



17 May 2026

The Seventh Sunday after Easter

Welcome to our services today

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
3.30pm *Choral Evensong at Peterborough Cathedral with Archbishop Sarah*
4pm Tea, Biscuits & Church (TB&C)

Music: Organist St. John's: Sam Stringer **Hymns: 223 (omit * vers), 455, 612.**

Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar **Hymns: 130, 134, 234, 235..**

Anthem: Be still for the presence of the Lord

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 18 6pm Evening Prayer at St John's
Tues 19 2 – 4pm Tea & Cakes at St John's
7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 20 10am Morning prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
7.30pm *St John's PCC meeting at St John's*
Thur 21 10am Holy Eucharist at St John's
10am Coffee and Chat to 12noon at St Mary's
1.30 – 3pm *Large school visit to St Mary's site*
7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel
Fri 22 7pm Choir Practice at St Mary's
Sat 23 *1pm Blessing for 20 years of marriage, Faye & Adrian, at St John's*

Sun 24 May Pentecost

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's *with commemoration of USAF 305th & silence at their memorial on the tower*
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's, *followed by St Mary's APCM*
4pm Lego Church in the Bede House

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

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God, the Father.

Amen

Acts 1:6-14

So, when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’ Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I

have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Post Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission and help us to live the good news we proclaim, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Jane Carpenter, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, 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:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith, David Webber.

In memoriam: Stuart Wilby, Ray Grace

Year's mind anniversaries: George Davison, Donava Newell, Emily Lloyd, Ernest Bond, Richard Felce, Phyllis Britchford, Charles Underwood, Julia Spriggs, Lilian Woods, Harry Stephenson, Charles Ansall, Florence Coles, Leonard Capps, George Hall, Nancy Hall, Geoffrey Martin, Doris Stimpson, Lucy Skeeles, Arthur Colton, Florence Coker, Sideny Miller, Louisa Dines, Edward Jennings, Brian Vickers.

NOTICES

ST MARY'S

NEW! Tea, Biscuits & Church Sunday 17 May, 4pm in the Bede House. All ages, all welcome! Questions to Mthr Louise or Brenda.

St Mary's APCM is on Sun 24 May following the morning service. Revision of the Electoral Roll closes at the end of the service on 10 May. APCM packs will be emailed shortly and physical copies available in church.

Farmers Market Coffees on 30 May is being run by St Mary's. Donation of cakes are appreciated. It is the end of Half Term, and some simple crafts will be available for children.

Secret Gardens throughout Higham Ferrers is on the afternoon of Sunday 14 June. Refreshments in the Bede House have been requested, are you able to help? I can be there 1 to 3pm, but it would be good to offer 1 to 4pm, but it is dependent on help. If we could have a few people offering an hour each it would not be too onerous to do, and is usually not as busy as a Farmers Market Day. Offers to Mthr Louise please.

Music At Mary's Some dates for your diaries:

Saturday 16 May 7.30pm, The Greatest Love Songs with Susannah Ruth, tickets from Karen or Jane

Saturday 6 June 7pm, Rushden Rotary Club with Northampton Male Voice Choir

Friday 12 June, Lumos Experiences, 3 Candlelight concerts of Fleetwood Mac music, bar available. Tickets from the Lumos website online.

ST JOHN'S

Tea & Cakes 19 May, 16 June, 21 July **Knit & Natter** 26 May, 23 June, 28 July

Patronal Festival 21 June, all welcome to join us as we celebrate our special day. **A fun concert of Brass Band music**, 26 July we will have a brass band concert in church, details to follow.

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

Mother Louise revlouisebishop@btinternet.com	07974 018160
Brenda Elldred (Reader) 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. (Office closed on Fri 22 May)

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 Mon 18 May