

Parish News: 4th October 2026

♥ Dear Church Family,

As we gather on Sunday, October 4th, we step into the fresh rhythm of autumn and the changing of the seasons.

This week, our Gospel reading from the Lectionary brings us to Jesus' Parable of the Wicked Tenants (**Matthew 21:33–46**):

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes." — Matthew 21:42

🙏 Our Prayers

We hold Reverend Steven Young in prayer, asking God for strength, comfort, and ongoing progress in his recovery. We also pray for healing for Father Matthew and his son, Christian. May God protect Reverend Steven and his family as he leads our parish, blessing his ministry for years to come.

Lord, we thank You deeply for Reverend Louise—for her dedicated service, compassionate heart, and bright presence in our community. Grant her good health, time to rest with her family, and Your peace. May she always feel supported by the love she gives so freely.

Amen.

🏛️ Our Sunday Services: October 4th

- **9:15 am** | St Nicholas: Holy Communion
- **9:30 am** | Holy Cross: Holy Communion, Holy Baptism
- **9:30 am** | St Michael: Holy Communion
- **11:15 am** | All Saints: Holy Communion

Weekday Eucharist, Prayers & Open Church

- **Monday, October 5th:** 9:30 am Morning Prayer, All Saints
- **Tuesday, October 6th:** 12:00-2:00 pm Lunchtime Prayers at All Saints
- **Tuesday, October 6th:** 3:00 pm Holy Communion with Songs of Praise and Pop-up Cafe, Holy Cross
- **Wednesday, October 7th:** 10:00 am Holy Communion, St Nicholas
- **Thursday, October 8th:** 9:30 am Morning Prayer, St Nicholas
- **Thursday, October 8th:** 3:00 pm Holy Communion with Songs of Praise, St Michael and All Angels
- **Friday, October 9th:** **Open Church at All Saints cancelled**

***Can you spare an hour?** We are always looking for volunteers to keep our beautiful churches open to the public during the week. If you can help, please get in touch with Reverend Steven for details: email rector.eabw@gmail.com or reply to this email with "Volunteer" in the Subject line.*

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday, October 18th:** Godparent Sunday, *"The Shape of Love"*, a special service of Holy Communion and Thanksgiving for Godparents, with all your favourite hymns. *RSVP:* Reverend Louise Collins | Email: louise.collins59@hotmail.com
- **Sunday, November 29th, 10:00 am:** Parish Service at All Saints. Presided by The Right Reverend Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of St Albans.

A Moment of Reflection

In Matthew 21:33–46, Jesus shares a striking parable about a landowner who equips a vineyard with everything it needs and leases it to tenants. Yet, when harvest time comes, the tenants reject his messengers and kill his son to take the vineyard for themselves.

This passage challenges us to consider our own roles as stewards of God's grace and blessings:

- **Recognising the Landowner:** Everything we have—our lives, talents, time, and community—belongs to God. We are caretakers called to nurture what He has entrusted to us.
- **Bearing Good Fruit:** Are we offering God a harvest of love, kindness, justice, and faithfulness in our everyday lives?
- **Christ the Cornerstone:** Human rejection could not stop God's plan. Even when we fall short, Christ remains our solid foundation, inviting us to turn back to Him and build anew.

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit rest upon you and those you love this week and always.

With every blessing,

Alana,

On behalf of the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood

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