



26 July 2026

Eighth Sunday after Trinity **Welcome to our services today**

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman **Hymns: 791(omit * verses), 595, 698.**

Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar **Hymns: 362, 467, 276, 365.**

Anthem: Ave Verum

Flowers: at Our Lady donated by Elizabeth Bradshaw in loving memory of her father Ernest Bradshaw

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>

Mon 27 6pm Evening Prayer at St John's
Tues 28 1 – 3pm Knit & Natter at St John's
7.30pm Bell ringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 29 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
Thur 30 10am Holy Eucharist with Coffee and Chat to 12noon at St Mary's
7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel

Sun 2 August Nineth Sunday after Trinity

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Eucharist 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

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Romans 8:26-end

Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So, it will be at the end of the age.

The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth ‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

Post Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen**

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Derek Harber, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Marion Knott, Sarah Martin, Sally Mayes, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Niven Whatley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John’s:** Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Pat Kirk, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith, David Webber.

In memoriam: Jo Barrie (funeral 27 July at 11am, Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell), Jane Carpenter (funeral 29 July at 12noon, Nene Valley Crematorium), Patricia Bazeley.

Year’s mind anniversaries: Jean Powell, Bertie Allen, Reginald Chambers, Raoul Stewart, Sara Wright, Thomas Layram, Eric Richardson, William Britchford, Edmund Abbott, Mabel Curtis, David Buglas, Veneta Perkins, Margaret Fry, Matty Allen, David Burgon, Roberta Hector, Ada tearle, Owen Parker, Lilian Jones, Kate Jolley, Ellen Wise, James Osborne, Diane Hales, Lawrence Jephcote, Beatrice Spranklin, Eileen Taylor.

NOTICES

Newsheet & weekly church email

Do you read these? Are they useful? Do you want them to continue?
Looking at the email, not many recipients open or read it. Almost all of the newsheets are handed back at the end of the service, rather than taken home to

use. I am left wondering if it is a good use of time and resources to continue with them as they stand. Please let me know your thoughts, thank you. Mthr Louise

ST MARY'S

9 August Celebrating 150 years of the Mothers Union in our Sunday service.

16 August, our Patronal Festival followed by a picnic in the Vicarage garden.

29 August the Vicarage will be taking part in the Higham Ferrers Garage Sale, donations can be delivered to the Vicarage in advance. Thank you.

Aim High Festival, 19 September & Higham Sparkle, 21 November.

We are putting together teams for both these events here on the St Mary's site. Please come have a chat, let's share the load between a group of people rather than it falling on just a few. Mthr Louise

ST JOHN'S

Tea & Cakes 18 August, 15 September, 20 October

Knit & Natter 28 July, 25 August, 22 September, 27 October

REVISED DATE 11 October - Harvest Service and Supper, details to follow

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

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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 Fri 31 July & Sat 1 August.