

FUTURE SERVICES

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

AUGUST

Saturday 30th August

1pm Syresham Wedding

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 3rd September

10am Helmdon Midweek Benefice
Holy Communion

Thursday 4th September

1pm Whitfield Wedding

Sunday 7th September – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Whitfield Benefice Holy
Communion

Sunday 14th September – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Wappenham Breakfast Church
9.30am Lois Weedon Morning Prayer
11.15am Helmdon Holy Communion
11.15am Syresham Morning Prayer

Sunday 21st September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion
9.30am Helmdon Praise & Prayer
11.15am Syresham Holy Communion
11.15am Wappenham Harvest Praise & Prayer
(followed by a buffet lunch in the Church)
6pm Plumpton Summer Evensong

Sunday 28th September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Matins
9.30am Helmdon Morning Prayer
9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion
11.15am Syresham Harvest Praise & Prayer
with speaker Mike Yallop
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1st October

10am Helmdon Midweek Benefice
Holy Communion

Sunday 5th October – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Syresham Benefice Holy
Communion
11am Plumpton Harvest Festival Matins



PEWS NEWS

The Astwell Benefice

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

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

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

Sunday 31st August 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Services in the Benefice:

Holy Communion

9.30am

at Lois Weedon

and

Benefice Pet Service

10.30am

at Wappenham



Collects & Readings for Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion at Lois Weedon

Collect:

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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: Ecclesiasticus 10. 12-18

- ² The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.
¹³ For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely.
¹⁴ The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place.
¹⁵ The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations,^[a] and plants the humble in their place.
¹⁶ The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.
¹⁷ He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth.
¹⁸ Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

or

Proverbs 25:6-7

- ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great;
⁷ for it is better to be told, 'Come up here', than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

New Testament: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

- ¹ Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' ⁶ So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. ⁸ 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.' ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

Reading for Pet Service at Wappenham

Genesis 1:24-26

- ²⁴ And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
²⁶ Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

Post Communion Collect:

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Friends in Christ, God, invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. Loving our neighbours as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Almighty God, we pray for your churches here in the Astwell Benefice, for our Rector and Reader, and for those with PTO. We ask for your blessing on our work as we seek to create a church community that welcomes the stranger, provides a refuge for those who feel threatened or alone and a place where everyone feels that they belong.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Father in heaven, we pray for people of every race and belief, and in every kind of need: make your ways known on earth, your saving power among nations. We pray especially for peace between Russia and Ukraine, and in Gaza.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Father God, take control of our mouths and forgive us for careless, thoughtless, and angry words used against our family, friends and neighbours. Let our words always bless you and others and may our actions speak of love for you and your Son Jesus Christ. Help us to see each individual as uniquely made in your image and worthy of our love and respect. Show your love through our lives in some small way today

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Gracious God, we pray for all who suffer, whether their suffering is physical or spiritual. And we ask you to support all who give their strength, their skill and their stamina in a ministry of healing.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Merciful God, we pray for those who have gone before us to that place where flesh and spirit part. May they rest in your love and peace, surrounded by the heavenly host and reunited with loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Mighty God, grant that the words we have heard during our time of worship may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruits of a good life, in praise and honour of your Holy Name

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 and Margaret Seckington.

From Syresham: George Summers and Suzanne Prestcott.

From Wappenham: Judy King, Dorothy & David Nicholson, and Edwin & Phyllis King.

For those known to us:

Margaret Reardon, Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, 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:

Joan McCann, Maralynn Hunter, Ann Smith, John Thorne, Eileen Watson, Geoff Abbey, Jean Spendlove, Vic Butler, Philip Gulliver, Jean Parks, Jean Mackaness, Diane Watts, Peter Stubbs, Nicholas Reynell, Linda Smalley, Tony Wilmot, John Maleham, Betty Stubbs, Wendy Procter, Derek Morris, David Brookhouse, Jonathan Miller, David Powell, Joyce Beech.

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 all refugees fleeing persecution, all victims of war and terror, and all those affected by the Covid-19 virus.

Race Night Fundraiser

**on behalf of Lois Weedon Church and
Lois Weedon Village Hall.**

Friday 12th September in the Village Hall,
doors open 7:00pm; first race : 7:30pm
Tickets £10 per person to include supper.

**Contact: Rachel Smith
(01327 860626, rachel.k.smith4@gmail.com)
or Diane Hunt (01327 350714)**

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

stothy@live.co.uk, Tel: 01295 760816

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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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Syresham: Alice Palmer alice.palmer16@btinternet.com

Wappenham: Sheena Warren sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk

Whitfield: Claire Bonner cbonner00@gmail.com

RISE+STRIDES

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

**Saturday 13th September 2025
between 10am and 6pm**

350+ stunning churches and chapels to visit - many of them open and welcoming

All sponsorship money received will be divided equally between the NHCT and the church or chapel chosen by you. Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are available from your local organiser.

Go to: <https://nhct.org.uk/Main/RideAndStride> for more information



Dates for your Diary

SEPTEMBER

- Fri 12th** Race Night Fundraiser for Lois Weedon Church and Lois Weedon Village Hall, in the Village Hall, doors open 7:00pm; first race 7:30pm
- Sat 13th** Ride & Stride, in aid of the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust
- Sat 27th** French Evening Fundraiser for Helmdon Church. Church doors open at 6:00 for 6:30pm showing of 'Les Miserables'. £10 ticket includes food at half time.

Regular events held in the Benefice:

- **Helmdon Coffee Morning** is held each Tuesday, 10 am-12 noon in the Reading Room
- **Syresham Coffee Morning** is held each Thursday, 10 am-12 noon in the Village Hall.
- **Whitfield Coffee Morning** is held on the first Tuesday of the month, 10am-12 noon in the Village Hall.
- **St Mary's, Wappenham Coffee Morning**, is held on the first Wednesday of the month, 10 am-12 noon, in the Village Hall.
- **St Mary & St Peter, Lois Weedon Coffee Morning** is held from 10am until 12 noon on the first Friday of each month, in Lois Weedon Village Hall.

Benefice Bulletin

Revd Hugh has been on holiday, so there will be no Benefice Bulletin this week.

'Normal Service' will resume next week!

