

## FUTURE SERVICES

[www.astwellparishes.org.uk](http://www.astwellparishes.org.uk)

### OCTOBER

#### *Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*

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

#### *Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October*

6.00pm	Helmdon	Harvest Festival Service
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#### *Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity*

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

**NB: NO SERVICE AT HELMDON**

#### *Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October*

Time TBC	Lois Weedon	Harvest Supper in Village Hall
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#### *Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Last Sunday after Trinity*

9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
9.30am	Helmdon	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Syresham	Praise & Prayer
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion
6pm	Lois Weedon	Harvest Evensong

### NOVEMBER

#### *Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November*

4pm	Helmdon	All Souls Service
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#### *Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Fourth Sunday before Advent*

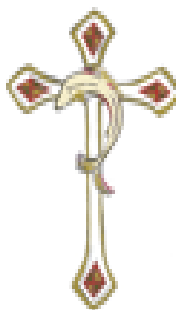
9.00am	Wappenham	Breakfast Church
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Helmdon	Holy Communion & Children's Church
11.15am	Syresham	Morning Prayer

#### *Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November*

7pm	Syresham	All Souls Service (with Whitfield)
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#### *Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday*

10.00am	Helmdon	Remembrance Service & Act of Remembrance at Memorial
10.50am	Wappenham	Holy Communion & Act of Remembrance (with Royal British Legion)
10.50am	Whitfield	Act of Remembrance at Memorial
10.55am	Syresham	Act of Remembrance at Stone
10.55am	Lois Weedon	Act of Remembrance



## 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](http://www.astwellparishes.org.uk)

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

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### *Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

*Services in the Benefice:  
Benefice Holy Communion*

with speaker

**Karen Fairfax-Cholmeley,  
Chair of Sabeel-Kairos UK**

**10.30am**

**at**

**Syresham**

*Sabeel-Kairos UK is a  
campaigning Christian charity  
that works for human rights,  
justice and equality for  
Palestinians in  
partnership/solidarity with the  
Christian community  
in the Holy Land.*

[www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk](http://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk)

**And**

**Harvest Festival  
11 am  
at Plumpton**

## *Collects & Readings for Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

### *Collect:*

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the Prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2: 1-4*

**1<sup>1</sup>** The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

**2** O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you 'Violence!'  
and you will not save?

**3** Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.

**4** So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

**2** **1<sup>1</sup>** I will stand at my watch-post,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

**2** Then the Lord answered me and said:

Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

**3** For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.

**4** Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

### *New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14*

**1** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

**2** To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

**3** I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. **4** Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy.

**5** I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. **6** For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; **7** for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

**8** Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, **9** who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, **10** but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. **11** For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, **12** and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. **13** Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **14** Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

### *Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10*

**5** The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' **6** The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a<sup>1</sup> mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

**7** 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? **8** Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? **9** Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? **10** So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"'

### *Post Communion Collect:*

Almighty God,  
you have taught us through your Son  
that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## *Prayers for Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

Almighty God, in the noise and confusion of life, we pray for peace in our hearts. In these few moments of stillness we bring before you our prayers, asking for help and guidance as we journey through our earthly life and giving thanks and praise for our many blessings.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for your Church today, gathering all round the world in tiny churches and great cathedrals, to praise you, to hear your holy word, and to meet you in bread and wine. Give us a sense of expectation as we come and inspiration as we go. Help us to put our differences behind us and unite instead behind the great commission of Jesus, to make disciples of all nations.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Creator God, we pray for peace in the world; that every nation may seek the way that leads to peace; that human rights and freedoms may everywhere be respected and the world's resources be ungrudgingly shared. At this harvest time we acknowledge that all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above. Help us to receive them gratefully, to use them wisely and to share them unselfishly as good stewards of your bounty.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Father God, we pray for ourselves. Give us this day, the eye that is willing to see the meaning of the ordinary, the familiar, the commonplace; to see our own faults for what they are; to see the likeable qualities in those we may not like; to recognise the mistakes in what we thought was correct; to understand the strength in what we labelled as weakness. Help us to entrust the past to your mercy, the present to your love and the future to your wisdom.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we raise before you all who are sick or dying; all who are suffering or in sorrow; grant to all who are living in error or ignorance or sin, the grace of repentance. We pray for those in our Benefice who are sick or suffering at this time. In your goodness and mercy, grant them health of body, soundness of mind and peace of heart.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Loving God, into your hands we commit those who have run the race and kept the faith, even if that faith was known only to you and now have gone to their reward.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, who in your wisdom has so ordered our earthly life that we must walk by faith and not by sight. Grant us such faith in you that amidst all things that pass our understanding, we may believe in your fatherly care, and ever be strengthened by the assurance that underneath are the everlasting arms.

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour,**

## **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.

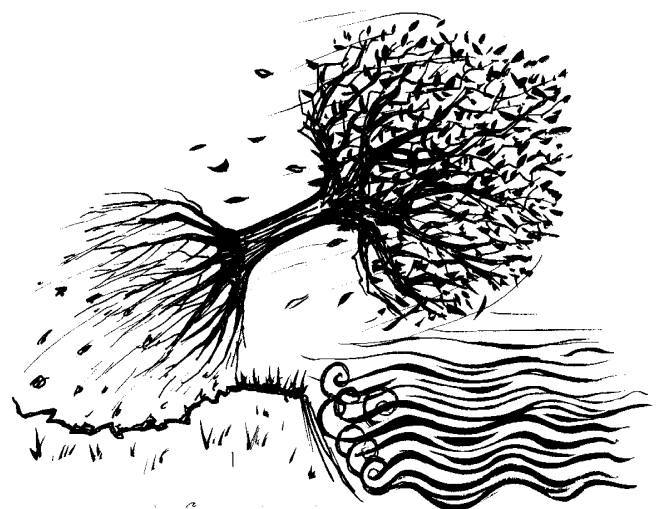
**For those known to us:**

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:**

Jonathan Sayers, 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.**



# BENEFICE CONTACTS

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

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## Dates for your Diary

### OCTOBER

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>** *Race Night Fundraiser for Lois Weedon Church and Lois Weedon Village Hall is CANCELLED*

### NOVEMBER

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup>** *Togetherness Tea Party, 2-4pm, Helmdon Reading Room*

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup>** *Open Meeting to discuss Astwell Benefice as a 'single parish' – time & venue details TBC*

### 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. 12

I meant to bring this to your attention sooner, Claire Bonner having brought it to mine. I think 7<sup>th</sup> September's *Songs of Praise : Faith in the Countryside* is likely to be of interest to many. It's on BBC iPlayer. The issue of rural isolation which the programme considers is an important one and something we might be able to address in our area with the help of Let's Shine Together monies. I rather suspect Claire would like Let's Shine to invest in a 'Butty Van', after the example of the Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy in south Shropshire and Herefordshire, which would go round communities in the Brackley/Daventry/Towcester Area offering tea, sausage baps and an opportunity for conversation and connection for the farming community and others. Might that work? The Committee that will oversee the disbursement of Let's shine Together funds will shortly have its first formal meeting and might welcome a Butty Van application. It might also want to support (with, eg, potential transport costs) a new initiative for togetherness coming out of, and beginning in, Helmdon but which its organisers would like to see going further afield in the Benefice - a monthly tea party for whoever might want to attend, the first occasion being on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm-4pm in Helmdon Reading Room.** *Hugh*