

FUTURE SERVICES

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JUNE 2026

Sunday 28th June – Fourth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Lois Weedon	Matins
9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
10.30am	Helmdon	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Syresham	Praise & Prayer (Theme: Brother Lawrence)
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion

JULY 2026

Sunday 5th July – Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am	Lois Weedon	Benefice Holy Communion & Patronal Festival for St Peter
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Sunday 12th July – Sixth Sunday after Trinity

9am	Wappenham	Breakfast Church
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Morning Prayer
10.30am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
11.15am	Syresham	Morning Prayer

Sunday 19th July – Seventh Sunday after Trinity

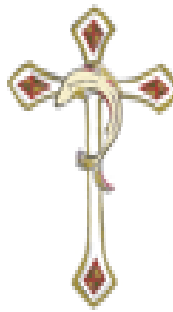
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Holy Communion
10.30am	Helmdon	Praise & Prayer
11.15am	Syresham	Holy Communion
11.15am	Wappenham	Praise & Prayer

Sunday 26th July – Eighth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Lois Weedon	Matins
9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
10.30am	Helmdon	Morning Prayer & Patronal Festival of St Mary Magdalene
11.15am	Syresham	Praise & Prayer & Patronal Festival of St James
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion

Regular Coffee Mornings

- **Helmdon** - Tuesdays, 10 am-12 noon in Reading Room
- **Whitfield** - first Tuesday of the month, 10am-12 noon, in Village Hall.
- **Wappenham** - first Wednesday of the month, 10 am-12 noon, in Village Hall.
- **Syresham Coffee Morning** is held each Thursday, 10 am-12 noon in the Village Hall.
- **Lois Weedon** - 10am until 12 noon, first Friday of the month, in Village Hall.



PEWS NEWS

The Astwell Benefice

St Mary Magdalene Helmdon with Stuchbury & St Lawrence Radstone, St James the Great Syresham, St John the Evangelist Whitfield, St Mary & St Peter Lois Weedon with Weston & Plumpton, and St Mary the Virgin Wappenham.

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<https://www.facebook.com/astwellbenefice/>

Sunday 21st June 2026

Third Sunday after Trinity

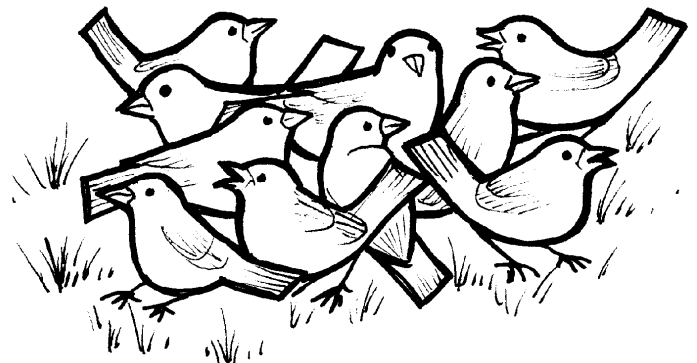
9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion

10.30am Helmdon Praise & Prayer

10.30am Plumpton Children's Matins,
followed by
'Plant Up'

11.15am Syresham Holy Communion

11.15am Wappenham Praise & Prayer



Collects & Readings for Third Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your
service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughing-stock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, 'Violence and destruction!'
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹ If I say, 'I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name',
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
'Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!'
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
'Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him.'
¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonour
will never be forgotten.
¹² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³ Sing to the Lord;
praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

New Testament Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may
abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin
go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who

have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into
his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by
baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised
from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too
might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection
like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with
him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we
might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has
died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ,
we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know
that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die
again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The
death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he
lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider
yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:24-39

²⁴ 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above
the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the
teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have
called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much
more will they malign those of his household!
²⁶ 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up
that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will
not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell
in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim
from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the
body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can
destroy both soul and body in hell.^[a] ²⁹ Are not two
sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall
to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰ And even
the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be
afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
³² 'Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before
others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in
heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also
will deny before my Father in heaven.
³⁴ 'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the
earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own
household.
³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not
worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more
than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not
take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of
me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those
who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Post Communion Collect:

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Intercessions for Third Sunday after Trinity

Holy God, you have given us your only Son to be for us, both a sacrifice for sin, and an example of Godly life; Give us the grace to thankfully receive this wonderful gift, and to always strive ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, we pray for the Church, both here in the Astwell Benefice and throughout the world, and all who call themselves Christians, that they may go forward in unity and strength. Help us to respect the beliefs of others even if we do not share them, to celebrate what we have in common and to accept our differences. Guide us all in our ministries as we live each day.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Creator God, we pray for people in parts of the world where life is precarious, whether through disaster, poverty, disease, or war. We pray that the time may be hastened when there is peace on earth and goodwill between all people. Especially we pray for our precious world; help us to be good stewards so that we can pass it on in good order to the generations yet to come.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Father God, we pray today for our friends, our families and our Christian community, that united by our common baptism we may always welcome the newcomer, the stranger and all who are vulnerable. Help us always to follow Jesus' words and advice on hospitality and generous giving and realise that accepting someone's help is as good as giving someone help.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them. We pray for the sick; for those who mourn; for those without faith, hope or love.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, we remember before God those who have died and those who are bereaved by their passing. We give back to you, Lord, those whom you gave to us. Your son taught us that life is eternal, and that love cannot die. So, death is only a horizon, and a horizon is only the limit of our sight. Open our eyes to see more clearly, and draw us closer to you, so that we may know we are nearer to our loved ones, who are with you.

