



Sunday 23 August 2026

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Services in the Parish

- 8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/
StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)
- 9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**
President - Revd Sally Goodson; Preacher – Revd Mark Rodel
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen
- 10.00am **Holy Communion at All Saints'**
President & Preacher - Revd James Brown
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet
- 11.30am **Morning Praise with Prayer Stations at St Nicholas'**
Leaders – Chris Powell & Jackie Major

NO EVENSONG AT ST NICHOLAS' DURING AUGUST

Contact details

Parish Office T: 01582 765524 E: office@parishofharpenden.org

For any pastoral concerns contact any one of the Parish Clergy or Pastoral Care Team

Revd Patrick Moriarty T: 07376 661041

E: rector@parishofharpenden.org

Revd Sally Goodson T: 01582 712754

E: vicar@stmarysharpenden.org

Revd James Brown T: 01582 363789

E: vicar@allsaintsharpenden.org

Chris Powell T: 01582 764930 (Pastoral Care Coordinator)

E: pastoralcare@parishofharpenden.org

You can also find information on www.parishofharpenden.org

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK

MONDAY - FRIDAY

10.00am - 2.00pm

Collects, Readings, Psalm, Gospel and Post-Communion Prayer

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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.

ALTERNATIVE COLLECT

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING Isaiah 51.1–6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

SECOND READING Romans 12.1–8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan Topic for the Week: Going deeper into God: Those who attend Julian and other Contemplative Prayer groups

The Sick: Gill Scarlett

The Recently Departed: Hil Le Riche, Jamie Wise, Isabel Greenwood, Andrew Brett

First Anniversary of Death: Jean Bygrave, Peter Seager, Gill Ingram

Those getting married: Alia Fletcher and Joe Ewers

PSALM 138

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my / whole / heart; ◇ before the gods will / I sing / praise to / you.

I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name, because of your / love and / faithfulness; ◇ for you have glorified your name / and your / word above / all things.

In the day that / I called to you, you / answered / me; ◇ you / put new / strength in my / soul. All the kings of the earth shall / praise you, O / Lord, ◇ for they have / heard the / words of your / mouth.

They shall sing of the / ways of the / Lord, ◇ that great is the / glory / of the / Lord.

Though the Lord be high, he watches / over the / lowly; ◇ as for the proud, he re/gards them / from a/far.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, / you · will pre/serve me; ◇ you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; / your right / hand will / save me.

The Lord shall make good his / purpose / for me; ◇ your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever; for/sake · not the / work of your / hands.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.13–20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy, in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

CLERGY AND MINISTERS CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR YOU AND FOR THE PRAYER

LIST for the parish. If you have anyone you would like to add to the prayer list, contact the parish office or the clergy.

Parish Notices

THANK YOU TO REVD SALLY GOODSON. Sally’s last Sunday at St Mary’s before her retirement is 4 October. We know many will wish to show their appreciation for the amazing contribution Sally has made across the parish during her time here. We’re encouraging you to make a donation to a ‘farewell’ fund. You can do this easily in one of two ways. Either via a bank transfer using the following details: sort code: 40-23-11 account number: 41495518. Account name: St Nicholas PCC – Operating (or ‘St Nicholas PCC’ is preferred by some banks). Reference: [add your surname] / Sally. Alternatively, you can write a cheque [payable to: “St Nicholas PCC – operating”] or give cash to the parish office.

Parish Notices

PARISH WALK: St Mary's Eco Church group invite you to join them for a walk on Sunday 23 August. We will meet at 2pm outside St John's Church, on St John's Road to walk via Childwickbury down to Batchwood and return to St John's.

THANK YOU TO PAULINE GILBERT If you wish to show your appreciation for the work Pauline has done in the Parish Office over many years you can make a donation to a 'farewell' fund, either via a bank transfer using the following details: Sort code: 40-23-11 Account number: 41495518. Account name: St Nicholas PCC – Operating (or 'St Nicholas PCC' is preferred by some banks). Reference: [add your surname] / Pauline. Alternatively, you can write a cheque [payable to: "St Nicholas PCC – Operating"] or give cash to the Parish Office. We will present this to Pauline after the joint service at St Nicholas' on Sunday 30 August.

JOINT SERVICE TEA AND CAKE SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 11.15AM We are planning tea and cake to share after the joint 10am parish service as we say farewell to Pauline, please come along and join us. **The helpers list is available at the back of all 3 churches for sign up.** We need servers and people to clear up. We are asking people to bring along a cake on the day – please list the ingredients in case of allergies. If you are unable to come on the day you can drop a cake off in Cornelia's on Saturday 29 August between 10am-12noon. Please do help if you are able. Contact jane.parker19@btinternet.com with any questions.

