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United Benefice ST. MARY'S HIGHAM FERRERS ST. JOHN'S CHELVESTON

22 November 2026

# Christ the King
# Welcome to our services today

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
4pm LE.G.O. Church in the Bede House with Rev Yvonne

**Music: Organist St. John's:** Sam Stringer **Hymns:** 612, 489, 704
**Organist St. Mary's**: Alan Cufaude **Hymns:** 332, 498, 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

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| Tues 24 | 1pm-3pm Knit & Natter at St John's |
| | 7.30pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's |
| Wed 25 | 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's |
| Thur 26 | 10am Holy Eucharist at St Mary's with Coffee and Chat to 12noon |
| Fri 27 | 6.00pm Choir Practice in St Mary's |
| Sat 28 | Farmers Market morning with Bell Peal, Coffee & Cake in the Bede House, and Organ recital with Alan Cufaude in church |
| | 2.00pm Christingle making in the Bede House |

## Sun 29 November Advent Sunday

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| 9am | Parish Eucharist at St John's |
| 10.30am | Parish Eucharist at St Mary's |
| 4.00pm | Christingle Service at St Mary's |

**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.

## Collect

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King, keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Ephesians 1:15-end**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Matthew 25:31-46**

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

**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**

**For your Prayers.**

**Our prayers have been asked for**: David Batchelor, Mark Betts, Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Pat Catlin, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Rev Brenda Elldred, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Marian Knott, Sarah Martin, Sally Mayes, Val Robinson, Tracey Rogers, Jean Smith, Elizabeth Swindley, Niven Whatley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke, Victoria. **St John's:** Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith, David Webber.

**In memoriam:** Brenda May

**Year's mind anniversaries:**

Hazel Adams, Annie Masters, Maurice Jenkins, May Marriott, Bernard Simmons, Richard Hackett, Maria Mommersteeg, Eric Sibley, Lilian Denton, Doris Topplin, Maurice Newman, Rose Watts, Audrey Chesters, William Campion, Ethel Colton, Robertina Alton, Sidney Knighton, Gwen Hughes, Noreen Holmes, Sidney Bull, Elizabeth Abbott, Hilda Desborough, Eldon Ruff, Violet Upton, Arthur Smith

# NOTICES

**Christmas Services** – small flyers are now available in each church, please help us advertise our services by giving these to family, friends and neighbours. We have an online poster that can be shared and will produce individual services posters shortly. If you are on social media please share, and if you can, reply to comments asking about Christingle services etc with details and tag us in?

## ST MARY'S

It's Higham Sparkle this weekend, a fabulous opportunity that puts us right in the middle of all the fun throughout the town. Thank you if you've put yourself down as a volunteer to help out, but it's not too late to join in. On Saturday if you have an hour that you can spare, please do come along, the more the merrier! And wherever you are on the site, or even along the High Street, please do invite people to our Christmas services and hand over a flyer.

**Christingle making,** 28 November, 2.00pm Bede House, any help is appreciated

**Christingle Service** on 29 November at 4pm
A fun service for all, young and young at heart, learning of God's love for us all. It might, maybe, include a world and Mthr Louise attempting to build a Christingle in front of everyone as well as the tear-making Away in a Manger by Christingle light in the darkness.

**5 December 2pm – Christmas Wreath Workshop in the Bede House**
Always a fun creative activity to do, why not get a group together to go to this? Tickets available from Nicky, details on noticeboard posters

## ST JOHN'S

A huge thank you to all who donated items, made cakes, played the piano, served teas, manned the stalls and helped in any way with the Christmas Fair. Also including all who came over to enjoy the Fair and its delights. Despite it feeling quieter our takings were up on last year, but more importantly we had lots of lovely comments on how much people enjoyed coming along. Same time next year?

**Knit & Natter** 24 November, 1.00pm-3.00pm

**For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:**
Mother Louise revlouisebishop@btinternet.com 07974 018160
Revd Brenda brenda@elldred.co.uk 07816 771702
Parish Office & Bede House: 01933 741140

Benefice Administration and enquiries: stmarys.higham@gmail.com
Bede House Bookings only: thebedehouse@gmail.com

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.
Website www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk
Churchwardens:
St. John's; Arthur Wright and Andrew Wager 07789 286398
St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

***Mthr Louise is off duty on Sunday 22nd and Monday 23rd November***
***Rev Brenda is currently off duty whilst recovering from Pneumonia***