



The Parish of St. Peter, Bushey Heath September 2025



From the vicar

I am in the process of collecting intentions for the September pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. One of the marks of a good and effective pilgrimage is the prayerful connection that is made between the pilgrim and the life of the shrine centred on the grace of God as it is seen in the witness of our Lady.

Pilgrims are reminded on their visit of the annunciation of our Lord to Mary of Nazareth. The story is told once again of the visit of the archangel Gabriel to that little house, recreated so wonderfully within the Shrine Church, and of Mary's curious, fearful, and yet faithful response. Those of us who travel to that sacred place do so for many reasons, not least to be reminded of the story and to be inspired by it. This is the point at which heaven and earth, human and divine are conjoined. We do so in the company of others as pilgrimage is a corporate, social act, but in contrast we also find ourselves granted space to rest in the peace and tranquillity which Walsingham offers. Both are a gift.

We may also seek healing and renewal for ourselves and others which is why a conscious effort to make an intention for the pilgrimage is beneficial. Those we leave behind may also ask for our prayers and we can, in charity, add theirs to our own. In part that is what I am doing now. When the intercessions are offered at the Shrine and when I light candles in the Holy House I offer all the prayers which have been asked of me and all the prayers which a parish priest offers for his people and parish. This prayer lies at the heart of the pilgrimage not least because I know that my prayers are joined with those of our Lady.

Pilgrimage highlights are the processions of the Blessed Sacrament and our Lady; benediction, the sprinkling with holy water from the well in the Shrine Church and the opportunity for confession, the laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil with prayer for healing. Stations of the Cross and Intercessions in the Holy House are also offered, with all these liturgies centred around the Pilgrim Mass on Wednesday at 12 noon, a special privilege this year as it falls on the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham.

If you wish to share any intentions with me please feel free to do so between now and 21st September. All intentions remain completely confidential. Please pray for me too as I lead the pilgrimage with those from St. Peter's, Holy Cross (Marsh Farm, Luton) and St. Martin's (Bedford).



St. Hugh's, Banbury

Ruskin Road, Banbury, OX16 9HU.

The parish of St. Hugh, Banbury invite you to the Collation, Induction and Installation of the Reverend Thomas Singh as Vicar on Monday 29th September at 7.30pm and to a reception after the service.

Please inform Father Andrew by 14th September if you wish to attend.

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for all who are unsettled by current events. Remember especially those who lack moral judgement, those who despise their neighbour and those who do not have the grace and foresight afforded by faith in Jesus.

Continue to pray too for the peoples of the Near East, Ukraine and Russia that a lasting peace may be found in each area of conflict. Remember all those countries beset by blood-shed in different parts of the globe.

From the diary...

Usual Sunday services: 8.00am Holy Communion; 9.30am Parish Mass

Sunday 31st August

Wednesday 3rd September, 10.00am

Friday 5th September, 7.00pm

Saturday 6th September, 7.00pm

Sunday 7th September

Wednesday 10th September, 10.00am

Friday 12th September, 7.00pm

Saturday 13th September, 10.00am

Sunday 14th September

Trinity 11

Mass (*St. Gregory, Pope, Doctor*)

Mass

Quiz Night in the Parish Hall

Trinity 12

Mass

Mass

Church cleaning

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

In addition to services at 8am and 9.30am: Family Service at 11.15am.

Wednesday 17th September, 10.00am

8.00pm

Thursday 18th September, 7.30pm

Friday 19th September, 7.00pm

Sunday 21st September

Tuesday 23rd to Thursday 25th September: Pilgrimage to Walsingham

No midweek services, Wednesday 24th or Friday 26th

Saturday 27th September, 12.30pm

Sunday 28th September

Monday 29th September, 7.30pm

Wednesday 1st October, 10.00am

Friday 3rd October, 7.00pm

Sunday 5th October

Trinity 14

Tuesday 23rd to Thursday 25th September: Pilgrimage to Walsingham

No midweek services, Wednesday 24th or Friday 26th

Wedding (Lydia Farley and Tim Squires)

Trinity 15

Licensing of Fr. Thomas Singh at St. Hugh's, Banbury

Mass (*St. Therese of Lisieux*)

Mass

Trinity 16

Church cleaning

Saturday 13th September has been set aside for giving the church its Autumn clean. If you are able to join us between 10.00am and 12 noon we will be able to get a lot done. Feel free to bring with you any equipment which you would find useful. If you are unable to come at that time feel free to book a different slot with Fr. Andrew as there will always be something that needs doing!

The Feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross

Mass for the Feast of Title

Saturday 13th September, 7.00pm at Holy Cross, Marsh Farm.

Celebrant and preacher: Father Andrew Burton SSC (*Vicar of St. Peter, Bushey Heath*)

Followed by refreshments

Prayer Request from the Churches in Gaza City

The churches of St. Porphyrius and the Holy Family in Gaza urgently need the support of fellow Christians as the Israeli invasion of the city approaches. Whilst civilians have been ordered to leave for the southern part of the Gaza strip, many who are elderly or disabled will be unable to do so. Malnourishment and weakness make travel impossible. For this reason the clergy and nuns have decided to remain. Together they will face the coming days.

Please pray with them and for them, for their safety and for that of those in their care. This will be our special intention, and that of many churches, on Sunday 21st September.

Contact details:

Vicar: Fr. Andrew Burton SSC, a priest of the Society. (020 8950 1424). Usual day off Monday.

Churchwardens: Mr. Simon Farley (020 8950 4073) and Mr. Tony Quinn (07786 332654)

www.stpeterbusheyheath.org.uk / www.achurchnearyou.com