

FUTURE SERVICES

www.astwellparishes.org.uk

OCTOBER

Saturday 25th October

Time TBC	Lois Weedon	Harvest Supper in Village Hall
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NOVEMBER

Saturday 1st November

4pm	Helmdon	All Souls Service
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Sunday 2nd November – Fourth Sunday before Advent

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

Monday 3rd November

7pm	Syresham	All Souls Service (with Whitfield)
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Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday

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

Sunday 16th November – Second Sunday before Advent

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

Sunday 23rd November – Christ the King

9.30am	Lois Weedon	Matins
9.30am	Whitfield	Holy Communion
10.30am	Helmdon	Morning Prayer <i>(Please note new time!)</i>
11.15am	Syresham	Praise & Prayer
11.15am	Wappenham	Holy Communion

Sunday 30th November – Advent Sunday

10.30am	Helmdon	Benefice Advent Service
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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 & Plumptre, and St Mary the Virgin Wappenham.

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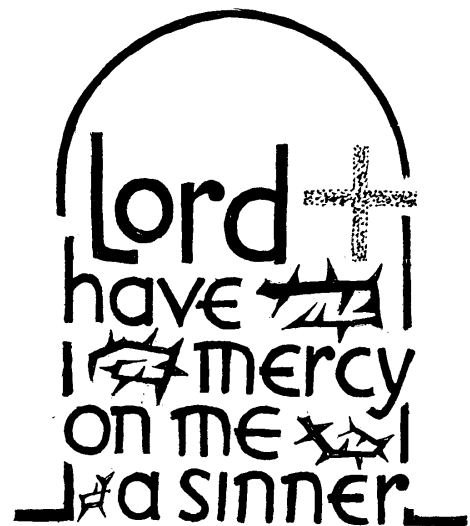
<https://www.facebook.com/astwellbenefice>

Sunday 26th October 2025

Last Sunday after Trinity

Services in the Benefice:

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



All Souls' Services

If you wish to have the name of a loved one read out at an All Souls' Service in the Benefice (1st November at Helmdon or 3rd 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 Last Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our
learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy
word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our 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: Ecclesiasticus 35:12-17

¹² Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.
¹³ For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.
¹⁴ Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it;
¹⁵ and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;
for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.
¹⁶ He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is
wronged.
¹⁷ He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a
libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I
have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I
have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved
for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the
righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not
only to me but also to all who have longed for his
appearing.

¹⁶ At my first defence no one came to my support, but
all deserted me. May it not be counted against
them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me
strength, so that through me the message might be
fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I
was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will
rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his
heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and
ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:9-14

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in
themselves that they were righteous and regarded
others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the
temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-
collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was
praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other
people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-
collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my
income." ¹³ But the tax-collector, standing far off, would
not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast
and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" ¹⁴ I tell
you, this man went down to his home justified rather
than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be
humbled, but all who humble themselves will be
exalted."

Post Communion Collect:

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



Prayers for Last Sunday after Trinity

Let us pray together for the Church, the world, and all in need, giving thanks for the gift of God's Word.

Loving God, thank you for this day. Help us to learn more about you and how to live with kindness, courage, and love. Help us to listen to your Word and let it shape our lives every day.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

We pray for your Church all around the world. Help everyone who teaches and shares your Word to do so with joy and truth. Bless our leaders and helpers and help us all to work together to show your love in our communities.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the world and for those who make important decisions. May your Word guide them to act with fairness, wisdom, and care for all people. We pray for peace where there is conflict, and hope where there is fear.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

We pray for our families, friends, neighbours, and schools. Help us to be kind and generous, and to look out for those who feel lonely or left out. Show us how to be your hands and feet in the world.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

We pray for anyone who is sick, sad, or worried. In a moment of quiet, we think of people we know who need your help. Bring comfort and healing and surround them with your peace.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

We remember those who have died, and we thank you for their lives. Help us to trust in your promise of eternal life, and to live each day with hope and love.

God of love:

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, thank you for hearing our prayers. Help us to follow your Word and share your love with everyone we meet.

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

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, Tel: 01295 760816

Alice Palmer: Benefice Treasurer

alice.palmer16@btinternet.com, Tel: 01280 850252

Fiona Mason: Benefice Safeguarding Officer

fomason@hotmail.com Tel: 01280 850439

Sheena Warren, Chair of Social & Fundraising

Committee sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk,

Tel: 01327 860230

Wiggy Smith: Chair of Pastoral Care Committee

wiggysmith44@gmail.com, Tel: 01295 760953

Sarah Rudkin: Benefice Secretary & Pews News

Editor,

rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk, Tel: 01327 830965

Churchwardens /Representatives (for individual church matters):

Helmdon: Cliff Netten, apnetten@hotmail.com

& Paul Stothard, stothy@live.co.uk

Lois Weedon & Weston: Frank Hunter

frank.hunter@btinternet.com

Radstone: Penny Bonner

penny.bonner@btconnect.com

Syresham: Alice Palmer

alice.palmer16@btinternet.com

Wappenham: Sheena Warren

sheena.warren@hotmail.co.uk

Whitfield: Claire Bonner 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 12th **Togetherness Tea Party, 2-4pm,**

Helmdon Reading Room

Sat 15th **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 26th October 2025

The last Sunday after Trinity brings to an end a long sequence of Trinity and after Trinity Sundays which began on 15th June. The liturgical colour for this season is green and this may be connected with Trinitytide's often being seen as a time for spiritual growth; we have relived from Advent to Pentecost the story of Christ's birth, death and resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit to the young church and in the Trinity season the hope is that, fortified and nourished by that story, we shall develop further as Christians. I wonder whether you can detect such growth in yourselves over the last four and a half months. It might be good to review the period to see whether you have grown, say, in your prayer life or in your love of your neighbour near and far; have you become calmer and more accepting in the face of adversity; has your trust in God grown? These are perhaps rather difficult discernments to make but you might, if you look, make interesting and encouraging discoveries.

I think I can detect growth in the relationship of the Benefice as a whole with God as we live out what is central to the ethos of the Let's shine Together Festival – an outward-looking generosity of disposition towards the other in our communities and beyond, a concern to give, which is of the essence of the God who is Love. That's why our agenda for the coming months and years has on it consideration of having a Parish Nurse and a Young People's Worker – ambitious aspirations but not clearly beyond us now. We'll see!

Hugh