

## FUTURE SERVICES

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

### AUGUST 2026

#### *Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*

3pm Whitfield Benefice Songs of Praise followed by tea.

*A short service of Holy Communion will take place at 4.45 pm after tea.*

### SEPTEMBER 2026

#### *Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity*

10.30am Lois Weedon Benefice Holy Communion  
6.30pm Plumpton Evensong

#### *Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity*

9.00am Wappenham Breakfast Church  
9.30am Lois Weedon Morning Prayer  
10.30am Helmdon Holy Communion  
11.15am Syresham Morning Prayer

#### *Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

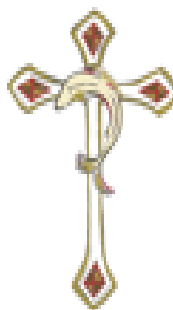
9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion  
10.30am Helmdon Praise & Prayer  
11.15am Syresham Holy Communion  
11.15am Wappenham Praise & Prayer – Harvest Festival  
*followed by Bring & Share buffet lunch*

#### *Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*

9.30am Lois Weedon Battle of Britain Matins  
9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion  
10.30am Helmdon Morning Prayer  
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion  
3pm Syresham Messy Harvest Festival

### *Regular Coffee Mornings*

- **Helmdon** - Tuesdays, 10 am-12 noon in Reading Room
- **Whitfield** - first Tuesday of the month, 10am-12 noon, in Village Hall.
- **Wappenham** - first Wednesday of the month, 10 am-12 noon, in Village Hall.
- **Syresham Coffee Morning** is held each Thursday, 10 am-12 noon in the Village Hall.
- **Lois Weedon** - 10am until 12 noon, first Friday of the month, in Village Hall.



# PEWS NEWS

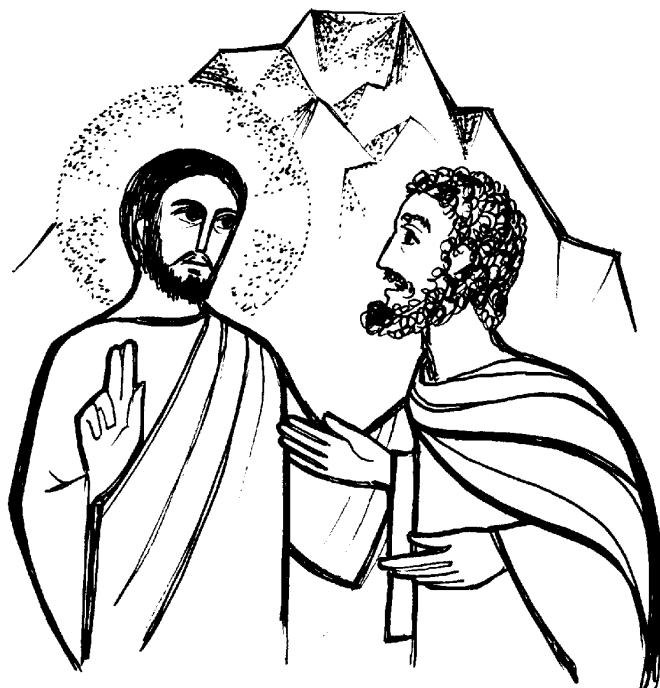
The Astwell Benefice

St Mary Magdalene Helmdon with Stuchbury & St Lawrence Radstone, St James the Great Syresham, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2026

# *Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*

9.30am Lois Weedon Matins  
9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion  
10.30am Helmdon Morning Prayer  
11.15am Syresham Praise & Prayer  
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion



## *Collects & Readings for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*

### *Collect:*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is  
afraid and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of 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: Isaiah 51:1-6*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the Lord.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
<sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
<sup>3</sup> For the Lord will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the Lord;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.  
<sup>4</sup> Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup> I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;<sup>[a]</sup>  
but my salvation will be for ever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

### *New Testament Reading: Romans 12:1-8*

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the  
mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living  
sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your  
spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this  
world, but be transformed by the renewing of your  
minds, so that you may discern what is the will of  
God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

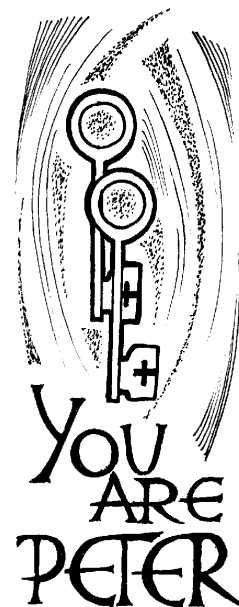
<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among  
you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought  
to think, but to think with sober judgement, each  
according to the measure of faith that God has  
assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members,  
and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so  
we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and  
individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have  
gifts that differ according to the grace given to us:  
prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in  
ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the exhorter, in  
exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in  
diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

### *Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20*

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea  
Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that  
the Son of Man is?' <sup>14</sup> And they said, 'Some say John the  
Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or  
one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup> He said to them, 'But who do you  
say that I am?' <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, 'You are the  
Messiah, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup> And Jesus  
answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!  
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my  
Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on  
this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades  
will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of  
the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth  
will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on  
earth will be loosed in heaven.' <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly  
ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the  
Messiah.

