

August 2026

The Parish of All Souls, North Warwickshire

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Last month, I had the privilege of spending ten days living, worshipping and learning at Windsor Castle, alongside 24 clergy from across the UK and places as far away as Sarasota in Florida.

The programme is called a Clergy Conversation—and for good reason. There was a great deal of conversation! Together, we explored Scripture and discussed books, poetry and films. We heard from people working in many different professions, including building development, the Civil Service and conservation. We also presented and discussed papers we had researched ourselves.

Since returning, I have been asked, “What did you learn?” It is a good question.

My greatest learning was not simply about knowledge, but about experience. I went with a certain amount of trepidation and anxiety. Who would these other clergy be? Would they all be more academic than me? Would they know their Bibles better than I did? Sometimes, we simply do not give ourselves enough credit, and are good at putting ourselves down. we don’t think ourselves worthy.

Surrounded by the wealth and privilege of Windsor Castle, I found myself talking about my own childhood on the edge of Chelmsley Wood and discussing social housing, poverty and inequality. It was challenging, but it also brought the contrasts of our society into sharp focus.

Jesus once said, “Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.” Perhaps part of our calling is to recognise the systems of which we are a part. We can allow privilege to protect itself, or we can use whatever influence and opportunities we have to draw attention to the needs and inequalities around us.

Above all, those ten days gave me time to look again—with open eyes and an open heart—at my ministry and at the communities I am called to serve. They reminded me how important it is to step back occasionally, to notice what is happening around us, and to ask where God may already be at work.

So perhaps that is a question for all of us:

What is God opening your eyes—and your heart—to in this season?

Blessings

Revd Joanne

Services and Readings

Aug 2 9th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 9: 1 – 5 Matt 14: 13 – 21

8.30 am AUSTREY

Holy Communion

10.30 am NEWTON REGIS

Family Service + Baptism

6.00 pm WARTON

Evening Prayer

Aug 9 10th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 10: 5-15 Matt 14: 22 – 33

8.30 am NEWTON REGIS

Holy Communion

10.30 am WARTON

Family Worship

6.00 pm SECKINGTON

Evening Prayer

Aug 16 11th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: 21 – 28

10.30 am AUSTREY Family

Worship

6.00 pm NEWTON REGIS

Evening Prayer

Aug 23 12th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 12: 1 – 8 Matt 16: 13 – 20

8.30 am WARTON

Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30 am SECKINGTON

Family Worship

6.00 pm SHUTTINGTON

Evening Prayer

Aug 30 13th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 12: 9– 21 Matt 16: 21 – 28

10.30 am SHUTTINGTON

Family Worship

Sept 6 14th Sunday after Trinity

Romans 13: 8 – 14 Matt 18: 15– 20

8.30 am AUSTREY

Holy Communion

10.30 am NEWTON REGIS

Family Worship

6.00 pm WARTON

Evening Prayer

“But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.” (Psalm 86 : 15)

Prayers for the world: we continue to pray for peace to come to all places of conflict in our world, in particular for an end to the war between Ukraine and Russia, and a lasting resolution of hostilities between America and Iran. We ask God's comfort and blessing on all who suffer as a result, God's wisdom and guidance to be with those working to bring about peaceful & just settlements. We pray for those suffering the impact of extremes of climate, especially the victims of the current intense heatwaves and forest fires. We pray not only that all nations would take urgent action to reduce the world's carbon footprint but that we as individuals would do what we can to contribute. We ask your blessing on all agencies working here and abroad to help the vulnerable, the needy and the underprivileged.

Prayers for the Church: we pray for the Church and its leaders at both national and local level, in particular for a restoration of trust in its hierarchy. We pray for Joanne and Barry, that they too might find time for relaxation and recharging of the batteries in the coming weeks.

Prayers for our Community: we pray for God's love and protection on all in our parish at this holiday season, especially the staff & children in our 3 village schools as they enjoy a well-deserved break from work and learning. Keep them safe from harm and may it be a time of rest and refreshment for all.

Prayers for the sick: we ask for your loving and healing presence to be with all who are ill or in pain at this time, whether at home, in hospital or in residential care. We pray especially for those struggling with their mental health. We pray that they will receive the help and support they need but above all know reassurance and peace.

Prayers for the bereaved: we pray for those recently bereaved, that they would know God's comfort.

NEWTON REGIS OPEN GARDENS: A lot of hard work went in to getting the village ready for the Open gardens weekend, making sure gardens looked their best, creating floral displays in the church, preparing refreshments to be served in the village hall. And while it was not quite as busy as in previous years, nevertheless St Mary's Church benefitted to the tune of £2,250. Well done and thanks to all involved.

