

FUTURE SERVICES

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

MAY 2024

Sunday 12th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter

9am	Wappenham	Breakfast Church
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Matins
10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion & Children's Church
11.15am	Syresham	Morning Prayer (note new time!)
3.00pm	Syresham	Messy Church

Saturday 18th May

2pm	Lois Weedon	Baptism
-----	-------------	---------

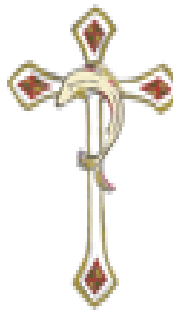
Sunday 19th May – Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Astwell Benefice Pentecost Pilgrimage Timetable

Lois Weedon	Arrive 8.00 am Leave 8.15am
Wappenham	Arrive 9.30am Leave 9.45am
Syresham	Arrive 11.15am Holy Communion with Baptism Lunch
Whitfield	Leave 12.45pm Arrive 2.00pm Leave 2.15pm
Radstone	Arrive 4.00pm Leave 4.15pm
Helmdon	Arrive 5.15pm Leave 5.30pm
Weston	Arrive 7.00pm Leave 7.15pm
Plumpton	Arrive 8.00pm Leave 8.15pm
Lois Weedon	Arrive 8.45pm

Sunday 26th May – Trinity Sunday

10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion
11.15am	Syresham	Prayer & Praise (note new time!)
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion



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 5th May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Services in the Benefice Today:

9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
10am	Helmdon	Morning Prayer
11.15am	Syresham	Holy Communion <i>(note new time!)</i>
11.15am	Wappenham	Morning Prayer

Whit Sunday/ Pentecost Pilgrimage

On 19th May, Whit Sunday or Pentecost, we shall be making a pilgrimage round the churches of the Astwell Benefice, thus reviving an ancient Astwell custom. You'll find the timetable in this issue of Pews News. There will be a Holy Communion service at Syresham with a baptism and brief prayer sessions in the other churches.

Please let me or a churchwarden/representative know whether you would like to take part in the pilgrimage. The whole journey is 18+ miles, so some people might only want to do a section of it. You may want transport to and from certain points on the route. If so, please make your own arrangements but tell us too in case some lift-sharing might be possible. If you would like to offer a lift or two on the day, or would be prepared to be on stand-by in case of emergency, please also let us know.

People should bring their own lunch and other refreshments – and enough water (it will be possible to refill water bottles at some of the churches). The route will be on smaller roads, bridleways and footpaths and may be muddy in part, so serious footwear is advised – as is sunscreen, though it will probably be raining, of course!

Hugh

ALL ARE WELCOME TO
AN ALL AGE SERVICE OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP
TO MARK THE END OF THE THY KINGDOM
COME SEASON



THY KINGDOM COME
SUNDAY 19TH MAY

6PM ST MARY'S CHURCH, CULWORTH

WITH DEBBIE, BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH &
THE VENERABLE ALISON BOOKER,
ARCHDEACON OF OAKHAM

*Collects and Readings for
Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Collect:

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of
darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to
life, so by his continual presence in us he may
raise us to eternal joy;
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.

Psalm: 98

New Testament Reading: Acts 10. 44-end

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit
fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The
circumcised believers who had come with Peter
were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had
been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they
heard them speaking in tongues and extolling
God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ 'Can anyone withhold the
water for baptizing these people who have
received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' ⁴⁸ So he
ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus
Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several
days.

New Testament Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the
Christ has been born of God, and everyone who
loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know
that we love the children of God, when we love
God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love
of God is this, that we obey his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for
whatever is born of God conquers the world. And
this is the victory that conquers the world, our
faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the
one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood,
Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the
water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that
testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Reading: John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you;
abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my
Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I
have said these things to you so that my joy may be
in you, and that your joy may be complete.
¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one
another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater
love than this, to lay down one's life for one's
friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I
command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any
longer, because the servant does not know what
the master is doing; but I have called you friends,
because I have made known to you everything that
I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose
me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and
bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will
give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am
giving you these commands so that you may love
one another.

Post Communion Collect:

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal
life: may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.



Prayers for Sixth Sunday of Easter

Faithful God, your Son Jesus Christ gave us a new commandment of love for each other and so we ask you to teach us to love our neighbours, that by serving them, we might also serve you.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Mighty God, we pray for your church which day by day gathers to praise you and to hear your holy word. We pray for our Christian sisters and brothers worshipping around the world in small rural churches and great city cathedrals. Give us here in our Benefice a sense of expectation as we come, and inspiration as we go. Bless our Rector and those with Permission to Officiate whose preaching and teaching inspire us with the message of your salvation.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Creator God, the world so often seems to be a violent and fearful place. Give us the strength to love our enemies and to pray for those who by violence and acts of terrorism distort and demonise your wonderful creation.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Father God, may our closeness to family and friends make us never exclusive, shutting others out, but always inclusive, welcoming others. Encourage us in outgoing hospitality and keep us from becoming possessive with those we love.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Loving God, help us all to be a part of the healing ministry of your church. Encourage us to constantly pray for those we know who are suffering in body, mind or spirit. Deepen our love for our neighbours especially those who are weak; help us to console the sorrowful and give hope to the dying.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Merciful God, your love reaches beyond the grave. At the end of our days on earth be with us and with those we love and with those whom we love and have gone before us. We pray now for those who have recently died; give to the departed the perfect joy of your eternal love and to those bereaved by their passing the consolation of Your perfect love.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Holy God, send us out into the world today mindful that as witnesses and servants, we should make you known in every place we visit, and bear witness to the Gospel with acts of faith and hope and love.

