



Seventh Sunday of Easter Sunday after Ascension

21st May 2023

Welcome our services today

09:00	Family Eucharist at St. John's
09:00	Breakfast Church in the Bede House
10:30	Family Eucharist Service at St. Mary's

Readings for Today

Acts 1: 6 - 14
1 Peter 4: 12 – 14, 5:6 - 11
John 17: 1 - 11

The anthem during communion at St. Mary's today is View Me Lord.

Organists

The organists today are Paul Harris at St. Mary's and Keith Green at St. John's.

The Online Benefice Service 'Meeting Point' is for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. This week's theme is the Ascension www.stmarysstjohnsunitied.co.uk

Weekday Services and Events

10:00 Thursday Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's
10:00 -12:00noon Coffee and Chat in the Bede House
19:00 Thursday Celtic Evening Liturgy in the Chantry Chapel

Pentecost Sunday 28th May 2023

10:00 Ceremony at War Memorial in St. John's Churchyard
10:30 Benefice Pentecost Praise Eucharist Service at St. John's
Including visit from 305th USAF

Church Flowers

The flowers at our Lady are in memory of Andrew Britchford on his Birthday. Always remembered by his Mum and family.

The flowers by the Nave Altar have been donated by Sylvia Eady in memory of her husband Wally whose anniversary occurs at this time.

NOTICES

BENEFICE

Looking ahead

Plans and preparations are already in hand for the formal welcome to our new Vicar, the Reverend Louise Bishop, who will be inducted at St Mary's on Wednesday 5th July at 7.30 pm. Please note the date to join in the special service *(new 7/5/23)*

Food Bank

The Higham food bank continues at the Working Men's Club in Westfield Terrace every Tuesday, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Anyone who is struggling or in food poverty is welcome but please bring ID with you. No referral is needed. You will receive a warm and sympathetic welcome. Your donations in the boxes at the back of both churches are still urgently needed and much appreciated, look at the lists by the boxes to see what we need. *(updated 16/4/23)*

Prayer and Pilgrimage



Steve Benoy, Cathedral Canon Missioner is on a mission pilgrimage round the diocese from 18 – 28 May during Thy Kingdom Come. Steve will be calling at St. Mary's on Tuesday 23rd May at 2pm. He would like to meet us and hear how our churches are reaching out to our communities as well as spending a short time in prayer with us before he moves on. Please let Brenda know if you are able to join us in church.

Thy Kingdom Come

'Thy Kingdome Come' movement, has been operative for some years with global prayers from 18th May through to the 28th May, when we celebrate Pentecost. This is one of the most important days in Christianity when the Holy Spirit descended on all Christians and over 3,000 became followers of Christ. During the 10 days leading to Pentecost there will be prayer tables set up in both of our churches with literature to help you reflect each day. Please take the booklets which are free and use the open church to sit and pray.

Below is a link to a short video explaining how this movement began and why. Since it started many people have come to faith through it praise God. Let's keep that trend moving and pray for our friends, families and communities.

<https://youtu.be/sxUDHgPTFiw>

ST MARY'S

600 Appeal - Fynnius Fogg - 13th May

Although numbers attending this wonderful concert were disappointing, the atmosphere and entertainment value was certainly not. The band played all our favourites from the 60's and 70's, we danced in the aisles and a good time was had by all. Refreshing drinks during the interval and £730 raised for the Bede House roof repairs made the event worthwhile

We hope now to see you again at the Farmers' Market Coffee Morning 27th May in the Bede House where the profits will go to mending its roof !! All the usual stalls, scrumptious cakes and delicacies, as well as watching hopefully as the Higham Hot Hundred Tote is drawn. Who will win the £150, £75 or £25 prizes ? Come and see !!

(added 21/05/23)

Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT)

A Chamber Concert. St. Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers. Saturday 17th June. Featuring County Clarinet Choir, NMPAT Horn Quartet, Toscana String Quartet, Harp Quartet, Senzatori String Quartet, County Flute Choir. Tickets £5 / £7.50 from 01604 637117 or <https://bit.ly/NMPATTickets>

(added 07/05/2023)

Tent for Lent

Thank you to everyone at St. Mary's who generously supported the request to donate their Lent Savings to provide a £590 Shelterbox which will continue to help vulnerable people. P. Hall

(updated 21/05/23)

Message from Marian Knott.