AUSTREY FUNDRAISING: A big thank you to all who have supported the monthly coffee mornings and the recent Afternoon Cream Tea in Austrey Church which raised £240 towards the roof fund. The monthly coffee mornings will resume in September but in the meantime, if you can offer help, or have ideas for further fundraising, please contact the churchwarden Heather Cooke on 01827 830548.

SHUTTINGTON FUNDRAISING: The Afternoon Tea served in Shuttington Church was a resounding success and raised the magnificent sum of £1,000 for the Restoration Fund. Warm thanks to all who supported the event and those who donated items of food and drink along with their time and energy. Fundraising continues apace and their next event is a Big Breakfast on Sunday 16th August from 9.30 to 11.30 am in Shuttington & Alvecote Village Hall.

SECKINGTON FUNDRAISING: Another fascinating and entertaining evening with Lesley Smith is planned for Friday 18th September in Seckington Church, when she will be appearing as Miss Shakespeare. Further details from Anne Bufton -McCoy Tel: 07738 008900 but don't delay as these evenings are very popular and sell out quickly!

WARTON FUNDRAISING: Warton too has a roof in need of repair so please support the Traditional Harvest Fayre being held on Saturday 26th September in Warton Church. There will be lots of things to tempt you – cakes, jams and preserves, plants, books, crafts and a tombola – along with refreshments. Donations of cakes and items for the tombola (food or kitchen related) will be most welcome along with offers of help on the day. Please contact Maxine Maddox on 01827 892630 or 07833 983309 who will be delighted to hear from you.

Answers
Across
2. Galatians • 4. Esther • 7. Ephesians • 8. Exodus • 11. Ruth • 12. Judges • 14. Colossians • 16. Revelation • 17. Deuteronomy • 19. Joshua
Down
1. Genesis • 3. Leviticus • 5. Hebrews • 6. Psalms • 9. Jude • 10. Philippians • 12. James • 13. Acts • 15. Numbers • 18. Roman



VILLAGE VENTURES: Our toddler and youth groups will be taking a break over the summer. Lighthouse Stay & Play for pre-school children and their parents/carers will re-start on Tuesday 15th September in Newton Regis School, with Youth 139, resuming on Thursday 17th September in Austrey School Hall.

MISSION PARTNER FOR AUGUST: BETHESDA (LEPROSY) HOSPITAL:

Bethesda (Leprosy) Hospital continues to treat those suffering from the debilitating consequences of leprosy along with those affected by HIV/AIDS, with some government funding but mostly voluntary donations. Finances are regularly tight and there is often not enough to pay staff salaries but they place their trust in the Lord to meet their needs and rejoice that He is always faithful to His promises. If you wish to make a financial gift, please place your donation, clearly marked, in the offertory box or plate or contact the Treasurer Stephen Packham on 07810 853416 or packhamfamily@talktalk.net

Pause, Look and Listen

As part of our Eco Church journey, we recently carried out a wildlife survey during our 'Together Family Worship' in St Nicholas' churchyard, Austrey. It encouraged us simply to pause, look and listen—and we discovered just how much life surrounds us.

Between us, we saw, heard or found evidence of goldfinches, woodpigeons, blackbirds, jackdaws, swifts and a buzzard. We spotted moths, butterflies—including a tortoiseshell—bumblebees, wasps, ants, flies and daddy-longlegs. There were feathers, a nest, dead leaves, wildflowers and even a visiting cat! Ivy, nettles, blackberries, oak berries, dandelions, sycamore seeds and autumn hawkbit all help make the churchyard a rich and varied habitat.

It is amazing what we notice when we slow down. Why not take a few moments next time you visit St Nicholas' churchyard? Pause, look and listen—you may be surprised by what you discover.



BIBLE STUDY: The Bible Study course on Paul's letter to the Romans got under way on 22 July but it's still not too late to take part as it lasts for 10 weeks. Please contact the Joanne if you are interested in joining, so we can let you know where we are.

