

FUTURE SERVICES

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

SEPTEMBER

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 Festival 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

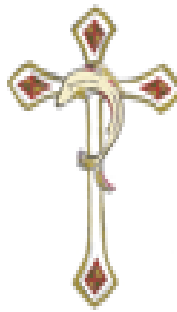
10.30am	Syresham	Benefice Holy Communion
11am	Plumpton	Harvest Festival Matins

Sunday 12th October – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9.00am	Wappenham	Breakfast Church
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
11.15am	Syresham	Morning Prayer
5pm	Whitfield	Harvest Festival & supper in V Hall

Sunday 19th October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

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



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 7th September 2025

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Services in the Benefice:

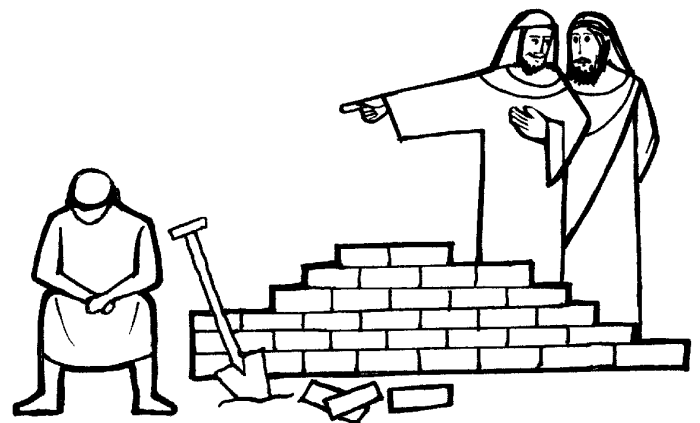
Benefice Holy Communion

10.30am

at

Whitfield

With speakers from Three Pillars at St James' Church, Northampton who will tell us about their operation feeding the homeless, and followed by the Benefice Pilgrimage



Collects & Readings for Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is
afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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: Deuteronomy 30. 15- end

¹⁵ See, I have set before you today life and prosperity,
death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments
of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today,
by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and
observing his commandments, decrees, and
ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous,
and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that
you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns
away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow
down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you
today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in
the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and
possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against
you today that I have set before you life and death,
blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your
descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God,
obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means
life to you and length of days, so that you may live in
the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors,
to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

New Testament Reading: Philemon 1-21

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our
brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ² to
Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and
to the church in your house:
³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.
⁴ When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank
my God ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints
and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the
sharing of your faith may become effective when you
perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷ I
have indeed received much joy and encouragement
from your love, because the hearts of the saints have
been refreshed through you, my brother.
⁸ For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to
command you to do your duty, ⁹ yet I would rather
appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this

as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ
Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus,
whose father I have become during my
imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but
now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹² I am
sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I
wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of
service to me in your place during my imprisonment for
the gospel; ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your
consent, in order that your good deed might be
voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is
the reason he was separated from you for a while, so
that you might have him back for ever, ¹⁶ no longer as a
slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—
especially to me but how much more to you, both in the
flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as
you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any
way, or owes you anything, charge that to my
account. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I
will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even
your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit
from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in
Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to
you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he
turned and said to them, ²⁶ 'Whoever comes to me and
does not hate father and mother, wife and children,
brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be
my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and
follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you,
intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and
estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to
complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation
and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to
ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, "This fellow began to build and
was not able to finish." ³¹ Or what king, going out to
wage war against another king, will not sit down first
and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to
oppose the one who comes against him with twenty
thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still
far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms
of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my
disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Post Communion Collect:

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Everlasting God, as you look down on our church family here assembled, we thank you for this place in which we worship together. Thank you for the love that unites us, for the peace we enjoy today and for the hopes we have for tomorrow. We thank you too for the health we enjoy, for the work that keeps us cheerfully occupied, for the food that sustains us, for the beauty around us that makes our lives delightful and for our friends in every corner of the world.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Lord, we ask you to guide your Church, especially when differences amongst us seem to threaten our very existence. We face each other, but often do not see the face. We too easily make 'an other' of one another. Help us now to look again, to see Jesus in the face and to recognise hopes, aspirations and desires.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Creator God, you made us to be stewards of your creation but we have chopped down forests, polluted the air, poisoned the rivers and seas, destroyed the places where animals live and then pursued them to extinction. Help us to change our ways so that we can look after the world, and to make it the way that you want it to be.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Father God, help us to recognize the people in our lives who need someone to stand up for them. Forgive us for thinking that it's "not our problem" and help us always to love our family, friends and neighbours as ourselves, especially praying for those who do not carry the cross and follow Jesus as a disciple.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Gracious God, sometimes life seems out of control and we don't know exactly which direction to take, especially when we are, or someone we know is, unwell. Thank you for overseeing our lives and prompting us in the right way through your word and your spirit. We raise before you now those on our prayer lists and those causing us concern.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Merciful God, remember, the souls of your servants now fallen asleep and for those who are saddened by their passing. Be with the bereaved in their loneliness and give them the faith to look beyond their present troubles to your Son Jesus Christ who died and rose again and who lives forevermore.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer

Faithful God, we praise you for all you have done in the past; we look forward with thankfulness for all you will do in the future, and we thank you for today and all the blessings we experience.

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

Alice Palmer: Benefice Treasurer

alice.palmer16@btinternet.com, Tel: 01280 850252

Fiona Mason: Benefice Safeguarding Officer

fomason@hotmail.com Tel: 01280 850439

Sheena Warren, Chair of Social & Fundraising

Committee sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk,

Tel: 01327 860230

Wiggy Smith: Chair of Pastoral Care Committee

wiggysmith44@gmail.com, Tel: 01295 760953

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

frank.hunter@btinternet.com

Radstone: Penny Bonner penny.bonner@btconnect.com

Syresham: Alice Palmer alice.palmer16@btinternet.com

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

Whitfield: Claire Bonner cbonner00@gmail.com



**On the Big Screen in the Church
Tickets are required for
catering purposes**

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 Misérables'. £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 No. 8

- I hope many of you will be able to make the Benefice Service at Whitfield this Sunday (10.30). We have speakers from Three Pillars at St James' Church, Northampton who will tell us about their operation feeding the homeless. Their team impressed us greatly when they did the catering at the Queen tribute concert during the Let's shine Together Festival. Following my conversation with them over arrangements for their visit on Sunday, I think we may be in for a bit of a challenge - and, since they are looking for partners, we might find ourselves linked to St James'.
- **The Benefice Pilgrimage will take place after the service. I hope it's not just me walking.**
- Thanks to everyone who came to one or both of what turned out to be the two Benefice Services last Sunday. The humans at the Lois Weedon Book of Common Prayer Communion numbered a little more than the humans at the Wappenham Pet Service, but the half-dozen dogs present at the latter definitively outnumbered the one at Lois (though it was a very large one), so honours pretty even, I'd say. Both services seemed me to honour God appropriately, if in very different ways.
- **The Cheese and Wine event at the Rectory planned for the evening of Friday 5th has had to be cancelled. We couldn't muster a team to go the whole hog (croquet, etc.) and I couldn't face sitting on my own beside a pile of cheese waiting, in hope but not expectation, for people to turn up. Perhaps next year....**