

# FUTURE SERVICES

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

## FEBRUARY

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

10am Helmdon Re-scheduled  
Midweek Holy  
Communion

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Third Sunday before Lent

9.30am Lois Weedon Holy Communion  
10am Helmdon Praise & Prayer  
11.15am Syresham Holy Communion  
*with liturgy from the  
Northumbrian  
Community*  
11.15am Wappenham Praise & Prayer

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Second Sunday before Lent

9.30am Lois Weedon Matins  
10am Helmdon *Holy Communion  
with liturgy from the  
Northumbrian  
Community*  
6pm Syresham Joint Service  
at the Chapel  
11.15am Wappenham Holy Communion  
2pm Lois Weedon Service for William  
Blake House  
residents

## MARCH

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Sunday Next Before Lent

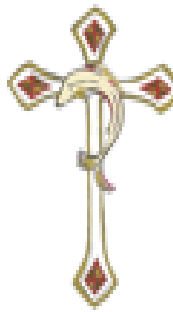
9.30am Whitfield Holy Communion  
10am Helmdon Morning Prayer  
11.15am Syresham Holy Communion  
11.15am Wappenham Morning Prayer

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday

10am Helmdon Ash Wednesday  
Service  
7pm Syresham Ash Wednesday  
Service

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March – First Sunday of Lent

9am Wappenham Breakfast Church  
9.30am Lois Weedon Morning Prayer  
10am Helmdon Holy Communion &  
Children's Church  
11.15am Syresham Morning Prayer



# 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 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

# Fourth Sunday before Lent

## Services in the Benefice:

9am	Wappenham	Breakfast Church
9.30am	Lois Weedon	Morning Prayer
10am	Helmdon	Holy Communion & Children's Church
11.15am	Syresham	Morning Prayer



## Fourth Sunday before Lent

### Collect:

O God,  
you know us to be set  
in the midst of so many and great dangers,  
that by reason of the frailty of our nature  
we cannot always stand upright:  
grant to us such strength and protection  
as may support us in all dangers  
and carry us through all temptations;  
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.

### Psalm 138

### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6. 1-8 (9-end)

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.'

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

### New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

### Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

### Post Communion Collect:

Go before us, Lord, in all we do  
with your most gracious favour,  
and guide us with your continual help,  
that in all our works  
begun, continued and ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



## *Prayers for Fourth Sunday of Lent*

Holy God, whenever we fail to care for our brothers and sisters throughout creation, the way is opened to destruction, and hearts are hardened. We recognise our responsibility to encourage and uphold one another and to live together in peace and love. We also recognise our needs and our human weaknesses and come to you now with our prayers and petitions

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, thank you that you call some of us to be apostles, sent out to do your work. We pray for all who respond "Here I am Lord" when they hear you call. We pray also for those who have a ministry in their daily lives of work, family life or community, who daily bear witness to the gospel in all that they say or do.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Creator God, thank you for our world and the places where we live. Help us all to be mindful that we are all created equal in your sight and accept our deep regret that despite this there is still so much inequality to be found. Help us to remember that you want us to be good stewards of your creation, living responsibly in the lands and seas of the earth. May all future growth be sustainable and may we ensure that its abundance is fairly shared for the good of all.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father God, Lord, help us to use our influence within our families and communities to bring peace, joy and fun into people's lives, instead of stirring up strife. Help us be reliable and honest in what we do, and friendly to all who we meet in our daily lives.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus can free us from our burdens and heal our bodies and spirits. We pray for those still burdened, those seeking healing, those in need within the church and the world.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, when death separates from us those we love and we find it hard to live without them, take from us all bitterness and resentment and help us to remember that death has no power at all over the peace you give and that the love we shared with our departed loved ones goes beyond the grave.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, in the weeks ahead help us to conduct our lives with dignity, always giving and expecting respect, always praying before taking action and following each action with prayerful thanksgiving.

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 during this difficult time.

*From Helmdon:* Barbara Buxton, Diane Thorpe.

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

*From Syresham:* George Summers.

*From Wappenham:* Judy King, Claire Kennett, and Dorothy & David Nicholson.

### *For those known to us:*

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

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

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, Penny Bonnymeade, David Brookhouse, Jonathan Miller, David Powell, Joyce Beech, Julia O'Brian, James Smillie.

***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

**Judith Elkington: Benefice Safeguarding Officer**

[judith.elkington@gmail.com](mailto:judith.elkington@gmail.com), Tel: 01295 760438

**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.com](mailto:rectorastwellbenefice@aol.com), Tel: 01327 830965

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

**Helmdon:** Bill Elkington ([bill.h.elkington@gmail.com](mailto:bill.h.elkington@gmail.com))

& Cliff Netten ([apnetten@hotmail.com](mailto:apnetten@hotmail.com))

**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:** Edwin King ([astwell01@aol.com](mailto:astwell01@aol.com)) &

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

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

## 'TIME TO PRAY'

Every Thursday:

**10 - 10.30am at  
Syresham Church**

And

**12 - 12.30pm at  
Helmdon Reading Room**

**All Welcome!**

## Dates for your Diary

MARCH

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> BPCC Meeting, 7pm, Wappenham V Hall

APRIL

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Benefice Quiz, 7pm, Syresham Village Hall

MAY

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Benefice APCM, 7pm, Helmdon Church

**SAVE THE DATES!**



## 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.