



3 May 2026

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

Welcome to our services today

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

Music: Organist St. John's: Sam Stringer **Hymns: 584, 203, 818.**
Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar **Hymns: in 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 4 Bank Holiday
Tues 5 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 6 10am Morning prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
7.30pm *St Mary's PCC meeting in the Bede House*
Thur 7 10am Holy Eucharist with Coffee and Chat to 12noon at St Mary's
2pm *MU meeting at Ruth's House*
7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel

Sun 10 May The Sixth Sunday of Easter

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's & Breakfast Church in the Bede House
10.30am Parish 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

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Acts 7:55-end

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

John 14:1-14

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him. Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied. Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Post Communion

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **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, Nevin 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

Year's mind anniversaries: Alfred Edmunds, Walter Dickenson, Kate Ling, Janet Morris, Cyril Smith, Florence Wilson, Harriett McDonald, Victoria Ward, Florrie Felce, Ada Briggs, Thomas Williamson, Florence Wilson, Alexander Annetts, John Brown, Jessie Clifton, Malvina Martin, Richard Chamberlain, Shirley Lovell, Mary Farrington, Nellie Osborne, Ian Cundy (Bishop), Kathleen Felce, Shirley Lovell, Michael Groom, Barry Sauntson, George Whiting, Frederick Church, Laura Alton, William Donald.

NOTICES

We will have a new curate in the benefice from 28 June 2026, our fabulous Licenced Lay Reader Brenda Elldred. Brenda will be made a deacon at Peterborough Cathedral at 11am on the 28 June.

I have therefore decided that we will have no morning services in the Benefice on this day so people can attend the cathedral should they wish (it would be useful to the Cathedral to have an idea of numbers who may go there).

We will then have a welcome Eucharist in the evening at St Mary's, 6pm, and I hope a lot of our church family will be able to attend along with Brenda's family and friends. Afterwards we will retire to the Bede House to continue the celebrations.

ST MARY'S

Mothers' Union, Thu 7 May at 2pm, meeting at Ruth's house to find out more about the life and heritage of our founder Mary Sumner. There is no charge, just a donation for refreshments, and visitors are very welcome to join us. Please just let Ruth or Jane know you're coming.

NEW! Tea, Biscuits & Church started last week and we had a good brainstorming session of what we might like it to be. So the first TB&C format will be on 17 May, 4pm in the Bede House.

St Mary's APCM will be on Sun 24 May following the morning service. Revision of the Electoral Roll is now underway, and any applications must be with Jane, Electoral Roll Officer, by end of service on 10 May please.

Have you changed your address, phone number or email in this last year? If you have please let Ria know in the office so we can make sure our contact details are up to date. Thank you.

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

Friday 12 June, Lumos Experiences, Candlelight concert 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

USAF 305th commemoration 24 May at 9am

Patronal Festival 21 June, all welcome to join us as we celebrate our special day.

26 July we will have a brass band concert in church, 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 Wed 6 May