

# FUTURE SERVICES

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

## OCTOBER

### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October

6.00pm Helmdon Harvest Festival Service

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Time TBC Lois Weedon Harvest Supper in Village Hall

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

|         |             |                  |
|---------|-------------|------------------|
| 9.30am  | Whitfield   | Holy Communion   |
| 9.30am  | Helmdon     | Morning Prayer   |
| 11.15am | Syresham    | Praise & Prayer  |
| 11.15am | Wappenham   | Holy Communion   |
| 6pm     | Lois Weedon | Harvest Evensong |

## NOVEMBER

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November

4pm Helmdon All Souls Service

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Fourth Sunday before Advent

|                |                |                                                                                 |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.00am         | Wappenham      | Breakfast Church                                                                |
| 9.30am         | Lois Weedon    | Morning Prayer                                                                  |
| <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Helmdon</b> | <b>Holy Communion &amp; Children's Church</b><br><i>(Please note new time!)</i> |
| 11.15am        | Syresham       | Morning Prayer                                                                  |

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

7pm Syresham All Souls Service (with Whitfield)

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday

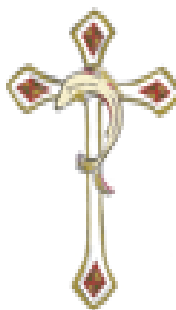
|                |                  |                                                                                                              |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10.00am        | Helmdon          | Remembrance Service & Act of Remembrance at Memorial                                                         |
| <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Wappenham</b> | <b>Holy Communion &amp; Act of Remembrance</b><br><i>(note earlier time!)</i><br>(with Royal British Legion) |
| 10.50am        | Whitfield        | Act of Remembrance at Memorial                                                                               |
| 10.55am        | Syresham         | Act of Remembrance at Stone                                                                                  |
| 10.55am        | Lois Weedon      | Act of Remembrance                                                                                           |

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Second Sunday before Advent

|                |                |                                                              |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.30am         | Lois Weedon    | Holy Communion                                               |
| <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Helmdon</b> | <b>Praise &amp; Prayer</b><br><i>(Please note new time!)</i> |
| 11.15am        | Syresham       | Holy Communion                                               |
| 11.15am        | Wappenham      | Praise & Prayer                                              |

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Christ the King

|                |                |                                                         |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 9.30am         | Lois Weedon    | Matins                                                  |
| 9.30am         | Whitfield      | Holy Communion                                          |
| <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Helmdon</b> | <b>Morning Prayer</b><br><i>(Please note new time!)</i> |
| 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 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## *Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity*

### *Services in the Benefice:*

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion

11.15am Syresham Holy Communion

11.15am Wappenham Praise & Prayer

**NB: NO SERVICE AT HELMDON**



### *All Souls' Services*

*If you wish to have the name of a loved one read out at an All Souls' Service in the Benefice (1<sup>st</sup> November at Helmdon or 3<sup>rd</sup> November at Syresham), please complete the form included with this issue and leave it in your church or contact Revd Hugh or your Churchwarden/Parish Representative.*

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

### ***Collect:***

Almighty and everlasting God,  
increase in us your gift of faith  
that, forsaking what lies behind  
and reaching out to that which is before,  
we may run the way of your commandments  
and win the crown of everlasting 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.

### ***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 Penuel, limping because of his hip.

### ***New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 3. 14 – 4. 5***

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

<sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup> proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening

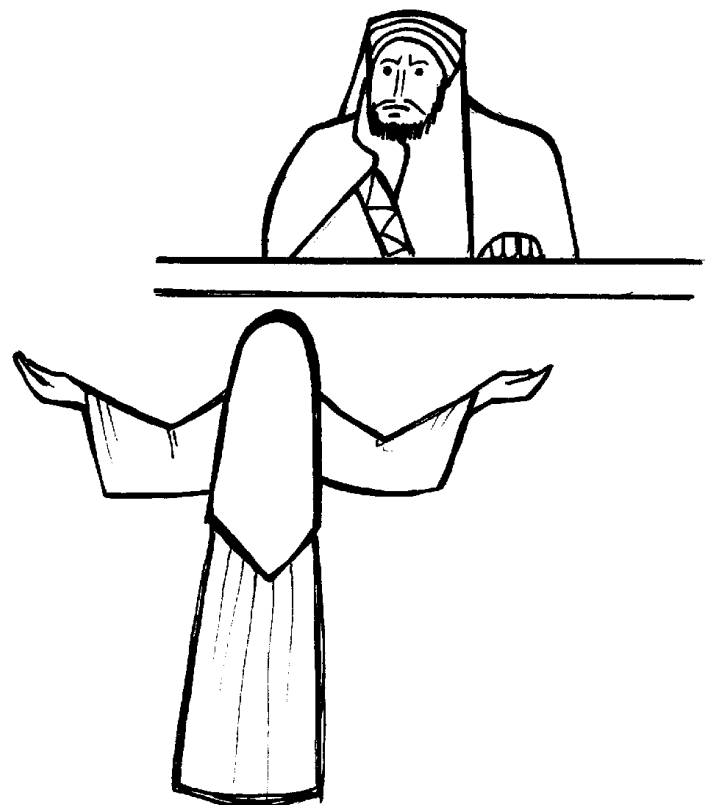
to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup> As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

### ***Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8***

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup> In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

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

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you,  
here the memory of your passion is renewed,  
here our minds are filled with grace,  
and here a pledge of future glory is given,  
when we shall feast at that table where you reign  
with all your saints for ever.



