

# Sunday 24th May 2026



United Benefice of  
Aspenden, Buntingford  
and Westmill

## Pentecost

Welcome to our churches of St Mary's Aspenden, St Peter's Buntingford and St Mary the Virgin Westmill. Whoever you are,

wherever you've come from, you are welcome! If this is your first visit, please do introduce yourselves to the clergy and stay for coffee after the service to meet others

### Acts 2: 1 - 21 (NRSVA)

**2** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

**5** Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. **6** And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. **7** Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? **9** Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' **12** All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this

mean?' **13** But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

**14** But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. **15** Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. **16** No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

**17** "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

**18** Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

**19** And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

**20** The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

**21** Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

### John 20.19-23 (NRSVA)

**19** When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21** Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' **22** When he had said this, he breathed on

them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

### Collect

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Post Communion

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Remembering in our prayers:

Lil, Evelyn, Jackie, Christine, Kathe, Judy, Jenny, Russell, Hilary, Phyllis, Jane, Lisa, Clive, Ailsa.

## Church Services & Morning Prayer

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May Trinity

9:30am Holy Communion – St Mary's Aspenden  
11am Café Church – St Peter's Buntingford

**Morning Prayer** – Held 9am to 9:30am, weekly on Tuesday at St Peter's Buntingford, Wednesday St Mary the Virgin, Westmill and Thursdays at St Mary's, Aspenden. For further details chat with Kirsty or Sarah.

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June

9:30am All Age Worship – St Mary the Virgin Westmill

9:30am Morning Worship – St Mary's Aspenden

11am Holy Communion – St Peter's Buntingford

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June

9:30am Sung Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin Westmill

9:30am All Age Worship – St Mary's Aspenden

11am All Age Worship – St Peter's Buntingford

### Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> June

9:30am Holy Communion – St Mary's Aspenden

11am Holy Communion – St Peter's Buntingford

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June

9:30am Sung Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin Westmill

11am Morning Worship – St Peter's Buntingford

## News & Notices from our Churches and Community



Our grateful thanks to those who have stood as **Churchwardens** in our Benefice this year.

We are delighted they were all sworn in on Wednesday and they are held in prayer as they begin their ministry of service in our parishes.

We are delighted to welcome the **Clark family** and their friends to St Peter's today for the baptisms of their sons **Daniel, Arthur & Alfie**. We hold the family and godparents in our prayers on this special day.

### Monday Morning Coffee at St Peter's Church

There is NO Coffee Morning at St Peter's this coming Monday as it is a Bank Holiday but we will return as usual the following week. Monday 10am – 12pm.

**Little Lambs, St Mary the Virgin Westmill** There will be NO Little Lambs during half term but we will gather as usual from 10-11:30 weekly on Wednesday at Westmill Church the following week. Little Lambs is for pre-school children and their grown-ups. A very informal social and worship occasion for pre-school children and their carers. We sing songs, along with lots of fun activities.

**Choc Stop** As schools will be closed for half term there will be NO Choc Stop this coming Thursday and return outside St Peter's the following Thursday at 3:15pm. We pray for children & young people in our Benefice that they will be refreshed by the break, especially those taking exams.

### "Thy Kingdom Come" Praise & Prayer evening.

Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful evening full of Praise and Prayer.

**Buntingford Library Celebrates 100 Years** and are hosting two special events:

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2pm 'History of Buntingford Library'** By Carol, (from the Local History Group). This is a free event but booking is essential, you can do this in person at the Library.

**Celebrate 100 of Buntingford Library Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026, from 6pm-8.30pm.** This is a free event, but booking a place is essential, this can also be done in the library.

**Westmill Art Exhibition Sat 30th - Sun 31st May, 10.00am-5.00 pm at St Mary the Virgin church.** Please do come along to see the wonderful variety of local talent on show, all works will be on sale with all funds raised going to the church.

**The Alvor Trio, Wednesday 3 June, 2026, 7:00pm St Mary the Virgin Westmill.** An extraordinary evening of chamber music with the highly acclaimed trio featuring Sarah Newbould, Martin

Outram, Imogen Barford. Please visit Buntingford Live for further details and booking tickets <https://buntingfordlive.org/events/the-alvor-trio/>

**Hymnathon Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026 10am – 4pm St Peter's Church.** Come along and join us for our sponsored Hymnathon or simply enjoy the music. Hymns will be sponsored in aid of Homestart St Mary's, Aspenden, St Peter's, Buntingford, & St Mary the Virgin, Westmill. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. If you are able to provide a cake and/or do a slot on the refreshment, your support will be most grateful.

**Wine and Wondering** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm St Mary the Virgin, Westmill in the children's room. Join us for a relaxed evening and a glass of wine and wonder some of life's big questions. For further details please speak to Kirsty.

**Eco Church Tip:** Pentecost: This Bank Holiday/ half term try and connect with wider creation through walking, cycling or simply sitting in the natural world.

### Find all our latest services & news here:

[www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/)



### Get in Touch

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### Benefice Administration hours

Wednesday & Thursday 8:30am to 12:45pm.

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