

Amelcote Benefice

The Messenger



September-October-November 2025

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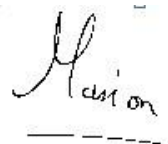
From the Rector...

Phew! It has been rather warm recently hasn't it? I don't know about you, but we have both been feeling rather lethargic in the heat. So we do need to spare a thought for all the farmers in the benefice and beyond as they work through this hot, dry weather to bring in the harvest then hope for some rain as they plant up the next crops.

That then turns my thought to Harvest. Harvest is still such a great part of rural life even though in many urban areas it has lost its significance. We will be celebrating harvest in our benefice but, at the time of writing, I am not sure of all the dates so do keep a lookout on our weekly Amelcote News on line.

Harvest is traditionally the time we thank God for our food crops but it is, in reality, a time we can thank God for so much more. Think for a moment about just what it takes in terms of logistics and people to get our food "from farm to plate".

I can remember asking a youth group I was leading many years ago: where do you get bananas from. One young lad immediately answered: from the top of the fridge! Not the answer I was expecting but showing a complete lack of understanding about the processes involved. We thank God for all the people who work in so many industries that enable us to go to the supermarket, buy the food we want (when we want it!) - the unsung harvesters.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mission", with a dashed line underneath it.

Services in the Amelcote Benefice

Please check our online, weekly Amelcote News for confirmation of service times and any extra services. Please email Chris Bulleid on amelcote.info@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Church</i>
Sep 7th	10am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
Sep 14th	10am 4pm	Holy Communion Choral Evensong (with choir of St Matthews Northampton & Pop up choir)	Tiffield Pattishall
Sep 21st	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
Sep 28th	10am	Holy Communion	Gayton
Oct 5th	10am	Harvest Holy Communion and Gift Day	Cold Higham
Oct 12th	10am 3pm	Holy Communion Harvest Messy Vintage service	Tiffield Pattishall
Oct 19th	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
Oct 26th	10am	Holy Communion	Gayton
Nov 2nd	10am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
Nov 9th	TBC	Service of Remembrance	Pattishall
Nov 16th	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
Nov 23rd	10am	Holy Communion	Gayton
Nov 30th	TBC	Advent Sunday service	TBC

CHORAL EVENSONG

HOLY CROSS CHURCH
PATTISHALL

Sunday 14th Sept 4 pm

With the choir of St Matthews
Northampton + the 'Pop-Up' choir,
led by Dir of Music and Organist,
Tom Moore



We are pleased to welcome the choir of St Matthews and our own Pop-up choir to sing at our Choral Evensong for Holy Cross day. The service will follow the standard format for sung evensong, including congregational hymns etc. A tea, including wine, and nibbles will be served following the service.

HARVEST MESSY VINTAGE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT



October 12th at 15.00 at Holy Cross Church

Please join us for an informal Christ-centred
service of fun and fellowship.

With tea and cake

All are welcome

Pastoral Matters

If you are in need of someone to talk to, or would
like to pray with someone, please contact
Jean Pugh, Pastoral Minister on 01327 830909 or
mobile 07711329664

SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE + STRIDE

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 13th September 2025

between 10am and 6pm

a day in the open air ... plan your own route

350+ stunning churches and chapels to visit -
many of them open and welcoming



All sponsorship money received will be divided equally between
the NHCT and the church or chapel chosen by you

**Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are
available from your local organiser: -**

Pattishall - Ali Brierley 01327 830770

Cold Higham - Pauline Pearson 01327 830287

Tiffield - Rachel Holloway 01327 353172

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632 For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk

Our Benefice churches will be open to visitors on Saturday 13th September for the annual **Ride & Stride**. Please can anyone volunteer at Holy Cross for an hour during the morning or afternoon to welcome riders and striders, and to offer refreshments of cold drinks and biscuits? If you can help, please let Alison know on 01327 830770.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, PATTISHALL

CRAFTS & PLAY

Fridays 3.00-4.30 pm

October 3rd, 10th, 17th

November 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th



Crafts and toys
Tea/coffee and cake

Everyone welcome

Join us for Afternoon Tea

7th September, 5th October

3.00 - 4.30 pm

at Holy Cross, Pattishall



WINTER WARMER LUNCHES



Holy Cross Church, Pattishall

Sundays 12 - 2 pm

2nd November, 7th December

All welcome for food, fellowship and friendship

Date for your diary

15TH NOVEMBER, 7.30PM

Holy Cross, Pattishall

THE SHEPPARD SINGERS



Refreshments

More details coming soon



Well Group

Well Group is a Christian ladies group which meets monthly to share food and fellowship.

Thursday 2nd October 12-2 pm : Nathan Taylor from the Mission Aviation Fellowship



Thursday 6th November 12-2 pm: Terry Atkinson will join us to speak about the project at a School in Malawi

Thursday 4th December 12-2 pm : Rev Kim Shorley will return for an Advent/Christmas themed activity. This will be a shared meal with a Christmas flavour.

All women are welcome to join us - please get in touch with Ali on 01327 830770 or albrierley@btinternet.com



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers



Click the link for the latest updates from the Diocese

[News from the Diocese](#)

We collect food for **Towcester Foodbank**, in the porch at Holy Cross and at Holmeview, 8 Greenway, Eastcote, on Fridays. Please ensure that all food is non-perishable and well within sell-by date.

If you need to receive food from the foodbank or would like to know which items are currently most needed you can find out at www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk

Holy Cross, Church Cleaning Rota.

Everyone is thanked for collaborating on the new rota, where two people are responsible for one month, three times a year. The list is pinned in the Served area. Can helpers also please ensure that the porch gets a sweep. Enquiries to Alison Brierley 07794 742286.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to this issue.

Please send items for the Dec/Jan/Feb issue to amelcote.messenger@gmail.com by November 14th.

Margaret Bulleid

The Season Of Creation

As we enter the month of September, many churches will spend some time focusing on the wonders of creation, with Harvest Festivals or other types of service. For some time now, the Church of England has named the period between 1st September and 4th October as Creationtide, or the Season of Creation, where we can give thanks to God for his gift to us in creation. It was good to witness an uplifting in the recent meeting of General Synod, where further liturgical resources were discussed.

As well as giving thanks to God, this period of time provides us with an opportunity to recommit ourselves to care for all that God has made. As a Diocese, we share in the commitment of the Church of England to become net carbon zero by 2030, an ambitious target, but one that is very important, and reminds us of the fifth Mark of Mission, 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. Maybe this is a month when you might like to think afresh about you can do to help reach the target.

I am so encouraged to hear of churches that are engaging with Eco Church and delight that



we now have some 'gold churches' amongst us. What an example they are!

Amongst the resources for Creationtide on the Church of England website, I came across this beautiful passage:

*In every acorn
there is the potential for a forest;
In every apple pip
there is the potential for an orchard;
In every soul
there is the potential for your
kingdom
to be established;
full of joy and peace and love.
Lord, may your kingdom come
in us and in all your creation.*

May this be our prayer

+ Debbie

The Rt Revd Debbie Sellin
Bishop of Peterborough

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Who's Who in the Amelcote Benefice

Rector

Revd Marion Reynolds

01327 624203

Lay Pastoral Minister

Jean Pugh

07711 329664

Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830287
Gayton	John Rogers	07973 836387
Pattishall	Alison Brierley	01327 830770
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350077
	Rachel Holloway	01327 353172

The Amelcote Benefice

St Luke, Cold Higham: St Mary, Gayton:

Holy Cross, Pattishall: St John the Baptist, Tiffield