

Sunday 28th June 2026



United Benefice of
Aspenden, Buntingford
and Westmill

4th Sunday after Trinity

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

Romans 6.12-end (NRSVA)

¹² Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 10.40-End (NRSVA)

⁴⁰ 'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'

Collect

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Post Communion

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Remembering in our prayers:

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

Church Services & Morning Prayer

Sunday 5th July

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

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 12th July

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 19th July

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

11am Holy Communion – St Peter's Buntingford

Sunday 26th July

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

11am Morning 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.

Hymnathon so far has raised £1061, thank you to everyone for your support.

Monday Morning Coffee at St Peter's Church

Held weekly at 10am – 12pm every Monday except Bank Holidays. 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 Choc Stop is still going well serving hot chocolate or ice poles for young people on their way home from school. Every Thursday term time only, outside St Peter's church from 3.15pm.

Reverend Sarah's Ordination

Ordinations Saturday 4th Jul 2026, 2 pm

St Albans Cathedral

You are welcome to join us at St Albans Cathedral as we support our curate, Reverend Sarah Bagnall, as she is ordained priest. For further information about this service, please speak to Kirsty.

A Gift for Sarah

As a benefice, we would like to celebrate with Sarah and give her a gift in appreciation of her ministry. To make a contribution to a gift, you may give in cash in a labelled envelope to either Kirsty or the church wardens, or by a direct bank transfer to the United Benefice account:

Account Name	United Benefice
Sort Code	20-73-26
Account Number	60654132
Reference	GIFT

Bring & share garden party at Matt & Janeane's to celebrate Sarah's ordination as priest.

Sunday 5th July: Everyone from the benefice churches is invited. 17 Layston Meadow, Buntingford, SG9 9JD. Drop in anytime 2pm - 10pm. Any questions: matt@hails.org.uk

'Music for the Summer' Saturday 11th July 3pm at St Peter's Church – Performed by The Priory Singers & Wild about Recorders. See posters for more details.

Summer Fayre - Saturday 22nd August 2pm – 4pm

St Mary the Virgin Westmill - Join us for our Summer Fete. Weather permitting, it will be in the church yard, if not, we'll be dry in the church! There will be Stalls, Raffle, Cakes and Refreshments

Benefice Bring & Share Lunch at the Vicarage

Sunday 23rd August from 1pm.

Please come along to our annual lunch together at the Vicarage. Everyone is welcome.

Job Opportunity - Parish Safeguarding Support Officer - deadline for applications is Wednesday

1st July 2026 - The purpose of the role is to support the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to bridge the gap between national safeguarding requirements and standards and local parish implementation and to provide technical and administrative guidance to Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) and clergy. <https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies/parish-safeguarding-support-officer/>

Bishop of St Albans' hidden two acre city centre oasis open 2pm-4pm, Abbey Gate House, Abbey Mill Lane, AL3 4HD Sunday 28 June, Sunday 4 July, Sunday 12 July, Sunday 19 July - Entrance £5 per adult - dogs on leads – no toilet facilities.

People's Emergency Briefing – 45 minute film on the climate and nature crisis. An eye-opening film bringing together 9 leading UK scientists and experts has appearances from Chris Packham, Jennifer Saunders, Deborah Meaden and a range of voices from across the UK. For further details of how you can watch the film please see posters in our Churches.

Aspenden Village Fete and Dog Show Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Aspenden Village Green. This traditional community event features live music, a bar, a picnic area, a raffle, and a variety of stalls. St Mary's will be serving teas, coffees and cake. If you can help on the day or offer a cake, please speak to Kirsty, Sarah or Gill Stemp. It would be greatly appreciated.

Eco Church Tip: Trinity 4: Take advantage of the sun to dry clothes outside - a clothes airer can also be positioned in your outside space to bring shade to plants so they cope with the heat better

Find all our latest services & news here:

www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-012BK/



Get in Touch

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