

# FUTURE SERVICES

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

## SEPTEMBER

### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September

2pm Lois Weedon Baptism

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion  
 9.30am Helmdon Praise & Prayer  
 11.15am Syresham Holy Communion  
 11.15am Wappenham Harvest Praise & Prayer  
 (followed by a buffet lunch in the Church)  
 6pm Plumpton Summer Evensong

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Matins  
 9.30am Helmdon Morning Prayer  
 9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion  
 11.15am Syresham Harvest Festival with speaker Mike Yallop  
 11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion  
 1pm Helmdon Baptism

## OCTOBER

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October

10am Helmdon Midweek Benefice Holy Communion

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Syresham Benefice Holy Communion  
 11am Plumpton Harvest Festival Matins

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

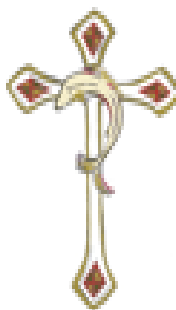
9.00am Wappenham Breakfast Church  
 9.30am Lois Weedon Morning Prayer  
 11.15am Helmdon Holy Communion  
 11.15am Syresham Morning Prayer  
 5pm Whitfield Harvest Festival & supper in V Hall

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion  
 9.30am Helmdon Harvest Festival  
 11.15am Syresham Holy Communion  
 11.15am Wappenham Praise & Prayer

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Lois Weedon Matins  
 9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion  
 9.30am Helmdon Morning Prayer  
 11.15am Syresham Praise & Prayer  
 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](http://www.astwellparishes.org.uk)

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

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

## Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

### Services in the Benefice:

9.00am Wappenham Breakfast Church  
 9.30am Lois Weedon Matins  
 (NB. change to normal service)  
 11.15am Helmdon Holy Communion  
 11.15am Syresham Morning Prayer



### WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS TO:



**Stephen French and Carol Robinson**  
 who were married at Syresham on  
 Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August

and

**Anton Spires and Emelia Smalley**  
 who were married at Whitfield on  
 Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September

## ***Collects & Readings for Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity***

### ***Collect:***

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to  
yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### ***Old Testament Reading: Exodus 32.7-14***

<sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"' <sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.'

<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, 'O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever."'<sup>14</sup> And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

### ***New Testament Reading: 1 Timothy 1. 12-17***

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost

patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### ***Gospel Reading: Luke 15. 1-10***

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup> 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

### ***Post Communion Collect:***

God our creator,  
you feed your children with the true manna,  
the living bread from heaven:  
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place  
where hunger and thirst are no more;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



**On the Big Screen in Helmdon Church.  
Tickets are required for catering purposes**

## *Prayers for Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*

Everlasting God, we come before you with our baggage, our worries, our anxiety and our fears. Some of us are tired, some of us are in pain, some are sad and some are angry; and so, as we place our burdens before, you help us to learn from you and to trust in you, so that in serving you, we may find the rest that you have promised.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we ask you to make the doors of this church, in the Astwell Benefice, wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, and the care of heavenly Father. May they be narrow enough to shut out all that creates discord or division. We pray that what takes place in our worship here week by week will never be a stumbling-block to those who gather here in your name.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Father God, raise up we pray, in our turbulent and violent world, leaders who will base their decisions on the law of justice and moral integrity that you have planted in every human heart

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for all whose livelihood and way of life are threatened by current economic problems caused by the ongoing war in Ukraine. Give all who face changes in life courage and help them to see opportunities in change and take on challenges with optimism.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Gracious God, may your compassion be sensed and felt by the sick and the lonely, the poor and the oppressed, as we support them with our loving prayer and by our assistance whenever we can be close to them.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Merciful God, we pray for those who have been released from their mortal bodies in death and that they may be brought rejoicing into the kingdom of heaven, reunited with all their loved ones who have gone before them.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Faithful God, be alongside us in the week ahead. Help us to be good tempered and considerate, to be hard-working and diligent in all we do; to never speak hastily and to always act kindly to those we love and especially to those we find it difficult to like.

