

# Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026



United Benefice of  
Aspenden, Buntingford  
and Westmill

## Easter 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday

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 17.22-31 (NRSVA)

<sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

<sup>29</sup> Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of

mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

### John 14.15-21 (NRSVA)

<sup>15</sup> 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

### Collect

Risen Christ,  
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:  
help your Church to obey your command  
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### Post Communion

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,

the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### Remembering in our prayers:

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

## Church Services & Morning Prayer

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May** 7pm Ascension Day Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin Westmill

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May

9:30am Holy Communion – St Mary's Aspenden  
11am Holy Communion – 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 24<sup>th</sup> May Pentecost

9:30am Sung Eucharist – St Mary the Virgin Westmill  
11am Morning Worship and Baptism – St Peter's Buntingford

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

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

### 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

## News & Notices from our Churches and Community



### St Mary the Virgin Westmill Building Project

Excellent news we have now received full faculty approval for phase 2 of the building project. The Welcome Area has begun with the installation of the new cupboards.

Donations towards are gratefully received. Please speak to Sue, Colin or Kirsty if you are able to support this.

Our dear friend Sheila Drage's funeral will take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 10:30am at St Mary's Aspenden.**

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

Held weekly at 10am – 12pm every Monday except Bank Holidays, therefore we will be closed on 25<sup>th</sup> May. This coffee morning is growing with lots of people attending and making friends.

There is the opportunity for prayer too. Do pop in and join us.

### Little Lambs, St Mary the Virgin Westmill

Held weekly on Wednesday 10am – 11:30am term time only, 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** We are starting a new venture, 'Choc Stop'. Hot chocolates for young people on their way

home from school. Every Thursday term time only, outside St Peter's church from 3.15pm.

### Buntingford Live - Music for an April evening - St Mary the Virgin Westmill

Thank you to students from St Edmunds College and their Director of music Andrew O'Brien for putting on a wonderful evening of music. Thank you to everyone who was able to support this event.

**Plant Sale outside St Peter's.** A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Aspenden's Plant Sale held outside St Peter's Church yesterday morning. Thank you to the organisers, donations of plants and everyone who visited. Monies raised £1000 will be given to the Benefice to support our 3 churches and the work they do.

### "Thy Kingdom Come" Praise & Prayer Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

**May, 7pm at St Peter's Church** Join us for contemporary praise with open + interactive prayer evening. Based on global prayer movement - <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

### Westmill Art Exhibition Sat 30<sup>th</sup> - Sun 31<sup>st</sup> 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

**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 and XXX

**Eco Church Tip:** Easter 6 : If you're visiting a city by car, try and use a park and ride scheme to reduce congestion and pollution in the city centre.

### 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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