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Faithful God in the week that lies before us may we reflect your love in our families, our church and our community and in doing so, show everyone we meet that we are followers of Christ with a true desire to draw them into our Christian faith.

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

TO HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

We bring before our loving heavenly Father those in our villages and others we know who are unwell, recovering from injury or illness and all those who need our prayers for any reason.

From Helmdon: Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe, and Joan Hadfield.

From Lois Weedon & Weston: Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, Caroline Hunt, Margaret Seckington, Anna Mackaness and Clyde Burbidge.

From Syresham: George Summers and Suzanne Prestcott.

From Wappenham: Judy King, Dorothy & David Nicholson, Edwin & Phyllis King, Charlotte & Arif Supple.

For those known to us:

Margaret Reardon, Pauline Collis, Evelyn Johnson, Ollie Dotterill, Francis Potsoni, Mary Coates, Emily Barthelamy, May Oliver, Lily & Theo Wright, Christobel Grant and Diane Snow.

Please pray for those bereaved, and the family & friends of:

Andrew Jackson, Alan Jones, Linda and Will Adams, Ailsa Williams, Jonathan Sayers, Joan McCann, Maralynn Hunter, Ann Smith, John Thorne and Eileen Watson.

Also, please pray for the work of the Beacon Centre, the Wolverton Mission, the Hope Centre, Katharine House Hospice, Northampton Women's Aid and The Women's Refuge. We also continue to pray for refugees fleeing persecution and all victims of hatred, terrorism, and war.

Dates for your Diary

JUNE

Sat 20th *Syresham Mini Summer Fete, with events around the village, 10am - 4pm*
Mon 22nd *Finance committee Mtg, 11am at Vine Cottage.*

JULY

Thurs 9th *Deanery Walk within the Benefice (more information to follow)*
Mon 13th *BPCC Meeting, 7pm, Wappenham Village Hall*
Mon 20th *Festival Discussion and Ideas Meeting, 7pm, Helmdon Reading Room*

BENEFICE CONTACTS

Reverend Hugh White (Rector):

Tel: 01869 347889

Email: rectorastwell@gmail.com

Please contact the Rector or your Churchwarden/Representative if you have queries about baptisms, weddings, or funerals.

Paul Stothard: Reader & Lay Chair

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Alice Palmer: Benefice Treasurer

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Fiona Mason: Benefice Safeguarding Officer

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Wiggy Smith: Chair of Pastoral Care Committee

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Sarah Rudkin: Benefice Secretary & Pews News Editor,

rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk, Tel: 01327 830965

Churchwardens /Representatives (for individual church matters):

Helmdon: Cliff Netten, apnetten@hotmail.com

& Paul Stothard, stothy@live.co.uk

Lois Weedon & Weston: Frank Hunter

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Radstone: Penny Bonner

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Syresham: Alice Palmer

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Wappenham: Sheena Warren

sheena@bellplantation.co.uk

Whitfield: Claire Bonner cbonner00@gmail.com

Benefice Bulletin 21st June 2026

No sooner have we had the *Let's shine Together 2026* wash-up meeting than we've decided to do it all again. The Committee was in no doubt of the success of the Festival this year, with more than adequate attendances at the events, which we felt equalled or even surpassed last year's in quality. Those who came pretty much universally expressed a warm satisfaction. So there will be a *LsT* in 2027. The dates will be 22nd to 30th May. Time to be getting hold of next year's diaries and inking the Festival in for that week.

Despite our feeling that attendees were in general delighted by this year's Festival, we'd like to canvas ideas as to what other things people might want to see in it. So we've arranged an evening in Helmdon Reading Room for a discussion. Do come and let us know your views. That event will take place on Monday 20th July (2026) at 7.00pm and there'll be refreshments.

A couple of days after that, on Wednesday 22nd July, the Festival is hosting a performance of 'Macbeth' (N.B. the inverted commas!) by Handlebards. This has been paid for already by the Festival and any donations and bar takings received on the night will go straight to the Community Fund. I'd love to be able to invite you to turn up for the show and add to the amount the Festival has raised for the Fund so far this year (about £3000), but 'Macbeth' has already sold out. Maybe there'll be some returned tickets.

And this Saturday (20th), there's Syresham Open Gardens (10.30 am to 5.30 pm) in conjunction with which Syresham Church is holding a Mini-Fete. See you there, perhaps.

Blessings,

Hugh

Saturday 20th June 2026

In conjunction with Syresham Open Gardens, Syresham St James Church has put on a number of activities for your enjoyment to raise much needed funds, including.

Teas, Coffees, Sweet Treats & Ploughman's

Plus, photo display from the TAP 'tapestry'

Chapel Schoolroom

11am – 4pm

BBQ & Soft Drinks

Try Bell Ringing & view our
Miniature Garden Competition

Syresham Church

From 12pm

Enjoy The Priory Rose Garden, entering from
the secret gate just before the Church path.

Games, Plants, Toy Stall & Teddy Tombola

Vine Cottage 8 Broad Street

10am – 4pm

Plant Stall

The Laurels, Bell Lane, 10am – 4pm