’ Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ He replied, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’

### **Post Communion**

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches**, we have children’s areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

## For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Brian Bond, Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Michael Harvey, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Daphne Pullen, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Sue Thompson, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John's:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith.

## In memoriam:

**Year's mind anniversaries:** May Marriott, Bernard Simmons, Richard Hackett, Maria Mommersteeg, Eric Sibley, Lilian Denton, Doris Toppin, Maurice Newman, Rose Watts, Audrey Chesters, William Champion, Ethel Colton, Robertina Alton, Sidney Knighton, Gwen Hughes, Noreen Holmes, Sidney Bull, Elizabeth Abbott, Hilda Desborough, Eldon Ruff, Violet Upton, Arthur Smith, Emmeline Parkin, Nellie Corbyn, Percy Felce.

## NOTICES

Christmas Services across the benefice – fliers are now available, posters for individual events and social media posts. It would help spread the word if you can suggest where to put up a physical poster and share our social media posts.

## ST. MARY'S

Please note the Thursday Evening Celtic service has now stopped until warmer weather in the Spring.

**School & Nursery Christmas Services:** we will need some church volunteers to help at each event, they are scattered across days and times, so if you might have some free time and would be able to help please email the office so we can allocate the required number of people for each event. Thank you.

**Blue Christmas Service, 4pm, Sat 20 December**

**Civic Carol Service, 6pm, Sun 21 December**

**Crib Services, Christmas Eve, 2.30 & 4.30pm**

**Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve, 11.30pm**

## ST JOHN'S

A massive thank you to all who helped with, donated to, or came along to our Christmas Fair on the 15 November. In what was a very damp, cool and grey weekend, it was heartening to see people still coming along and enjoying a fun time of fellowship with each other.

Together you raised an amazing and wonderful £2,000 – thank you.

Tea and Cakes, 2-4pm, 20 Jan, 17 Mar.

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm, 25 Nov, 27 Jan, 24 Feb

Chelveston Carols of Praise, 3.30pm, 14 December

Christmas Day Celebration Eucharist 9am

### **For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:**

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Website

[www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk](http://www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk)

Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright and Andrew Wager 07789 286398

St. Mary's; Nico Springman and Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.



***Mthr Louise is off duty on Friday 28 November***