

St Neots Parish Church (St Mary) & Eynesbury St Mary

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 9th March 2025

The First Sunday of Lent



Services today

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist <i>President & Preacher – The Rector</i>	St Neots Parish Church Thorne – Kyrie, not Gloria
Hymns:	702, 121, 123, Anthem + 127; 629 (1stt)	
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
Hymns:	702, 121, 123, 629 (1stt)	Thorne – Kyrie, not Gloria
3.30 p.m.	'All Aboard' - Danny Boy and the Cat Café	St Neots Parish Church

Services & Events this week

Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
<i>We are sorry that, due to other commitments, there will be no Eucharist with Prayer for Healing this month – the next service will be on <u>9th April.</u></i>			
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist	Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
	20.45	Sung Compline (trad)	SNPC

Services for next Sunday, 16th March (Lent 2):

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	SNPC
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	SNPC
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
3 p.m.	St Neots Concert Band 20 th Anniversary Concert	SNPC

Giving for the work of the Church

We do not pass a collection plate around the congregation during the service, but we always welcome donations from those who attend worship, either in cash or by using the card reader near the door at SNPC before or after the service.

Please Gift Aid that donation if you can do so (envelopes are available).

We also encourage regular givers to become members of the Parish Giving Scheme (which is how many Church members make their donations).

Please ask at the door, or via the Office, if you want more information about this.

The Parish of St Neots with Eynesbury, Reg Charity No 1195248, in the Church of England Diocese of Ely.

Rector: The Revd Paul Hutchinson, The Rectory, Church Street, 01480 471297

Parish Office: Church Street, 01480 370312; office@stneots.org - www.stneots.org .

Weekly Sheet 20250309

Collect for the First Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save;
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.

New Testament Reading (first in service): Romans 10.8b-13

‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

Gospel Reading: Luke 4.1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’

Jesus answered him, ‘It is written,

“One does not live by bread alone.”’

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’

Jesus answered him, ‘It is written,

“Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, and

“On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’

Jesus answered him, ‘It is said,

“Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Old Testament Reading (not used in service): Deuteronomy 26.1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him,

‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’

When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God:

‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’

You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Alternative Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert:

help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer

that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ELECTORAL ROLL RENEWAL: DEADLINE VERY NEAR!

If you have not already done so, please return your Electoral Roll form(s). The final date for returning these is SUNDAY 16th MARCH. Names on forms returned after that date cannot be entered onto the new roll until after the Annual Meetings on Sunday 6th April.

Anyone who is aged 16 or over, who has been baptised and lives within the parish (or if you live outside the parish and have been worshipping at either church for six months), can apply to be entered on this new roll.

*Elizabeth Sibson. (Electoral Roll Officer): email - elizabethsibson@stneots.org
or leave a message on the Parish Office number: 01480 370312*

What's happening in Lent?

Lent Groups: Lent groups, led by Rosemary Darrington, are happening on Thursday and Friday afternoons, beginning on 20th/21st March.

Sung Trad Compline takes place in SNPC at 8.45pm on March 7th/14th/21st/28th and April 11th.

Choral Evensong is at SNPC on Sunday 23rd March at 6pm

On Mothering Sunday, the morning services are at the usual times and will be focusing on Jesus' great parable of the Prodigal Son and his Forgiving Father.

Musical Theatre: VAMPS of St Neots perform 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' at SNPC 3rd-5th April (three evenings and a matinée)

Concerts in other places:

Some church members are involved in Saturday concerts:

22nd March – A come-and-sing liturgical performance of Stainer's Crucifixion at Ely Cathedral at 5.30pm (rehearsal in the afternoon). *This is the same afternoon as the Mothers' Union Commissioning Service at St Mary's Ely at 2pm – two for one, perhaps?*

29th March – Fairhaven Singers sing Haydn's Heiligmesse and Handel's Dettingen Te Deum at Trinity College Chapel in Cambridge at 7.30pm

5th April – St Neots Choral Society sing Stainer's Crucifixion and a Bach cantata at Eaton Socon.

Annual Meetings:

These take place in the St Neots Church Room on Sunday 6th April at the end of the 9.30 service. There is no 11 a.m. service at Eynesbury that morning.

Holy Week

There are no plans for evening services this year on Monday to Wednesday in Holy Week. There will, however, be a reflective Evening Prayer with some singing at Eynesbury Church on Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday) at 5 p.m.

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday will be the same pattern of services as last year (see website); the **Easter Vigil** will have an 8pm start on Holy Saturday.

There may be one or two other one-off events, to be confirmed.