



4 October 2026

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Welcome to our services today

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Harvest Eucharist at St Mary's, followed by Harvest Lunch
2pm Baptism of Jack & Daisy at St Mary's
6pm *Harvest Choral Evensong at St Mary's Finedon*

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman **Hymns: 645, 629, 477.**
Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar **Hymns: see order of service**

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 5 6pm Evening Prayer at St John's
Tues 6 2pm Bible Babble in the Bede House
7.30PM Bible Babble at Rev Brenda's
7.30pm Bellringing practice night at St Mary's
7.30pm *Deanery Synod at Christ the King, Kettering*
Wed 7 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
Thur 8 10am Holy Eucharist with Coffee and Chat to 12noon at St Mary's
7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel
Fri 9 *Lumos Events "Candlelight Concert of Mozart & Vivaldi music"*
whole St Mary's site in use for this from 1pm

Sun 11 October The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
3.30pm A service of Harvest Praise at St John'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

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Philippians 3:4b-14

Even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.' When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Post Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen**

For your Prayers.

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

In memoriam:

Year's mind anniversaries: Kathleen Harrison, Charles Harrison, Fred Twelvetree, Frederick Hart, Maud Lawrence, Alexander French, Beatrice Morris, Michael Foulger, Terry Broughton, Elsie Allen, Robert Lines, Pauline Britten, Robert Ward, Eric Rainbow, Isobel Wookey, Dennis Green, Emily Smith, Edwin Rowlett, Emily Neville, Beatrice Bayes, Dorothy Bird, Barry Hayes, John Eady, Christobella Millgate, Frank Towers, Arthur Spriggs, Emma Baxter, Harold Sargent, Winifred Biggs, Norah Colton, Joyce Rising, Kenneth Wright, Barry Jacques, Cyril Smith, Muriel Knight.

NOTICES

Posters & Publicity

Now is the time of year when we start to have a lot of posters to design and publicity to attend to (mainly online). If you have the skills and some time available would you be able to help with this? Mthr Louise

ST MARY'S

Rushden Town Band Concert, 24th October

In St Mary's Church at 7pm, tickets are £10 per person available from Karen Holmes, Jane Jackson, or Sidey Designs - or pay on the door. Drinks available to buy on the evening. Part of church fundraising.

Higham Sparkle, 21 November

Stalls, refreshments, music and more alongside displays in church by youth groups and young people on the theme of "A recycled Christmas Story". We will also be showcasing the many groups active within our church who are often hidden from view by the general public.

ST JOHN'S

Tea & Cakes 20 October Knit & Natter 27 October

11 October - Harvest Service at 3.30pm with Supper at 4.45pm. Supper tickets are now sold out, sorry!

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 - still out of order, please use email whilst this is fixed.

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 out of parish 7 & 8 October, and off duty on 10 October.