### *Post Communion Collect:*

God of all mercy,  
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins  
and given us your healing:  
grant that we who are made whole in Christ  
may bring that healing to this broken world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



## *Intercessions for Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*

Everlasting God, we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ and for revealing him as Messiah and Saviour of the World. Thank you that your son gave St Peter the keys to the kingdom as a reward for his lively and outspoken faith and so became the bedrock foundation of your church here on earth.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

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 in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Creator God, as wildfires threaten land, homes, and lives, we ask for Your protection and swift intervention. Guard every person in the path of the flames, strengthen firefighters, turn the winds, and send rain. Bring comfort to those who have lost homes or property, restore communities, and bring peace to hearts shaken by fear.

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, we ask for your wisdom to discern your wishes and direction in our lives and ask for your help to discern how to deal with others in our daily lives; those we live and work with; those we meet in shops and supermarkets; those with whom we share our roads and those who serve us in cafes and restaurants. May we never be a "stumbling block" to those we meet in our daily lives.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for all who we know who are housebound and in nursing homes; those in hospitals, in recovery and rehabilitation. We thank you for our local hospitals, health centres and clinics and for all those working in sheltered accommodation and care homes.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Merciful God, we pray for all those departed this life and for those who are bereaved by their passing. Help us to be sympathetic, caring and loving with the bereaved and always ready to help practically and to pray diligently in their time of greatest need.

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.

*Please pray for the family and friends of  
Clyde Burbidge, whose funeral will be held at  
Lois Weedon Church on Tuesday 25th August  
at 11.30am.*

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

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

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

**From Wappenham:** Judy King, Dorothy & David Nicholson, Edwin & Phyllis King, Charlotte & Arif Supple.

**For those known to us:**

Margaret Reardon, Pauline Collis, 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:*

Clyde Burbidge, Andrew Jackson, Alan Jones, Linda and Will Adams, Ailsa Williams, Jonathan Sayers, Joan McCann, Maralynn Hunter, Ann Smith, John Thorne and Eileen Watson.

**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 refugees fleeing persecution and all victims of hatred, terrorism, and war.**

## *Dates for your Diary*

### **AUGUST**

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup>** *Cheese & Wine Taster Evening in aid of The Friends of Whitfield Church, at 7.30pm (see poster for details).*

### **NOVEMBER**

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup>** *Peal will be rung to honour ringer Gunner Alfred George Humphrey & other serviceman buried at Helmdon (3 hours)*

### **DECEMBER**

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup>** *Culworth Branch Bell ringers practice, 3-5pm, Helmdon*

# 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

**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

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**Syresham:** Alice Palmer

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

**Wappenham:** Sheena Warren

[sheena@bellplantation.co.uk](mailto:sheena@bellplantation.co.uk)

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

## Benefice Bulletin 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2026

God of Mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit  
To give vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

This is the prayer for Church growth of the  
organisation 'Leading your Church into Growth', as  
some you will know. It is sometimes used during  
public prayer in our Benefice.

Might I encourage you to use this prayer in your own  
private prayers, as we as a Benefice consider  
appointing a Children's, Young People's and Families'  
Worker.

A committee is being put together (gradually: it's  
holiday time!) to draft the job description and to  
create a plan for fundraising. It may be that  
something can be presented to the Benefice Council  
meeting in early October. It would be good, should it  
be decided that the project is financially feasible, to  
advertise the post in the hope that it will be filled by  
the beginning of the second term of the new School  
year.

And there's something else to pray for - that  
Syresham and Helmdon Schools will prosper under  
their new managements and that we as church people  
will have the opportunity under those managements  
to play our part in the development of the children  
attending our schools.

*Blessings,*

*Hugh*

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

# CHEESE & WINE TASTER EVENING

WINE - VINES - CHEESE - NEIGHBOURS



**29/08** | SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST  
7:30 UNTIL DARK

|                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>LOCATION:</b><br>The Vineyard, Threshers<br>Whitfield |  <b>FREE TO WANDER<br/>THE VINES</b>                                                                              |
|  <b>HOSTED INTRODUCTION<br/>TO WHITFIELD WINES</b>        |  <b>BRING YOUR OWN WINE</b><br>Or something else! To enjoy a<br>longer evening getting to know<br>your neighbours |
|  <b>TASTERS TO BE PROVIDED</b>                            |  <b>MINGLE AROUND<br/>THE FIREBOWL</b>                                                                            |
|  <b>CHEESE TO NIBBLE ON</b>                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

 **£10**

PER PERSON  
TICKETS  
WILL 07710 248 968



FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH  
FUNDRAISING EVENT