The Parish of Mill End and Heronsgate with West Hyde

Third Sunday before Advent: 8th November 2026

Welcome!
Hearing Loop - A hearing loop system is installed at St Thomas' and St Peter's Churches, please set your hearing aid to the 'T' setting.
Large Print Service Booklets & pewsheets are also available – please ask the sidesperson if you would prefer one.
Gluten Free Wafers - Please let a sidesperson know if you require a Gluten Free communion wafer before the start of the service.

ENTRANCE HYMN: A&M 769 *omit vs 5

COLLECT: Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

NEW TESTAMENT READING*:* *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

13We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those
who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through
Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15For this we declare to
you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the
coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16For
the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with
the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in
Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up
in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will
be with the Lord for ever. 18Therefore encourage one another with these
words.

This is the word of the Lord

GRADUAL HYMN: A&M 30

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 25: 1-13*

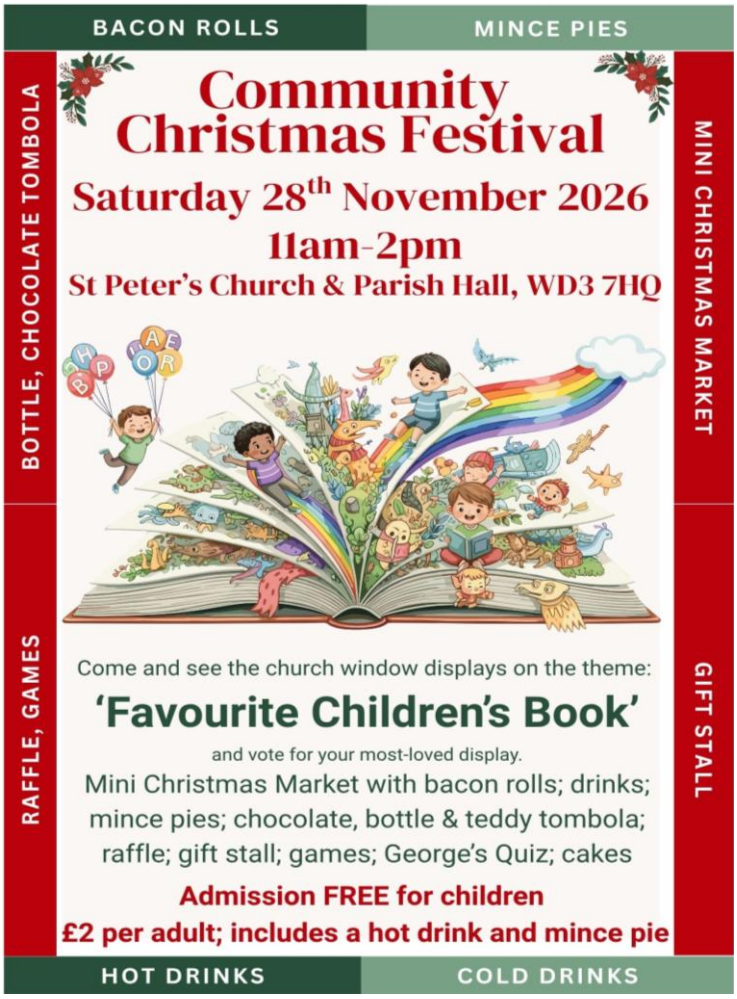
Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 1'The kingdom of heaven will be
like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the
foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks
of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became
drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him." 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and
trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out." 9But the wise replied, "No! there will not be
enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some

for yourselves.” [10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. [11]Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” [12]But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” [13]Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.’

OFFERTORY HYMN: A&M 57

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: A&M 546





A Prayer for Ukraine



God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Our churches have a candle lit, asking for the intercession of Blessed Mary for the people of Ukraine and all caught up in this conflict. The candles will remain lit and our prayers will continue whilst the war rages.

