

UPCOMING SERVICES

SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER

LAST AFTER TRINITY / BIBLE SUNDAY

STADHAMPTON — 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

WARBOROUGH — 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

WARBOROUGH — 4.30 PM CLUSTER EVENSONG

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

STADHAMPTON — 9:30 AM FAMILY SERVICE

WARBOROUGH — 11.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST

WARBOROUGH — 6:00PM ALL SOULS' SERVICE:

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, FOLLOWED
BY REFRESHMENTS IN ST LAURENCE HALL

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

WARBOROUGH — 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

WARBOROUGH — 10:45AM REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

STADHAMPTON — 10:45AM REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

NEXT WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

Daniel 7.1–3, 15–18

Ephesians 1.11–23

Luke 6.20–31

WARBOROUGH NEWS:

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families of Jo Case and Romey Jameson. The funeral for Romey will take place here on 14th November.

Please add the names of your departed loved ones you would like mentioned at our All Souls Service to the lists at the back of the Church.



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*Newington, Stadhampton with Chiselhampton,
Warborough and Shillingford*

PEW'S NEWS

ST LAURENCE CHURCH, WARBOROUGH

SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER

LAST AFTER TRINITY / BIBLE SUNDAY

THE COLLECTS

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.

Amen

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BIBLE READINGS

Joel 2.23–32

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁸Then afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and

your young men shall see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. ³⁰I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. ³²Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

2 Timothy 4.6–8, 16–18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From 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. ¹⁶At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷But 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. ¹⁸The 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.

Luke 18.9–14

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. ¹¹The 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. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." ¹³But 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!" ¹⁴I 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.'

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

Let us pray to God, whose Word gives life, wisdom, and hope to all people.

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of your Word, for the Bible that teaches, challenges, comforts, and inspires us. Help us to hear your voice through its pages, to read it not just with our eyes, but with open hearts. May your Word guide us as we grow in faith and love.

God of truth and mercy, in this week's Gospel we hear of the Pharisee and the tax collector. Teach us to come before you with humility, not boasting of our goodness, but trusting always in your forgiveness and grace. When we read your Word, help us not only to understand it, but to let it change us from within.

God of wisdom, we pray for your Church throughout the world, for those who translate, teach, and share the Scriptures, for preachers and teachers, and for all who open your Word to others. May the Church always be rooted in your truth and share your love with gentleness and joy.

God of justice and peace, we pray for our world, for places torn apart by conflict, inequality, and greed. May your Word of hope bring light into dark places and inspire us to act with compassion and fairness.

God of community, we pray for our families, friends, and neighbours. Help us to be patient and kind, to listen carefully to others, and to build one another up in love. As we open your Word together, may we learn to see the world through your eyes.

God of grace, you know each of us better than we know ourselves. We bring before you those who are sick, lonely, or struggling in any way.

Faithful God, we thank you for the gift of your living Word and for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh.

May his example of humility and love shape our words, our worship, and our lives.

Amen.

A DORCHESTER TEAM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP EVENING

Join us at

THE WELL

a journey

We will be gathering once a month across the team to sing and pray

Join us on the journey

6:30PM

16TH NOVEMBER

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, STADHAMPTON

PARKING ON THE GREEN

Views from the Pews: Jen's Lens

This weekend I have old friends coming to stay – friends from school who I hold incredibly dear. Sarah was my first friend at secondary school. We bonded after being told off for talking during a hockey lesson, and from that slightly mischievous start, a friendship grew that carried us through the next couple of decades. Life, children and work have meant we don't see each other as often as we'd like, but she still holds a very special place in my heart. Antonia (known as Bobs – an old joke that became so widespread that even my mother calls her that) is Wilfred's Godmother and lives in Australia. Any chance to see her is jumped upon, prioritised, and cherished above all else. Our other two guests are also friends from those same school days, and I simply cannot wait to see them all.

It feels, in the truest sense, like coming home. My mother used to get quite annoyed when, home from boarding school for the holidays, I would ask when I was going "home" – meaning school. But that's how those friendships made me feel. There was a sense of belonging, of being known and accepted for who I was. And even now, when we all get together and the laughter erupts over something utterly silly or a shared in-joke from decades past, I'm transported straight back there. Time seems to dissolve. It's as though the years melt away and we're once again those same girls in school uniform, sharing secrets and laughter that only we understand.

Someone once said that memories exist outside of space and time – that they live within us, ready to carry us back whenever we call upon them. And perhaps that's part of what we celebrate on Bible Sunday. The Bible, too, is full of memories, stories passed down, written and preserved so that every generation might remember who they are and where they came from. It is a record not just of history, but of relationship: God's relationship with His people.

St Augustine once described the Scriptures as "*our letters from home*." I love that image. When we open the Bible, we are reading words that remind us of who we are and whose we are. Like a letter from a beloved friend, Scripture calls us back to the heart of God, to that deep sense of belonging that anchors us through every season of life.

The theologian Walter Brueggemann wrote that "*the Bible is an act of memory that makes hope possible*." The stories of faith we read are not simply records of the past, but living reminders that God has always been faithful, and will continue to be. When we remember what God has done, we find courage and hope for what lies ahead.

In *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Peter says, "Some things are too important to be forgotten." That, I think, is what Scripture offers us: a way of holding on to the things too important to lose: the stories of faith, hope and love that continue to shape our lives today.

When we open the Bible, we are not simply reading ancient words; we are stepping back into a living story that still holds us. Like those treasured friendships that feel like home no matter how many years have passed, Scripture welcomes us back into the familiar embrace of God's truth and love. It reminds us of who we are, where we belong, and of the One who calls us His own.

So as I look forward to this weekend, I'm grateful for the gift of friendship and for the memories that anchor us. And on Bible Sunday, I give thanks too for the living Word – those "letters from home" that keep calling us back, again and again, to the heart of God.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend and week ahead.

Jen

