

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

MAY 2022

Saturday 21st May – Wedding of Adam Dix & Joanne Eagle, 3.30pm at Helmdon

Sunday 22nd May – Rogation Sunday **(Sixth Sunday of Easter)**

9.30am Lois Weedon Benefice Holy Communion
11am Falcutt Hall Benefice Rogation Service
(followed by lunch)

Thursday 26th May – Ascension Day

7pm Helmdon Ascension Day Service

Saturday 28th May – Wedding of David Dawks & Emma Hornby, 12.30pm at Syresham

Sunday 29th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter

10.30am Radstone Benefice Holy Communion
3pm Wappenham Celebration Service for
tower steps with Archdeacon
Richard Ormston

JUNE 2022

Sunday 5th June – Pentecost (and Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II)

9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion
9.30am Lois Weedon Joint Service with Weston
Chapel at the Church
10am Helmdon Morning Worship
11am Syresham Joint Service with Chapel
at the Church
11.15am Wappenham Morning Worship

Sunday 12th June – Trinity Sunday

9am Wappenham Breakfast Church
9.30am Lois Weedon Matins
10am Helmdon Family Communion &
Children's Church
11am Syresham Morning Worship

There will be 10.00am Midweek Holy Communion Services at Helmdon on 18th and 25th May, 8th, 15th and 22nd June.



Online Benefice Prayer Meeting

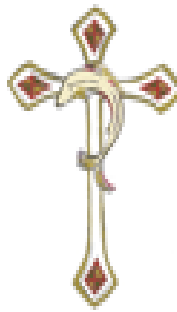
Please join Revd Diane on Monday evenings at 6pm using the following Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894936136?pwd=YW5qS>

[Wo4MEw5Q1dvUG9WWTdabkNjdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894936136?pwd=YW5qS)

Meeting ID: 890 3407 6266

Passcode: 545720



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 15th May 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Services in the Benefice today

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion
9.30am Whitfield Morning Worship
10am Helmdon Pets Service
11am Syresham Holy Communion
11.15am Wappenham Prayer & Praise

To access a pre-recorded service of worship for today please use the links below:

<https://youtu.be/fjzA0gMfMc>

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

ARCHDEACON'S VISIT TO WAPPENHAM

The Venerable Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton, is visiting St Mary the Virgin, Wappenham at 3.00pm on Sunday 29th May to bless the new tower steps and new pew cushions.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards. (Parking is available at David Wilson's farmyard, approx 150 yards from church)

Please come and join us!

Collects and Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Collect:

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life:

grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

(Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1-18)

New Testament Reading: Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in
Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the
word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem,
the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying,
'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with
them?' ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step
by step, saying, ⁵'I was in the city of Joppa praying,
and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something
like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being
lowered by its four corners; and it came close to
me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed
animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the
air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter;
kill and eat." ⁸But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for
nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my
mouth." ⁹But a second time the voice answered from
heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not
call profane." ¹⁰This happened three times; then
everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that
very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea,
arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told
me to go with them and not to make a distinction
between them and us. These six brothers also
accompanied me, and we entered the man's
house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel
standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and
bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a
message by which you and your entire household
will be saved." ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy
Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the
beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the
Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water,
but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷If
then God gave them the same gift that he gave us
when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ,
who was I that I could hinder God?' ¹⁸When they
heard this, they were silenced. And they praised
God, saying, "Then God has given even to the
Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

New Testament Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the
first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and
the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the
new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from
God, prepared as a bride adorned for her
husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne
saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said,
'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write
this, for these words are trustworthy and
true.' ⁶Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha
and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the
thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of
the water of life.'

Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of
Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified
in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will
also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at
once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little
longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews
so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot
come." ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you
love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also
should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will
know that you are my disciples, if you have love for
one another.'

Post Communion Collect:

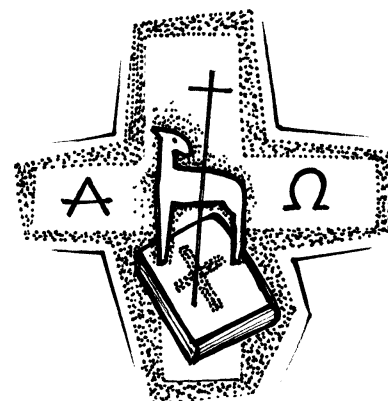
Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the
life:

grant us to walk in his way,

to rejoice in his truth,

and to share his risen life;

who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



Prayers by Hannah Fowles

Almighty God, we ask you to hear our prayers today for your church, the world, our local community and people in need.

In Ukraine we pray for all who have lost loved ones, those who have been forced to leave their homes and people who continue to live in fear of the atrocities of war. We ask you to give strength and courage to the leaders of all nations involved, so that they work tirelessly to find a peaceful end to this and other conflicts around the world.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Almighty God, we pray for our local community. We ask that each of us make use of the individual talents you have provided, to enable each church group to flourish as a witness to you, so that we can serve our friends and neighbours who are in need.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, within your embrace we find comfort and healing. We bring to you all who are struggling with their physical, mental or spiritual health.

You watch over us and lead us throughout our lives. We ask you to draw close to all who are hurt having lost a loved one. Give them comfort and reassurance and help them to remember that your son Jesus Christ put an end to death by dying for us.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Father God, send us out into the world, renewed by our worship and strengthened by our fellowship, so that we may be a witness to the Gospel of your son Jesus Christ and bring healing and reconciliation to our wounded world.

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

Farming Matters!

