



Parish News

The magazine of Little Amwell,
Hertford Heath, Pinehurst, Foxholes East,
Hartham Place and Holy Trinity Church.

Online at

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6119/news/123358/parish-news/>
Some **printed** copies are available early in the month at the back of the church



07783 435390
vicarsally@gmail.com

December 2025

The Vicarage
17 Barclay Close



THE VICAR'S BIT

My favourite Christmas carol is O Holy Night, the line *"a thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn"* always gives me the shivers.

Those words describe exactly how many of us feel as Christmas approaches: a bit tired, a bit stretched, maybe even a bit unsure. And yet, right in the middle of all that, the carol reminds us that hope is still breaking through. God steps into our ordinary, messy world in the quiet form of a tiny baby.

Jesus' birth tells us that hope isn't just a nice idea—it's real, it's close, and it's meant for each of us. He comes to remind us that we're not alone, no matter what we're dealing with. His light reaches every corner, even the ones we'd rather keep hidden. When Christ is born, He brings a new beginning that no disappointment or worry can take away.

This is the heart of Christmas: Jesus arriving with the gifts we need most. He brings peace—not the kind that depends on everything going perfectly, but the kind that settles us deep inside. He brings joy—not loud or showy, but steady and warm, the kind that grows when we know God is with us. And He brings love—simple, strong, and unconditional.

As we get ready for Christmas this year, let's make room for these gifts. Let's allow that "new and glorious morn" to rise inside us, in our families, and in our parish. Let Christ's hope lift anyone feeling worn out. Let His peace calm our worries. Let His joy lighten our days. And let His love move us to reach out to others—especially those who might be struggling or feeling alone.

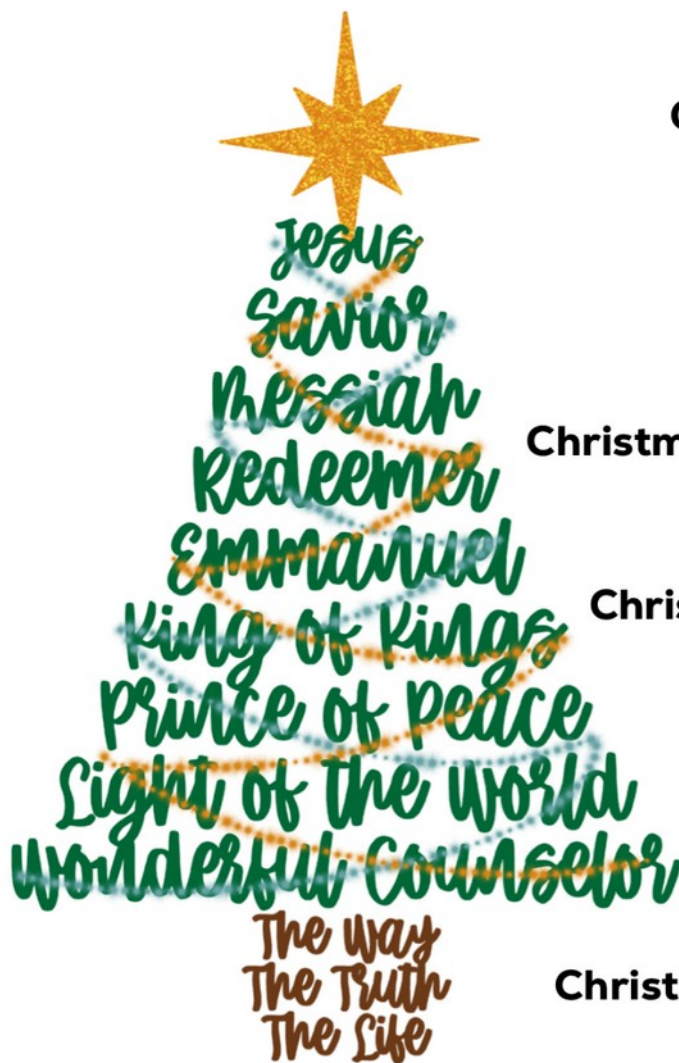
This season, may we share with others what Jesus so generously shares with us: hope, peace, joy, and love. And as we do, may our weary world truly rejoice.

Love and prayers

Sally x

Christmas

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



21 December 10am
Come and Join in Nativity

21 December 6.30pm
Carol Service

23 December 10am
Christmas Family Movie Morning

24 December 3pm
**Christmas Family Celebration
at Amwell Place Farm**

24 December 11.30pm
Midnight Communion

25 December 10am
Christmas Morning Celebration

Church Hill, Hertford Heath, Hertford SG13 7RS
Telephone 07783 435390 ✉ vicarsally@gmail.com
🌐 www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6119/
f Holy Trinity Church Hertford Heath 📷 [holytrinityhh](https://www.instagram.com/holytrinityhh)





THE MISSION ROOM



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clubs and parties.

Minimum 2 hour hire - £25
Subsequent hours - £10 per hour

Seats up to 50
with a small kitchen and toilet.

To make a booking email:
hhmissionroom@gmail.com

**The Mission Room, Vicarage Causeway,
Hertford Heath, SG13 7RT**



Weddings at

HOLY TRINITY

YOUR CHURCH ON THE GREEN

Did you know it costs the same to
get married at Holy Trinity Church
as it does at a registry office or
venue? We would love to have
your wedding in our beautiful
church on the village green.

