

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

(subject to the prevailing Covid restrictions)

JANUARY 2022

Sunday 30th January – Candlemas

10.30am Radstone Benefice Holy Communion for
Candlemas

FEBRUARY

Sunday 6th February – 4th Sunday before Lent

9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion
9.30am Lois Weedon Private Prayer
10am Helmdon Morning Worship
11am Syresham Holy Communion
11.15am Wappenham Morning Worship

Sunday 13th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

9am Wappenham Breakfast Church
9.30am Lois Weedon Matins
10am Helmdon Family Communion &
Children's Church
10-12 Whitfield Private Prayer
11am Syresham Morning Worship

Sunday 20th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

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

Sunday 27th February – Sunday next before Lent

10am Helmdon Holy Communion
10-12 Whitfield Private Prayer
11am Syresham Prayer & Praise
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion
4pm Lois Weedon Benefice Holy Communion

*There will be 10am Midweek Holy Communion
Services at Helmdon on 26th January and 2nd, 9th,
16th and 23rd February 2022.*



Online Benefice Prayer Meeting

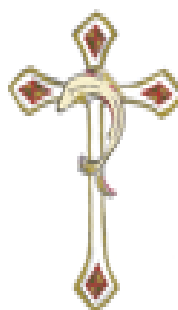
*Please join Revd Diane on Monday evenings at 6pm using the
following Zoom link*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894936136?pwd=YW5qSWo4>

[MEw5Q1dvUG9WWTdabkNjdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85894936136?pwd=YW5qSWo4)

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 23rd January 2022

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Services in the Benefice today

10am Helmdon Holy Communion
10-12 Whitfield Private Prayer
11am Syresham Prayer & Praise
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion
4pm Lois Weedon Benefice Evensong

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

<https://youtu.be/9vLyfkdSzo>

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**Due to the rising number of Covid cases, please
be prepared for changes to services and
events.**

**These will be announced on the
'Forthcoming Services' page.**

**THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS IS NOW
MANDATORY AT ALL
SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE**



Collects and Readings for Third Sunday of Epiphany

Collect:

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Post Communion Collect:

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Prayers

Lord, teach us to remember to pray for others and save us from being self-centred in our own prayers. May we be so bound up in love with those for whom we pray, that we may feel their needs as acutely as our own, and intercede for them with sensitivity, with understanding and with imagination. *

Lord, we pray for the world that we live in, truly a global village thanks to modern communications. As we daily hear news of disaster somewhere on our planet, help us not to become insensitive to world events, and respond with what help we can, without losing heart and courage. Faithful to your covenant with the earth, steady our hearts and wills in times of great turbulence, that we may fulfil your purpose for us as heralds of your just and lasting peace.

Astwell Benefice Inter-Parish Quiz Nights

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

Lois Weedon, 11th February

(sponsored by: Complete Ground Management)

Wappenham, 4th March

(sponsored by: The Bell Plantation)

Helmdon, 25th March

Whitfield & Radstone, 8th April

Syresham, 22nd April

(sponsored by: Les Hawkins & Sons, Fencing Contractors)

To attend please contact: Wappenham – Sheena Warren;
Helmdon – Bill Elkington; Syresham – Malcolm Orr-Ewing;
Whitfield & Radstone – Sue Timmis;
Lois Weedon – Frank Hunter

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

From Lois Weedon & Weston: Joan Jacobs, Lis Cockrell, Jenni Liversidge, John Maleham, Elsie Hatton & family, Lloyd Callaghan, 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, Jonnie D'Arcy, James Smillie, Peter Sheen, Penny Bonnymeade, Barbara Whitlock, Ollie Dotterill, Marina Amundsen, Sam & Jackie Cowlshaw and Francis Potsoni.

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

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, Keith Hawkins. 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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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

(frank.hunter@btinternet.com)

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

2022 Dates for Your Diary

All events are held subject to the prevailing
Covid-19 restrictions.

January

Wed 26th MU Meeting with talk by Rev. Diane

February

Tues 8th Soc & F/raising Comm Mtg, 4pm, Manor Farm, Wappenham

Fri 11th Benefice Quiz Night - Lois Weedon
(Time & Venue tbc)

Wed 23rd MU Meeting with talk by Ann Smith

March

Wed 2nd Ash Wednesday

Fri 4th Benefice Quiz Night - Wappenham

Mon 7th Talk by Charlie Nobbs, Peterborough Diocese, 7pm

Mon 14th Benefice PCC Mtg, 7.15pm, Syresham Church

Fri 25th Benefice Quiz Night - Helmdon

April

Fri 8th Benefice Quiz Night - Whitfield & Radstone

Sun 17th Easter Sunday

Fri 22nd Benefice Quiz night - Syresham

May

Tues 10th Benefice APCM

Sat 14th Note-Ability Concert, Syresham Church

June

Sat 4th Garden Party Benefice Fundraiser,
Lois Weedon House

July

Sat 9th Barn Dance Benefice Fundraiser

Regular events held in the Benefice:

- **Syresham Coffee Morning** is held each Thursday 10-12pm, 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 - 12pm, during term time.
- **Mothers' Union** meetings are now held in Helmdon Church following the Wednesday 10am Communion Service.
- **St Mary's, Wappenham Coffee Morning**, is held on the first Monday of the month, 10-12 noon, in the Village Hall.



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