The Diocese of Peterborough Find us on THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

United Benefice ST. MARY'S HIGHAM FERRERS ST. JOHN'S CHELVESTON

8 Nov 2026

Remembrance Day
Welcome to our services today

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
9am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
10.45am Civic Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial on the Market Square followed by refreshments in the Bede House

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman **Hymns: 746, 594, 623**
Organist St. Mary's: Alan Cufaude **Hymns: 333, 364, 417, 354**

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 9	6pm Evening Prayer at St John's
Tues 10	7.30pm Bellringing practice night at St Mary's
Wed 11	10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
	11am Armistice Day Prayers at the War Memorial
Thur 12	10am Holy Eucharist with Coffee and Chat to 12noon at St Mary's
	7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel
Fri 13	6pm Choir Practice at St Mary's
Sat 14	*10am - 4pm Christmas Fair at St John's*

Sun 15 November Second Sunday before Advent

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

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-end

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the arch-angel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so, we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25:1-13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Post Communion

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

For your Prayers.

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

In memoriam: Benedicte

Year's mind anniversaries: John Connolly, Alfred Lucas, Peggy Rial, Malcolm Sharpe, Desmond Holpin, Alastair Bence, Antonio Bonito, Joan Sauntson, Ellen Groom, Edith Hart, Edith Noble, Ethel Smith, Leslie Millard, Ernest Mabelson, Rufus Jephcote, Flora Hale, Michael Rebbeck, Bernard Coker,, Andrew Dickens, Edna Line, Wilfred Brown, Doris Perkins, Charles Smith, Albert Sanders, Thomas Banks, Samuel Pallett, Lillia Baxter.

NOTICES

Christmas Services – small flyers are now available in each church, please help us advertise our services by giving these to family, friends and neighbours. We have an online poster that can be shared, and will produce individual services posters shortly. If you are on social media please share them, and if you can, reply to comments asking about Christingle services etc with details and tag us in?

ST MARY'S

Cake makers & eaters wanted!

It is that time of year when we need lots of cakes, for the Christmas Fair and Higham Sparkle, so lots of people can enjoy our wonderful refreshments and raise money at the same time. Please ask the teams if you need more details, thank you.

Tombola & Raffle donations, there is still time to bring them into church, the more the merrier.

Higham Ferrers Christmas Sparkle, Sat 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".
It would be great to showcase the many groups and teams active within our church who are often hidden from view of the general public. Do you want to show off what your team does and advertise for new members?

There are signup forms to help steward etc at Sparkle on the back table, and a request list for raffle items. The tombola donations box is near the servery.

5 December 2pm – Christmas Wreath Workshop in the Bede House
Always a fun creative activity to do, why not get a group together to go to this? Tickets available from Nicky, details on noticeboard posters

ST JOHN'S

Tea & Cakes 17 November Knit & Natter 24 November

Christmas Fair, 14 November 10am to 4pm
Our famous Recycled Christmas stall amongst many others, festive refreshments, raffle, tombola & more. Come start your Christmas shopping! Tombola and raffle donations requested. Thank you!

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

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 off duty Wed 11 November