I would like to thank everyone for their kind messages and cards during my recent illness. I am pleased to say I am feeling much better now and hope to see you all again soon.

(added 21/05/2023)

Spirit of the Coronation

In the spirit of the Coronation we have all been encouraged to help out and volunteer. Our church wouldn't run if it wasn't for those who volunteer, which we thank you greatly for. Maybe now though you are thinking of trying something new to help out, or have time to take on extra. There's lots we could use your skills for, so please ask if you want to know more. Or let a friend know if they have been talking about volunteering.

In church we have 2 big events we could use all hands on deck for. On 15th July there is a fundraising children's football tournament at HFFC. Please let Mark Smith know if you can help that morning. Also Sue Dennis is planning an Angel festival for Advent, but she needs to know now that there will be plenty to help to make it successful, alternatively contact Ria. (added 21/05/2023)

Higham Chichele Society

9:15am Friday 26th May a talk in the Bede House by Mike Brown, Medieval Gardener. All welcome, price £3.00. (added 21/05/2023)

Farmers Market 27th May

The coffee morning in the Bede House is being hosted by the 600 appeal. (added 21/05/2023)

ST JOHN'S

Tea and Cakes 2 – 4 pm Tuesdays 20th June, 18th July, 15th August, 19th September, 17th October

Knit and Natter 1 – 3 pm Tuesdays 23rd May, 27th June, 25th July, 22nd August, 26th September, 24th October

Further ahead - Christmas Fair Saturday 11th November

For more information and for pastoral advice please contact:

Churchwardens: Arthur Wright 01933 624530. Andrew Wager 07789 286398

Reader: Brenda Elldred 07816 771702

Pentecost – a gathering of nations and a unique celebration

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) is on 28th May and coincides with a Benefice Pentecost service in St John's Church when our two congregations can welcome the annual visit by members of the 305th Wing of the USAF who were stationed at the Chelveston air base. At 10am there will be a ceremony around the war memorial on the church tower, followed by the Pentecost Praise Eucharist at 10.30. This is a unique occasion for our benefice to share in our local history and worship together with friends from far and near.

As Pentecost was an occasion for scattered nations to be united and blessed it makes our trans-Atlantic links all the more special. Don't miss out on this unique service.

Prayers

Our prayers have been asked for:

Karen Addis, Daniel Boxall, Jenny Brown, Simon Brown, Marian Cox, Elisabeth Crafer, Pat Ellis, Christine Franklin, Ray Grace, Kerry Groom, Cynthia Hobson, Joyce Houghton, Mary Jackson, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Chris Mitchell, Brenda Mould,

Freda Pack, Paul Paynton (Revd), Peter Paynton, Ken Robinson and family (Darren's dad), Val Robinson, Jean Shield, Fr. Nichols Spencer, Elizabeth Swindley, David Wilson, Clare Yorke, Revd Chris Youngman.

St John's: Jo Barrie, Shirley Baxter, Pauline Brown, Tina Gill, Hilary Goodman, Emma Graham, Noreen Hogan, Brenda May, Sara Owst, Muriel Palmer, Margaret Sheppard, Michael Wilson.

Please continue to pray for all the people across the world who are affected by adverse weather conditions, earthquakes, religious persecution, war and conflict.

In memoriam: Nigel White

Year's mind anniversaries:

Leonard Capps, George Hall, Nancy Hall, Geoffrey Martin, Doris Stimpson, Elizabeth Skeels, Arthur Colton, Florence Coker, Sidney Miller, Louisa Dines, Edward Jennings, Brian Vickers, George Danby, Edwin Sanders, George Hogston, Ethel Annis, Derrick Cole, Albert Martin, George Elson, Annie Stimpson, Gertrude Pack, Charlotte Wood, Robert Reynolds.

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

Brenda Eildred (Reader) 07816 771702, brenda@elldred.co.uk

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Please Note: Administration Support in the Office is Part-time and so please be patient as a response to your enquiry may not be immediate. Please refrain from contacting the Administrator at weekends unless it is an emergency or related to an event at the time.