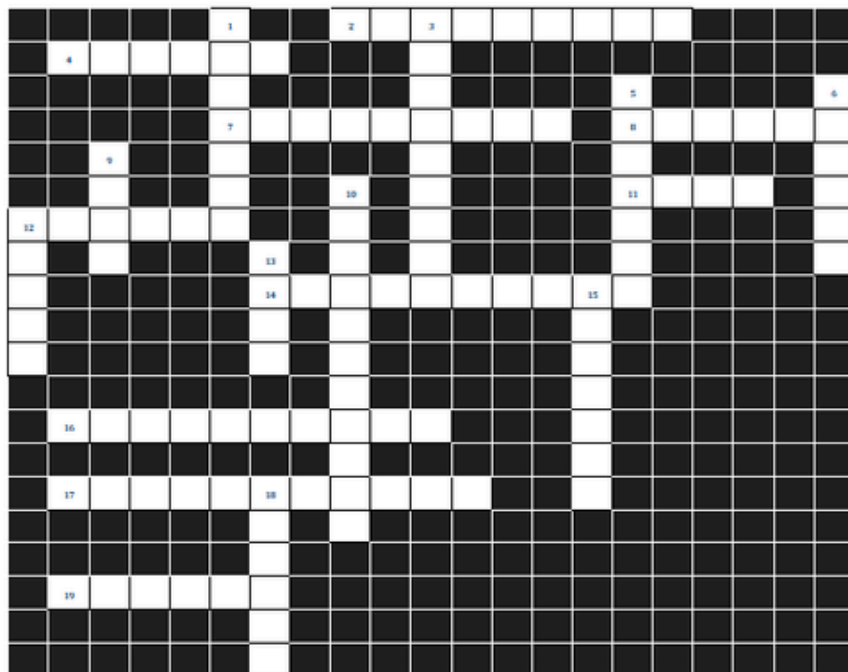


HELP WANTED: A number of folk who read the lessons or lead prayers have had to take a step back for the time being so we are looking for volunteers to fill the gaps. If interested please contact Alison Meredith on 01827 892796 or 07833 082778 or meredithalison2@gmail.com. Thank you in anticipation!

“But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.”
(2 Chronicles 15 : 7)

Books of the Bible Crossword

Write one letter in each white square. Every answer is a book of the Bible.



Across

2. Paul writes that the fruit of the Spirit includes love, joy and peace. (9)
4. A courageous queen saves her people. (6)
7. Contains teaching about the armour of God. (9)
8. Tells how Moses led God's people out of Egypt. (6)
11. A short book about loyalty, kindness and a new home. (4)
12. Includes the stories of Deborah, Gideon and Samson. (6)
14. A letter teaching that Christ is supreme over all creation. (10)
16. The final book of the Bible, full of visions and hope. (10)
17. Contains Moses' final speeches before Israel enters the Promised Land. (11)
19. Tells of Israel entering the Promised Land. (6)

Down

1. The first book of the Bible. (7)
3. A book of laws and instructions for worship. (9)
5. Describes faith as confidence in what we hope for. (7)
6. The Bible's great collection of songs and prayers. (6)
9. A one-chapter letter immediately before Revelation. (4)
10. Paul's joyful letter: "Rejoice in the Lord always." (11)
12. A practical letter teaching that faith should be shown in action. (5)
13. Tells of the early Church after Jesus' ascension. (4)
15. Named after two censuses of the Israelites. (7)
18. Paul's letter to Christians in the capital of the empire. (6)

For up to date information please consult

A Church Near You or your local church noticeboard.

Interested in a Baptism or a thanksgiving, wedding or a blessing, funeral, or memorial service? we would love to hear from you. Contact the Rector, Revd. Joanne Dyer

rector_all_souls@btinternet.com

07596933488

WHAT'S ON:

Sun 2 August 10.30 am

Baptism of Millen MacPherson
at Newton Regis

Thurs 6 August 2 - 4.00 pm

Coffee & Chat at Warton Parish
Room

Sun 16 August 9.30 - 11.30 am

Big Breakfast in Shuttington
Village Hall in aid of church
funds

Thurs 20 August 2 - 4.00 pm

Coffee & Chat at Warton Parish
Room

FUTURE DATES:

looking further ahead

Fri 18 September

Lesley Smith returns to
Seckington as

Mistress Shakespeare

In aid of All Saints Church

Sat 19th September

Harvest Bring and share Supper
at the Vicarage

Sat 26th September

Harvest Fayre
at Holy Trinity, Warton

Sat 17 October

Tamworth Rock Choir at

Shuttington In aid of St
Matthew's Church

Sat 21 November

All Souls Christmas Market
Newton Regis Village Hall

Sat 21 November

Quiz Night in Shuttington &
Alvecote Village Hall In aid of St
Matthew's Church

Fri 27 November

Newton Regis Christmas Bingo
In aid of St Mary's Church

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11: 28)