



18 January 2026

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome to our services today

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's inc Junior Church

Music: Organist St. John's: Keith Green, **Hymns: 510, 704, 365.**

Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 390, 200, 294, 420.**

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>

Tues 20 2 – 4pm, *Tea and cakes at St John's*

7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's

Wed 21 10am Morning prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's

7.30pm *Childrens Ministry team meeting*

Thur 22 10am Said Eucharist with coffee and chat to 12noon at St Mary's

7pm *Licensing of Rev Yvonne at St Mary's, Finedon*

Sunday 25 January 2026 The Conversion of Paul

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

4pm Lego Church in the Bede House

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on

the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.” I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.’ And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.” And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi’ (which translated means Teacher), ‘where are you staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated Anointed¹). He brought Simon¹ to Jesus, who looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas’ (which is translated Peter¹).

Post Communion

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

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.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Ian Challen, Jane Carpenter, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sarah Martin, Sally Mayes, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Sue Thompson, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John's:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith.

In memoriam: Peter Austin, Ian Barrie, Brian Bond

Year's mind anniversaries: Harry Bennett, William Knight, Horace Woodley, Keneth Jarvis, Edward Fane, Annie Abbott, Alfred Revell, Alice Upton, Ettie Green, Thomas Ingram, Norah Hagger, Ethel Stokes, Kitty Rodis, Dinah Wilmott, Beatrice Weed, Robert Frisby, Horace Scott, Thomas Evans, William Webb, Ralph Dunmore, Cecil Holyoak, Beatrice Weed, Dorothy Burton, Albert Morris, Ivan Driver, Gerald Hunt, Edward Tompkins, Albert Wilson, Arthur Tombling (Priest), Nellie Thompson, Carla Radok.

NOTICES

22 Jan at 7pm - We are all invited to Rev Yvonne's licensing service at St Mary the Virgin, Finedon. Parking there is limited, car sharing is encouraged!

Lent Study Course – we will be running a Lent study course – Stephen Cottrell's "The Things He Carried". *A journey to the Cross: Meditations for Lent and Holy Week*. Please let me know if you are interested, we are looking at an afternoon and an early evening, and if there is interest possibly also online. It is a journey, using the chapters of the book, that can be taken individually or together in a group and enables a little more flexibility in approach. Each reflection is there to provoke further thought and discussion. More info to follow. Mthr Louise

Weekly emailed newsletter for the Benefice

This is sent on Fridays and has the newssheet and other articles and information about things in and around our benefice. Some people have reported non-receipt of this, please in the firstly check its not in your spam folder (email providers sometimes rejig their algorithms and it ends up in there until you say it's a safe

sender). Have you changed your email address? Or is it one we may have spelt incorrectly? Any issues please get in contact with Ria in the benefice office by phone or email. Thank you.

ST. MARY'S

Farmers Market Coffee mornings 2026: after reviewing 2025, we are changing the timing slightly to 9.30 to 12.30 but the price for coffee & cake is still £3.50!

Lego Church

This returns on Sunday 25 January at 4pm in the Bede House. What story shall we look at and build in Lego? Please let us know if you are coming, for catering purposes, thank you.

ST JOHN'S

Tea and Cakes, 2-4pm, 20 Jan, 17 Mar. Knit and Natter, 1-3pm, 27 Jan, 24 Feb

Snowdrop Weekend, Sat 21 10am to 4pm, and Sun 22 11am to 4pm.

As well as supporting the event by coming along, could you offer some help? More hands make for lighter work and a less tired Snowdrop Team. Thank you!

Old Christmas Decorations. Any decorations that you no longer need or want we will be happy to collect from you for our recycle Christmas fund raiser in December. Please call Brenda on 07816771702. Thank you.

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
Website	www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk

Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright and Andrew Wager 07789 286398

St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty Monday 19 January