Contact us for more details, we
look forward to hearing from you.

We love weddings at Holy Trinity!

Are you looking for somewhere to get
married? How about our beautiful little
church on the village green? Did you know
that it costs the same to get married here as
it does at a registry office or venue, and we
have some wonderful pubs in the village to
hold your reception at.

We also love marriage blessings, renewal of
vows, and baptisms (christenings). Recently
we even combined a wedding and baptism of
their baby, a wonderful celebration!

If you are interested in a wedding, marriage
blessing, renewal of vows, or baptism
(christening), for yourself or your child we'd
love to help, please contact our Vicar, Sally,
for a chat about the how, what, when, where
and why of these events at Holy Trinity.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS

Keeping our churchyard tidy and safe for all.

For most people churchyards are places of quiet contemplation and remembering. Our aim is to ensure that our churchyard should be both peaceful, kept tidy and mown for the benefit of everyone.

The churchyard around Holy Trinity Church, Hertford Heath is closed for burials (open for burial of ashes). The grounds are maintained by gardeners employed by Hertford Heath Parish Council (HHPC). Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council (HTPCC) works with HHPC in maintaining the safety and appearance of the churchyard.

Neither Hertford Heath Parish Council (HHPC) nor Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council (HTPCC) is responsible for maintaining memorials in the churchyard, the memorial stone/grave/tablet upkeep is the responsibility of the deceased's family. Checks are carried out from time to time to ensure that memorials have not become hazardous. If it appears that a memorial is in a dangerous condition, HTPCC may decide that it should be laid on the ground to avoid accidents.

Our churchyard is different from a civil (local authority) cemetery. In our churchyard the burial plots are not 'owned' by the family. In a Church of England churchyard, families own a memorial stone or tablet, but not the ground in which it is set. The plots remain part of the churchyard and as such are all subject to the Diocese of St Albans Churchyard Regulations.

Memorial stones and tablets can only be installed by a qualified funeral director or stone mason under the regulations laid out in the Diocese of St Albans Churchyard Regulations and via the faculty process. Our Churchwardens can help you with this, as can your Funeral Director.

Memorial Garden

In the Memorial Garden the regulations allow for a 12 inch/30cm square memorial tablet which should be laid flush with the ground, and which may incorporate a vase for flowers.

The only permitted items **on or around** a memorial tablet, in the Memorial Garden at Holy Trinity Churchyard are:

1. a stone/granite memorial vase. This should be placed **on** the memorial tablet. Please note plastic versions of these vases are **NOT permitted**.
2. **OR** one ceramic bowl of plants. The bowl should be no larger than 8 inches/20cm in diameter, and when containing plants should stand no higher than 12 inches/30cm – see photo. This should be placed on the memorial tablet.



3. **OR one** plastic vase, see photo. This should be placed above the memorial tablet



Please note that you can only choose one of these options, not all three.

These items are placed at your own risk. HTPCC, HHPC or the gardeners will not accept responsibility for any damage or breakages due to strimming the grass and keeping the area well maintained.

Loose flower vases and containers made of glass or plastic are not permitted because they are vulnerable to accidental damage which causes understandable distress to the family, and they can cause difficulties for mowing or strimming. Sometimes pieces of broken container can cause injury. We encourage people to have flowers in containers at home as a reminder of a loved one.

Graves, and memorial tablets in the Memorial Garden, need to be kept clear of obstructions so that the grass can be cut. Seasonal wreathes may be laid on any grave or memorial tablet but must be removed as soon as they appear to be dead. It should also be noted that free-standing features such as toys, pictures, mementos, statues, plastic/silk flowers, solar lights etc. are **NOT** allowed. Chippings, gravel, paving stones, or kerbs may **NOT** be placed on or around any grave or any area set aside for cremated remains in the churchyard. No trees, plants or shrubs may be planted anywhere in the churchyard. Wooden marker crosses are designed to mark a burial plot until a permanent memorial is added. They should then be removed and may be taken home by the family or disposed of by the funeral director or monumental mason.

HTPCC tidy the Churchyard on the last weekend of each month, and at their discretion, will remove any non-permitted items placed in the churchyard. They will be carefully placed by the side of the church for collection; retained for a three-month period, after that time they will be disposed of.

It is for our local community, that we preserve the atmosphere of tranquillity and natural, living landscape of our churchyard which itself offers the beauty of creation as a comfort to all who enter. Please help us to preserve this character, which has endured for many centuries. and which we have a duty to pass on to the next generation.

HTPCC are dedicated to maintaining the churchyard for the benefit of families and other visitors. These Regulations are intended to create and maintain a place of peace, dignity, and respect for the departed.

For a copy of the St Albans Diocese Churchyard Regulations please click this link
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/Churchyard-Regulations-2020.pdf>

These Regulations are also displayed on the Holy Trinity Church website, in the Memorial Garden, on the Lych-gate at the entrance to the churchyard and in the porch of the Church.

If you have any questions about Holy Trinity Church churchyard or are hoping to have a burial of ashes in the churchyard, please contact our Vicar Sally on vicarsally@gmail.com, or Susanna Williams, our churchwarden, on susanna.williams@btinternet.com

Church Contact Information

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Please note that, although *Parish News* is produced by Little Amwell PCC, the opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the PCC.

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