**Our special Rogation Sunday Service
with a Blessing of the Plough
will be held on**

Sunday 22nd May at 11am

**at Falcutt Hall, Helmdon, NN13 5QY
(collection for Farming Community
Network)**

followed by a Roast Beef lunch.

**Lunch tickets £10, £3.50 primary age
children,**

pre-school children free.

To book your lunch tickets please contact

Ann Smith on: 01295 760684,

12A Church Street, Helmdon, NN13 5QJ,

ann.smith.antone@gmail.com

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 during this difficult time:

Please pray for the family & friends of Shirley Tuckey, whose funeral will be held at St Mary & St Peter, Lois Weedon on Monday 23rd May at 11am.

From Helmdon: Philip Gulliver, Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe, Vanessa Vicars, John Thorne, Margaret Reardon and David Bowen-Jones.

From Lois Weedon & Weston: Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, John Maleham, Elsie Hatton & family, Jean Parks and Jean Mackaness.

From Syresham: Derek Hollyoake

From Wappenham: Judy King and Claire Kennett.

For those known to us:

Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, Evelyn Johnson, Penny Bonnymeade, Ollie Dotterill, Sam & Jackie Cowlshaw, Francis Potsoni, Lloyd Callaghan, Brian Estes & Chloë Fletcher.

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

Joyce Beech, Julia O'Brian, Jenni Liversidge, James Smillie, Marina Amundsen, Juliet Shepherd-Smith, Barry Saunders, Alan Watson, Elizabeth Harris, John Widdowson, Victor Brooks, Revd Douglas Hadfield, Michael Cadd, Peter Burns, John Busby, Peter Sims, Irene Holgate, Bob Wallace, Baby Anna, Andy Seckington, Win Wood, Liz Threlfall, Ernie Wheeler, Dennis Read, Gillian Clube, Barry Pocock, Doug Hatton, Jayden Shaler, Winnie Varney, Alex Paterson, Ann Widdowson, Christine Cason, Jack Hawkins, John Snow, Pat Johnson, David Sheppard, Steve Goodwin, Dorothy D'Alton (nee Abbot), Sally Gore, Marcus Durant, Greg Oles, Mike Durant, Stewart Gundle, Ian Kidd, Richard Tims, Jason Holt & Shirley Holt, Mark Kilby. Also, for Susan Clarke & family, Kathryn and Peter Oliver, & Geoff and Jo Abbey.

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 terror, and all those affected by the Covid-19 virus.

BENEFICE CONTACTS

Rector:

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Paul Stothard, Reader

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Bill Elkington: Lay chair and Benefice PCC

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Judith Elkington (judith.elkington@gmail.com):

BPCC, BRICC, Deanery & Benefice Communications

Alice Palmer: All financial matters

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Rachel Wheeler, Benefice Safeguarding Officer

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Sarah Rudkin: Parishes Administrator & Pews News

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Churchwardens (for individual church matters):

Helmdon: Bill Elkington (bill.h.elkington@gmail.com)

& Cliff Netten (apnetten@hotmail.com)

Lois Weedon & Weston: Frank Hunter

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Radstone: Penny Bonner

(penny.bonner@btconnect.com)

Syresham: Malcolm Orr-Ewing

(info@thepriorybandbsyresham.co.uk)

Wappenham: Edwin King (astwell01@aol.com) &

Sheena Warren (sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk)

Whitfield: Claire Bonner (cbonner00@gmail.com)



Astwell Benefice Group of Churches

If you need to talk to someone,
please do ring one of us.

Diane Whittaker (Rector): 01327 226245

Paul Stothard (Reader): 01295 760816

Wiggy Smith (Reader): 01295 760953



Scan this QR code to link to the 'Giving Page' of the Benefice website. All donations go directly to supporting mission and ministry in the Benefice

Dates for Your Diary

May

Mon 16th Benefice Worship Committee Meeting at 7pm, Wappenham V Hall

Wed 18th Syresham Church Council Mtg, 7.15pm in Church

Sun 22nd Benefice Rogation Service, 11am, Falcutt Hall, Helmdon, followed by lunch

Wed 25th MU Meeting. Speaker: Revd Will Adams will talk about his work with The Samaritans, 10.30am (after 10am service)

Mon 30th Soc & F/raising Mtg at Lois Weedon House, 2pm

June

Sat 4th Jubilee Garden Party Benefice Fundraiser, 2 – 5pm
Lois Weedon House

Mon 13th BPCC Finance Committee Meeting, 11am Venue?
Helmdon Church Council Meeting

Wed 23rd MU Musical Evening, 7pm, Helmdon Church

July

Sat 9th Barn Dance Benefice Fundraiser, Manor Farm
Wappenham

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.
- **Parents & Tots** is held in Helmdon Reading Room on Thursdays, 10am-12 noon, during term time.
- **Mothers' Union** meetings are held in Helmdon Church following the Wednesday 10am Communion Service.
- **St Mary's, Wappenham Coffee Morning**, is held on the first Wednesday of the month, 10 am-12 noon, in the Village Hall.

Congratulations to

Sebastian Goldsmith and Laura Goodall
who were married
at St Mary Magdalene, Helmdon
on Saturday 7th May 2022

Douglas Hadfield's Memorial and Thanksgiving Service

Joan Hadfield, and Paul, Rosemary and Nigel, are most grateful to Rev Diane Whittaker for conducting Douglas's Thanksgiving service on Monday 9 May and were very touched that so many local friends and neighbours joined them to celebrate Douglas's life.

"We want to thank everyone for coming, and for their contributions to his memory, which made it such a special and joyful occasion."