

## SERVICES & PRIVATE PRAYER IN THE BENEFICE

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

Whitfield	Private Prayer	10-12 noon
Lois Weedon	CHURCH CLOSED	
Wappenham	Private Prayer	10 - 12 noon
Helmdon	Private Prayer	10 - 12 noon
Syresham	Service cancelled (Private Prayer only)	10 - 12 noon

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

Helmdon	Private Prayer	12-2pm
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### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August

Lois Weedon	Matins	9.30am
Helmdon	Morning Worship	10am
Syresham	Morning Prayer	10am
Whitfield	Private Prayer	10-12 noon
Wappenham	Private Prayer	10-12 noon

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August

Helmdon	Private Prayer	12-2pm
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### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Lois Weedon	Morning Worship*	9.30am
Helmdon	Praise & Prayer	10am
Syresham	Morning Prayer	10am
Whitfield	Morning Worship	11am
Wappenham	Morning Worship*	11.15am

### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Helmdon	Private Prayer	12-2pm
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\*Service taken by Revd David Painter

See [www.astwellparishes.org.uk](http://www.astwellparishes.org.uk)  
for daily Morning Prayer readings from Vine  
Cottage with Alice Palmer, and links to more  
online resources

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## PEWS NEWS

### The Astwell Benefice

St Mary Magdalene Helmdon with Stuchbury and St Lawrence Radstone, St James the Great Syresham with St John the Evangelist Whitfield, St Mary & St Peter Lois Weedon with Weston and Plumpton, and St Mary the Virgin Wappenham.

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

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020 Eighth Sunday after Trinity

**ALL OUR CHURCHES ARE NOW OPEN FOR  
LIMITED PUBLIC WORSHIP**  
under strict hygiene & social distancing regulations

(Please see the back page for services in August)

### The Collect and Readings for Today

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,  
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern  
both our hearts and bodies  
in the ways of your laws  
and the works of your commandments;  
that through your most mighty protection, both here  
and ever,  
we may be preserved in body and soul;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

#### Old Testament Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

<sup>22</sup> The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans,\* and have prevailed.' <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

#### New Testament Reading: Romans 9:1-5

<sup>9</sup>I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— <sup>2</sup>I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ

for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup>They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; <sup>5</sup>to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

### ***Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21***

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup>When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup>When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' <sup>17</sup>They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' <sup>18</sup>And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' <sup>19</sup>Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup>And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup>And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

### ***Prayers by Florence Gundle***

We pray for our world, for each disaster that affects it and its people. Allow us to come out of this time, stronger as nations, communities, families and people. We pray that eventually, in safety, life can return to normality; but, until then, that every person does all they can to protect all those around them.

We commend to your protection all healthcare professionals and key workers who are putting themselves at risk as they attend to the needs of other people. As we thank them for their courage and compassion, we pray that your Holy Spirit will support and encourage them, especially at times of physical or emotional exhaustion, that they may know the strength of your healing love.

Our hearts are filled with chaos and confusion. Some feel as if they are drowning in current circumstances. Give them the strength and peace that only you can give. We thank you for being the Father who craves to lavish love and goodness on us. Help us to recognize it, accept it and embrace it. It leads to life far beyond what we could hope or imagine. May we look to you first for comfort and protection. Let us choose to find our rest in you.

May the Lord show you the greatness of his goodness, that you overflow with thanks every day. May the Lord bless you abundantly with rest for the heart, power for virtue, wisdom for life, and patience in suffering. May the Lord bless you with joyful hope, and one day with the inexpressible joys of eternal life.

***Wear a mask! 😊***

### ***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 illness and all those who need our prayers for any reason during this difficult time:

***From Helmdon:*** Joyce Beech, Philip Gulliver, Emma, Jon, Ellouise, Lilly & James, Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe, Vanessa Vicars, John Thorne, Alison & Cara, John & Janet Snow, Margaret Reardon, David Bowen-Jones & Kathy Quiney.

***From Lois Weedon:*** Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, Jeremy "Jez" Wilcox, Ernie Wheeler & Colin James.

***From Syresham:*** Derek Hollyoake, Peter Sims, John & Ann Widdowson & Collette Andrewartha.

***From Wappenham:*** Judy King and Claire Kennett.

### ***For those known to us:***

Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, Evelyn Johnson, Jonnie D'Arcy, James Smillie, Peter Sheen, Dick White, June Brereton, Roger Cane, Penny Bonnymede, Barbara Whitlock, Ollie Dotterill, Christabel Grant, Marina & Froede Amundsen.

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

Pat Johnson; Maurice Tucker, David Sheppard, Steve Goodwin, Dorothy D'Alton (nee Abbot), Sally Gore, Teresa Fleetwood, James Gadd, Ron Pratt, Margaret Hinton, Judith Allen, Marcus Durant, Tom Samways, Greg Oles, Mike Durant, Stewart Gundle, Ian Kidd, Richard Tims, Peter Payne, Ivan Hathaway, Robin Oliver, Sue Corbishley, Jason Holt & Shirley Holt, Dennis Hackett, Dick Wilson, Mark Kilby, Keith Hawkins. Also, for the Bearman family, 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.***

***Please note that regular collections have now resumed from the Wolverton Mission to the Hope Centre (from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 11.30).***