

Pew Sheet for 9th August 2026

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Sunday 9th August

9.30am Holy Communion at Eydon

10.00am Morning Prayer at Boddington

11.00am Common Worship Communion at Aston le Walls

Tuesday 11th August

ABCD Walk

Wednesday 12th August

9.45am Morning Prayer at Byfield

11.45am Prayer Group at Woodford Halse

Sunday 16th August

9.30am BCP Communion at Aston le Walls

11.00am Holy Communion at Woodford Halse

1.00pm Baptism of Enzo at Byfield

Wednesday 19th August

9.45am Holy Communion at Byfield

11.45am Prayer Group at Woodford Halse

Walk to raise money for ABCD

On 11 August six of us from the Benefice are walking 40km shared between us to raise money for the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Charity. ABCD Bethlehem aims to help to improve the lives of children with disabilities across Palestine, regardless of faith, race or gender. If you would be willing to help us please go to the Just Giving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/lesley-palmer-3?>

or speak to Lesley 07941 328535

Thank you very much!

Wonderfully Wild Churchyard trail!

Explore the wonderful **Eydon** churchyard throughout the school summer holidays.

Discover the creatures who may live there.

*Find the pictures of creatures around the church yard

*Try our churchyard treasure hunt

*Explore with one of our spotter sheets

*Use the binoculars or magnifier

*Colour and discover with an activity sheet

*Reward yourself with stickers!

In the prayer corner inside the church you will find some mini meditations.

Please leave any laminated sheets, binoculars and magnifier here for others to enjoy.

I think that most of us have been suffering from the exceptionally hot and dry summer and that most of us enjoyed the fresher weather that followed this week's rain showers, even though the showers made little impact on our gardens or the fields which surround our villages.

Recently the Psalm set for evening prayer was Psalm 63 which begins. "You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water." The Bible was written in countries where rain was scarce and water was precious. Historically this country is well known for its damp climate, and it has often suffered from too much rain more than too little. In this summer of droughts and heatwaves I found myself reading Psalm 63 with a whole new appreciation of its meaning. The Psalmist describes himself longing for God in the same way as the cracked earth and wilted plants are longing for water and recently I have found myself reflecting on whether my relationship with God is as important to me as water is to someone who finds themselves lost in a desert.

Jesus once asked a Samaritan woman that he met at a well for a drink of water and then offered to give her living water to permanently quench her thirst. In the Bible living water is often used as a metaphor for God, who brings and sustains life, in much the same way as water poured out in a desert brings a whole new flowering of life because plants put out new shoots and seeds that have lain dormant begin to germinate. As we wait for an end to the current drought perhaps it is worth reflecting on how God could bring new life to the parched, dry places of our lives, and as we long for enough rain to refresh and renew our gardens let's pray that God will send the living water of the Holy Spirit to refresh and renew our churches and our souls.

Every blessing
Clare

Bishop Alex will be coming to Woodford on 18th October for a confirmation service. This will be one of his first commitments in the diocese after being installed as Bishop of Brixworth towards the end of September. If there is anyone from across the benefice who is not confirmed and who would like to join Chris and Colin from Woodford in publicly affirming their faith at this service, please speak to Clare for more information.

Sunday

9 August 2026

Tenth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble
servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall
please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:9-18

A reading from the first book of Kings.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever

escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Or **Genesis 37:1-4. 12-28**

PSALM Psalm 85:8-13

R Show us your mercy, O Lord.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace to his people
and to the faithful, that they turn not
again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who
fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and truth are met together,
righteousness and peace have kissed
each other;
Truth shall spring up from the earth
and righteousness look down from
heaven. **R**

The Lord will indeed give all that is
good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him
and direct his steps in the way. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 10:5-15

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous

to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust
in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Show us your mer-cy, O Lord.