CORNELIA'S WILL CONTINUE TO OPEN THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS, 10am till noon Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Please come and join us for coffee, homemade cakes and a friendly welcome. All profits go to charities.

TUESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP will start up again on 25 August, 2.30pm in the Cunningham Room, St Nicholas' Church Halls. Studying the Lord's Prayer, using a video and Pete Grieg's book on prayer.

ANNUAL GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE SERVICE will take place on Saturday 5 September at 3pm, in the Garden of St Nicholas' Church (weather permitting; indoors if raining). Tea, cake and biscuits will be served in the hall following on from the service.

THE DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS is currently advertising the following vacancies:

- PA to the Archdeacon of Hertford – Part Time (based in Hertingfordbury)
- Giving Communications Assistant – Part Time (would suit uni/college leaver)
- Property and Trust Adviser – Full Time

Further details on our website on the links below:

<https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies/pa-to-the-archdeacon-of-hertford-2026/>

<https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies/giving-communications-assistant/>

<https://www.stalbansdiocese.org/vacancies/property-and-trusts-adviser/>

BIKE 'n HIKE EVENT IS ON SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR. This event hopes to raise over £110,000 each year to help maintain churches of all denominations in this area, all proceeds to Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust. Please consider getting sponsored to walk or cycle to visit as many churches as you can on this day. If you want to participate please go to the Trust's website: www.bedshertshct.org.uk and download the Sponsor Form and List of Churches. For further information please contact the following:

St Nicholas: Jean McIntosh (07940 400263) jeanmcintosh41@gmail.com

All Saints: Pete Lovell (07800 858671) petel0vell@yahoo.co.uk

St Mary's: Olive Hayward (01582 769606) olive.hayward@hotmail.com

MOTHERS' UNION IN ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR, has been set a challenge to raise more money for its Worldwide work. The Parish of Harpenden branch are taking over Cornelia's on Saturday 12 September (10-12noon), together with having a cake stall. Please help us raise more funds by donating a home-made cake (list of ingredients required in case of allergies) and bring along on the day after 9.30am or if baking isn't your thing, come and buy refreshments. Your support would be much appreciated! Thank you

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY QUIZ, ON SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER, 7 FOR 7.30 PM, IN ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH HALL You will be very pleased to read there will be no rise in ticket prices (!) for this event. Please book £12 tickets with Delia on 01582 460100, or via email: deliabonner@btinternet.com. Do try to come along - and perhaps bring a team - for a fun evening (with great raffle prizes too)!

PARISH GIVING: If you do not already make a regular donation to the Parish, please consider doing so. It is now easier than ever to set up a Direct Debit with The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Follow this link



<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/harpenden-st-nicholas-st-albans/> or simply scan the QR code from your mobile device. Any queries can be sent to Claire Petevinos: giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org

ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Children intending to apply to St George's Secondary School are advised to submit a clergy reference form with their application. The school gives priority to children with a clergy reference. *Please note:*

- *The School requires church attendance at least once per calendar month for each of the 24 months prior to the date of application for a school place.*
- *St George's School Governors set the admissions policy, not the Church. Queries about the policy or the process, or about your child's application, should be addressed to the admissions team at the School.*
- *It is parents' responsibility to check the admissions requirements and ensure they meet them*

To ensure we can give this reference, a Record of Attendance should be completed for 2 years prior to date of application (i.e. during school Years 4 and 5). You can pick up a blank copy from any of our three churches. The School website provides further details of the admissions criteria. The school will consider applications without a clergy reference but through a separate admissions category.

PARISH OF HARPENDEN CLERGY REFERENCES ('CHURCH FORMS') FOR APPLICATIONS TO ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

St George's School Harpenden requires those applying for places (under the 'Church Attendance' category) to obtain a Clergy Reference to meet the school's admissions requirements. The Parish of Harpenden (St Nicholas', St Mary's, All Saints' Churches) does not set the requirements, and we have no involvement in the Admissions Process, but we are happy to supply references confirming applicants' involvement in Church life. These are based on the 'Passport' – the family-held record of your attendance at services over the past 24 months. You are responsible for this passport as we have no other records of attendance.