## *Prayers for Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity*

Hidden and mysterious God, we seek you in our darkness and our unknowing, so come to us with tender love as we raise before you our prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Father God, as church leaders spend time in prayer and preparation, fill them with divine inspiration and revelation, so that when they speak, it will be your word which comes in power to challenge, convict and empower. As they plan ahead, let them be led by you.

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Mighty God, we pray for all who carry civic and political responsibilities throughout the world. Help the leaders of the nations put aside all selfish ambition as they seek to be the instruments of your will for humanity and carry out your desire for the welfare of all people which will culminate in glory to you and in happier human lives.

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Compassionate God, your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus, whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross. We hold before you those who are homeless and driven to beg and sleep rough on the street. Draw near and comfort them in spirit and bless those who work to provide for them

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Living God, where there is sickness turn weakness into strength, suffering into compassion, sorrow into joy, and pain into comfort. Help all who suffer to trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of their suffering. Let them be filled with patience and joy in your presence as they wait for your healing touch.

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Everlasting God, we remember all those who have gone before, walked the same path that we tread, and, by their example, encouragement, wise words and teaching led others into your Kingdom and so we offer our grateful thanks particularly for those whose anniversary falls at this time.

**Lord hear us; Lord graciously hear us.**

Faithful God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Thank you that we can live in Your light and walk in Your truth. May the things that you have revealed and thoughts that we have shared dwell in our hearts and stir us to action.

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son 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.

**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:***

Ailsa Williams, 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:***

Jonathan Sayers, 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.***

# BENEFICE CONTACTS

**Reverend Hugh White (Rector):**

Tel: 01869 347889

Email: [rectorastwell@gmail.com](mailto:rectorastwell@gmail.com)

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

**Paul Stothard, Reader & Lay Chair**

[stothy@live.co.uk](mailto:stothy@live.co.uk), Tel: 01295 760816

**Alice Palmer: Benefice Treasurer**

[alice.palmer16@btinternet.com](mailto:alice.palmer16@btinternet.com), Tel: 01280 850252

**Fiona Mason: Benefice Safeguarding Officer**

[fomason@hotmail.com](mailto:fomason@hotmail.com) Tel: 01280 850439

**Sheena Warren, Chair of Social & Fundraising**

**Committee** [sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk),

Tel: 01327 860230

**Wiggy Smith: Chair of Pastoral Care Committee**

[wiggysmith44@gmail.com](mailto:wiggysmith44@gmail.com), Tel: 01295 760953

**Sarah Rudkin: Benefice Secretary & Pews News**

**Editor,**

[rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk](mailto:rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk), Tel: 01327 830965

**Churchwardens /Representatives (for individual church matters):**

**Helmdon:** Cliff Netten, [apnetten@hotmail.com](mailto:apnetten@hotmail.com)

& Paul Stothard, [stothy@live.co.uk](mailto:stothy@live.co.uk)

**Lois Weedon & Weston:** Frank Hunter

[frank.hunter@btinternet.com](mailto:frank.hunter@btinternet.com)

**Radstone:** Penny Bonner

[penny.bonner@btconnect.com](mailto:penny.bonner@btconnect.com)

**Syresham:** Alice Palmer

[alice.palmer16@btinternet.com](mailto:alice.palmer16@btinternet.com)

**Wappenham:** Sheena Warren

[sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk)

**Whitfield:** Claire Bonner [cbonner00@gmail.com](mailto:cbonner00@gmail.com)

## 🎵 ENJOY CHRISTMAS SINGING? 🎵

If you love singing carols and Christmas music, come and join our Christmas Choir. We will be singing at events and services locally.

Whatever age or voice – all are welcome!

Come and give us a try...



Practice nights are Thursday evenings (in Helmdon church) at 6.15pm for one hour

For more information, contact either:

David Wright (Choir Master) 01280 706009

Vanessa Vicars 01295 760477

Fiona Mason 07831 124605

Alice Palmer 01280 850252

## Dates for your Diary

### NOVEMBER

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup>** *Togetherness Tea Party, 2-4pm,*

*Helmdon Reading Room*

**Sat 15<sup>th</sup>** *Open Meeting to discuss Astwell Benefice as a 'single parish' – time & venue details TBC*

### 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 Bulletin for 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Advent is not so far away. It's become, like Lent, a time for study courses; but not really a very good time, since December, however much we might like it not to be so, has become hectic with preparations for Christmas which don't major on the spiritual side of things. Rather there's lots of busyness which doesn't easily go with sustained consideration of traditional Advent themes. I'd thought we might have a go in December at the Four Last Things: Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – good, serious stuff but perhaps too serious for Advent as it now is. And maybe, perhaps, just too serious these days for any time of the year. So I've now turned to the idea of a course beginning in November and of a less heavy kind than an earnest four sessions on the Last Things. The Reading Room at Helmdon is now booked for a series of film showings from 3<sup>rd</sup> November to 8<sup>th</sup> December. The films will be Christian in focus, naturally, with plenty to stimulate reflection, but the occasions will be less heavy than a more standard study group's meetings would be. In fact, if my usual incompetence with technology governs proceedings, they will be comedy sessions. But I hope not; films such as 'The Way' and 'Of Gods and Men' are too good to have their showings mess up! All welcome – so bring your friends.

*Hugh*