Merciful father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus**

## **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.

**From Helmdon:** Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe and Joan Hadfield.

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

**From Syresham:** George Summers and Suzanne Prestcott.

**From Wappenham:** Judy King, Dorothy & David Nicholson, and Edwin & Phyllis King.

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

Margaret Reardon, Pauline Collis, Christopher Carr, Evelyn Johnson, Ollie Dotterill, Francis Potsoni, Mary Coates, Emily Barthelamy, May Oliver, Lily & Theo Wright, Christobel Grant and Diane Snow.

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

Joan McCann, Maralynn Hunter, Ann Smith, John Thorne, Eileen Watson, Geoff Abbey, Jean Spendlove, Vic Butler, Philip Gulliver, Jean Parks, Jean Mackaness, Diane Watts, Peter Stubbs, Nicholas Reynell, Linda Smalley, Tony Wilmot, John Maleham, Betty Stubbs, Wendy Procter, Derek Morris, David Brookhouse, Jonathan Miller, David Powell, Joyce Beech.

**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 Morning** is held from 10am until 12 noon on the first Friday of each month, in Lois Weedon Village Hall.

# BENEFICE CONTACTS

**Reverend Hugh White (Rector):**

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*Please contact the Rector or your Churchwarden/Representative if you have queries about baptisms, weddings, or funerals.*

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**\*\*\*\* RE-SCHEDULED\*\*\*\***

**Race Night Fundraiser for Lois Weedon Church and Lois Weedon Village Hall**

We have taken the decision to postpone the Race Night event that was scheduled for this coming Friday (12<sup>th</sup> September) and reschedule to **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October.**

If you already have tickets for the 12<sup>th</sup> September event, they will be good for the 17<sup>th</sup> October. If it turns out that you can't make the October date and you've already paid for a ticket, let us know and we will refund the money. Thanks for your support.  
**Rachel & Diane**

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Diane Hunt [briarfurlong@yahoo.com](mailto:briarfurlong@yahoo.com) 01327 350714

## Dates for your Diary

### SEPTEMBER

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup>** *Ride & Stride, in aid of the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust*

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>** *French Evening Fundraiser for Helmdon Church. Church doors open at 6:00 for 6:30pm showing of 'Les Miserables'. £10 ticket includes food at half time.*

### OCTOBER

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>** **RE-SCHEDULED** *Race Night Fundraiser for Lois Weedon Church and Lois Weedon Village Hall, in the Village Hall, doors open 7:00pm; first race 7:30pm*

### Benefice Bulletin No. 9

- Whitfield Church has been busy recently. A beautiful and moving wedding the Thursday before last between Emelia Smalley and Anton Spires and a well-attended Benefice service three days later at which we heard of the work of Three Pillars feeding the hungry in Northampton. Aaron and Jo, the speakers, set us the challenge of becoming formally linked with Three Pillars. This would give us the opportunity to send volunteers to help with their evenings providing for the needy. Do contact me if you'd like to be involved in that.
- Whitfield cows joined the pilgrimage last Sunday afternoon, bolstering our rather low human and canine numbers. I think they may not have been much committed to the idea of pilgrimage, but they walked a fair way with us, eventually, however, I'm sorry to say, becoming a little threatening. I was glad of my Diploma in Cow Management gained under the tutelage of a vet in the Benefice of Witney and was able to ensure the survival of humans and dogs. We also weathered a stampede of silly sheep up by Pimlico.
- The low numbers of human participants in the pilgrimage was partly down to lack of sufficient notice. So here is notice of next year's pilgrimage. It will be on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**, the day before Pentecost, clear of the **Let's Shine Together Festival**, which will run from **30<sup>th</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026**.
- These dates are fixed. More provisional, but worth pencilling in in your diaries, is **8<sup>th</sup> November (am)** for a discussion of Astwell Benefice becoming a single parish. We hope to have people from Witney Parish with us to discuss the pros and cons.
- I'm still not absolutely clear, such is Diocesan bureaucracy, that I shall be allowed to remain with you for the next couple of years, but I think that will prove possible. So, many thanks to all the Astwell parishes for approving my continuing.

*Every blessing,  
Hugh*