Please note St George's School Governors set the admissions policy, not the Church. Queries about the policy or the process, or about your child's application, should be addressed to the admissions team at the school. The school requires church attendance at least once per calendar month for each of the 24 months prior to the date of application for a school place. It is parents' responsibility to check the admissions requirements and ensure they meet them

To help us deal with requests for clergy references efficiently, we ask parents/guardians to send the following documents by email to

clergyreferences@parishofharpenden.org by **Tuesday 6 October 2026**:

- A completed 'Request for Clergy Reference' Form (available at the back of each church, via the Parish website or from the parish office by email) and
- A scanned colour copy of your child's completed record of church attendance ('Passport').

Completed clergy references (Church Form) may be collected from the Parish Office by parents/guardians on **Saturday 10 October 2026 between 10am and 12noon**.

Please do not fill in and send the Church Form provided by the school as we will do this for you based on the information you supply on the 'Request for Clergy Reference' Form.

Please contact the parish office by email

at clergyreferences@parishofharpenden.org or by phone (01582 765524) if you have queries or difficulties.

St Nicholas' Church Notices

MUSIC

9.30am

Parish Eucharist

Setting

Thorne - Mass of St Thomas

Hymns

599 Thine for ever; 426 Firmly I believe and truly;

563 Rejoice, the Lord is King; 607 Thy kingdom come, O God



OUR 9.30AM SERVICE IS NORMALLY LIVE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK (and is available as a recorded service afterwards). We are a public page, and you do not have to sign up to Facebook to access, just keep saying no to joining until you get to the page (<https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden>). Any problems, do contact us.

BIKE 'N HIKE SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER. People are needed to sit outside St Nicholas' Church from 9am to welcome participants. Please contact Jean McIntosh 07940400263 or 761362 or email jeanmcintosh41@gmail.com if you can volunteer to do an hourly stint.

RECEIVING COMMUNION: ADVICE AND REMINDERS If you are receiving communion standing, please feel able to take or guide the chalice with your own hands - it is easier both for you and for the chalice assistant. If you are at the left hand side at 9.30, please come up to receive one at a time (bread/blessing, then wine if desired) rather than forming a row. A reminder not to dip the bread into the wine - this is for reasons of hygiene and to protect those who must avoid gluten. If you take only the bread - as is common in many Roman Catholic churches - you have fully received the sacrament.

All Saints' Church Notices

Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com



COME AND GIVE THANKS FOR THE LIFE OF HIL LE RICHE on Thursday 27 August at 12.30pm and stay for refreshments in the hall when we can share our memories of her. (Dress: smart casual)

CHURCH PICNIC SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER, 12 NOON. Bring your own picnic and join in the fun after the service on the 6 September, in the church garden. Chairs and tables will be out but bring your own / picnic blankets if you would rather. Soft drinks are provided.

HARVEST LUNCH 4 OCTOBER - After the service at Harvest Festival there will be a bring a share lunch. Please put the date in your diary and look out for more details to come.

SAVE THE DATE - ALL SAINTS' DAY IS SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER. We will have a hot lunch together after a special service that day. Please save the date and look out for more details.

St Mary's Church Notices

TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION – 1 & 15 September



11AM SERVICE ON FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: numbers at this service have become very small, and no longer viable; so, after consultation with DCC and the wider parish, this service will no longer happen. 6 September will be a 9.30am Family Communion service for our patronal festival, and 4 October will be a 9.30am Family Communion service for Harvest. From November, there will be only one service on the first Sunday of each month. This will be our 'First Sunday' service which has shown growth in numbers over the last year.

CHRISTMAS CARD: Could you help with our Christmas Card design for 2026 - we print a card to go out to all houses in our district with details of our Christmas services. We also have Christmas Cards printed for sale.

If you would like to use your creative skills in this way, please contact Sally.



What's on this Week

Tuesday 25

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

Wednesday 26

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas'

10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas'

12.30pm Funeral of the late Jamie Wise at St Nicholas'

Thursday 27

12.30pm Funeral of the late Hil Le Riche at All Saints' – see Church Notices

Saturday 29

12noon Wedding of Alia Fletcher and Joe Ewers at St Nicholas'

Sunday 30 August – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00am **Joint Parish Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/
StNicholasChurchHarpندن](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpندن)

1.30pm Wedding of Neve Goodbun and Issa Berjaoui at St Nicholas'

NO OTHER SERVICES IN THE PARISH ON 30 AUGUST

Readings Jeremiah 15.15-21 Romans 12.9-21 Matthew 16.21-28