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 during this difficult time.

From Helmdon: Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe, John Thorne, Margaret Reardon, Eileen Watson & Jean Spendlove.

From Lois Weedon & Weston: Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, Caroline Hunt, Diane Hunt and Margaret Seckington

From Syresham: George Summers.

From Wappenham: Judy King, Claire Kennett, and Dorothy & David Nicholson.

For those known to us:

Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, Evelyn Johnson, Ollie Dotterill, Sam & Jackie Cowlshaw, Francis Potsoni, Chloë Fletcher, Mary Coates, Emily Barthelamy, May Oliver, Lily & Theo Wright and Christobel Grant.

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

Vic Butler, Philip Gulliver, Jean Parks, Alice Hathaway, Jean Mackaness, Diane Watts, Peter Stubbs, Nicholas Reynell, Linda Smalley, Tony Wilmot, John Maleham, Betty Stubbs, Wendy Procter, Derek Morris, Penny Bonnymeade, David Brookhouse, Jonathan Miller, David Powell, Joyce Beech, Julia O'Brian, James Smillie.

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.

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 Mornings** -will be held from 10am until 12 noon on the first Friday of each month, in Lois Weedon Village Hall

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

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

Bill Elkington: Lay Chair & Chair of Benefice PCC

bill.h.elkington@gmail.com/Tel: 01295 760438

Judith Elkington: Benefice Safeguarding Officer

judith.elkington@gmail.com

Wiggy Smith: Chair of Pastoral Care Committee

wiggysmith44@gmail.com/01295 760953

Alice Palmer: Benefice Treasurer

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

Sarah Rudkin: Parishes Administrator, Pews News

Editor & Communications Secretary

rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk/Tel: 01327 830965

Churchwardens /Representatives (for individual church matters):

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

& Cliff Netten (apnetten@hotmail.com)

Lois Weedon & Weston: Frank Hunter

(frank.hunter@btinternet.com)

Radstone: Penny Bonner

(penny.bonner@btconnect.com)

Syresham: Alice Palmer

(alice.palmer16@btinternet.com)

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

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

Whitfield: Claire Bonner (cbonner00@gmail.com)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Fri 10th **Astwell Benefice Inter-Parish Quiz – Round Five, at Lois Weedon Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm**

Sat 11th **Bellringing - Guild Open Day Tour at Helmdon, 09.50-10.50am**

Sun 19th **'Thy Kingdom Come' Service with Bishop Debbie, 6pm, St Mary's Church, Culworth**

Mon 20th **Pastoral Care Comm Mtg, 10:30am, at 24 Wappenham Road, Helmdon. Benefice APCM, 7pm, Helmdon Church (note change of venue!)**

JUNE

Sun 2nd **Rogation Service, Home Manor Farm, Wappenham at 11am.**

Mon 3rd **Social & Fundraising Comm Mtg, 2pm, Manor Farm Wappenham**

Sat 8th **Syresham Village Celebration - to include Church Fete and Open Gardens, 1-3:30 pm Look out for further details**

Sun 9th **Helmdon Open Gardens**

Wed 12th **Bell Ringing – Nene Valley Ringers at Helmdon, 11.15am -12.15pm**

Sat 15th **Astwell Benefice Barn Dance, Manor Farm, Wappenham**

JULY

Mon 15th **Pastoral Care Comm Mtg, 10:30am, at 24 Wappenham Road, Helmdon.**

Quiz Night

Astwell Benefice Inter-Parish

Five teams from five villages will battle it out to find the brainiest parish!

Join us and form your own teams and pit your wits against the parish teams

Round 5 – THE FINAL

**10th May 2024 – 7.15 for a 7.30pm start
Lois Weedon Village Hall**

**£10 per head for quiz entry
(£8 for contestants) includes a two course Supper**

To attend contact:

Wappenham – Sheena Warren - 07515 287 909
Helmdon – Bill Elkington – 07870 494 256
Syresham – Andrew North – 01280 852098
Whitfield & Radstone – Sue Timmis - 07754 180394
Lois Weedon – Frank Hunter – 07919 348697

Sponsored by



Complete Ground Management

Ground Maintenance, Commercial and Domestic Landscaping and Tree Care
10 High St, Weston, Towcester NN12 8PL
Tel: 01327 860162



ARE PLEASED TO SPONSOR

ASTWELL BARN DANCE

ON **SATURDAY 15TH JUNE AT 7.00PM**

MANOR FARM, WAPPENHAM, NN128PH
BBQ & LICENSED BAR live music by Kelly's Eye
TICKETS £20 INCLUDES FOOD
Accompanied children 8 - 16 yrs Tickets £12

PRE-BOOK YOUR TICKETS



TO PRE-BOOK YOUR TICKETS AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

LOIS WEEDON - FRANK HUNTER - FRANK.HUNTER@BTINTERNET.COM
WAPPENHAM - SHEENA WARREN - SHEENA.WARREN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK
HELMDON - BILL ELKINGTON - BILL.H.ELKINGTON@GMAIL.COM
WHITFIELD - SUE TIMMIS - SUSANYTIMMIS@GMAIL.COM
SYRESHAM - ANDREW NORTH - ANDREW.NORTH@BTINTERNET.COM

IN AID OF ASTWELL BENEFICE