Diary for this week:

Mon 9th November	8.00pm Symeons meet in the Parish Hall
Tue 10th November *Leo the Great, bishop*	9.30-11am St Peter's Toddlers meet in the Parish Hall
Wed 11th November *Martin, bishop. Armistice Day*	9.30am Said Eucharist at St Peter's
Sun 15th November *Second Sunday before Advent*	9.30am Said Eucharist at St Thomas' 9.30am Said Eucharist at St John's 11.00am Sung Eucharist at St Peter's

All items for inclusion in the weekly pewsheet must be forwarded to the parish office by Thursday morning at the latest.

The Why? Group – We meet fortnightly on a Wednesday, 12.30pm for a simple lunch, bible study and discussion. Our next meeting will be Wed 11th November. Enquiries via the Parish Office. All welcome, always

Jo Neal party – many of you will know Jo, she is a regular at Symeons Socials and church activities. Jo is having a party for her birthday and would like to invite anyone who knows her to be there. Saturday 14th November 7.30-11pm in the Parish Hall. RSVP to Jo 07701 097409

Symeons Quiz – the ever-popular quiz night is back, Saturday 21st November in the Parish Hall, 7pm for prompt 7.30 start. £20 per person which includes a delicious 2 course supper. Please order your tickets from Tony Funnell (07876 133199) or John Ridgeway (07702 213827).

Annual Christmas Festival – Saturday 28th November 11am-2pm. Please see flyers for donation requests and sign up to help on the sheet at the back of St Peter's.

Sunday 29th November – our 5th Sunday service this time will be our Advent Sunday service, 10.30am at St Peter's followed by a Bring and Share lunch

Junior Church – after this Sunday, the next meeting will be Sunday 6th December, during the 11am All Age & Band Service at St Peter's; please invite any families with children to join us.

Christmas Choir - We would love to invite extra singers to join the Choir for St Peters Carol Service on Christmas Eve at 6pm. Rehearsals will take place on Thursdays 3rd /10th /17th December from 8pm-9.30pm (latest) and at 4.30pm on the afternoon before the service.

Salvation Army Christmas Toy Collection – we are once again taking part in the 'Be a Star' Christmas toy campaign collecting new toys for children & teens. Our Toy collection services will be on Sunday 6th December at St Thomas' & St Peter's Churches. Let this be another bumper year of donations. More details of what to give on the flyers in church.

Prayers*:*
For the **sick at home or in hospital**, especially those on our sick list – *Rev'd Canon David Smith, Lynsey Austin, Ben Austin, Maria Mason, Johanne Watson, David Gasper, Nigel Bunce, Sylvia Ball*, *Michael Ansell, Val Fear*, *Alison Sealy, Sylvia Carter, Raymond Williamson, Alan Wills, Duncan Woods.*
For the **repose of the souls of:** *Seamus Kelly* **and those whose anniversaries fall at this time:** *John Bailey, Mary Rabbitts, Daphne Tilley, Nesta Williams, Beryl Andrews, Doris Thompson, Andrew Steel.*
Please let us know if anyone is sick, in hospital, bereaved or in need of a visit**:** Mark Harris, vicar 💻marknzharris@gmail.com or Elaine, Parish Office ☎01923 772785, 💻**office.parish@btinternet.com** (office open – Mon-Fri 9am-12pm) Web site: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-180BX/

Do You Need Help? If you need help of any sort, no matter how small, please contact your Pastoral Care co-ordinators and they will put you in touch with someone who will do what they can to help you.
St. Peter's: Dianne Harris 01923 283600(h) 07887 387222(m)
dianneharris@live.co.uk
St. Thomas's: Elizabeth Woods 01923 462618(h) 07752 416434(m)
elizabethannwoods37@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Safeguarding (ensuring the care and welfare of children and vulnerable adults) is a responsibility we all share. There are information cards at the back of church which you are welcome to pick up which give useful information: contact numbers and websites for information and support. Parish Safeguarding Officer: safeguarding@mehwh.org.uk