

THE NEWSLETTER

The Lyddington Benefice

The Parishes of
Bisbrooke, Caldecott, Glaston, Harringworth,
Lyddington, Stoke Dry, Seaton and Thorpe by Water

The Lyddington Benefice is currently in vacancy.

Contacts

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October 2026



The Harvesters

Pieter Bruegel the Elder 1565

St Francis of Assisi

Earlier this year, for the first time in 800 years, the mortal remains of St Francis were publicly displayed for veneration at the Basilica of St Francis in Assisi, Italy. Nearly half a million pilgrims registered to visit for this rare event. I didn't go. In truth, I'm not particularly drawn to that kind of devotion, though I have a great affection for St Francis and for Assisi, and I look forward to celebrating his feast on 4th October.

St Francis has often been cited as a saint for our own day because of his special sense of kinship with the environment: he called the animals and the natural world his brothers and sisters (you might like to look up his Canticum of the Creatures). He also famously gave up a rich-man's lifestyle and deliberately embraced social outcasts, which contrasts with the rampant consumerism that affects us all.



A less well known, but equally important aspect of Francis' ministry was his willingness to cross the divides that separate people from each other. During the Fifth Crusade he crossed enemy lines to meet with the Muslim Sultan Malik al-Kamil in a gesture of peace and respect. Perhaps this is why the wonderful prayer-poem Make me a channel of your peace has often been ascribed to him. Although this is a false attribution – the poem originated in France in the early 20th century – it is a beautiful and timely text for us to take to heart. This October, and always, may we be messengers and ministers of love, healing, hope, light, joy, pardon and consolation.

With every blessing,



The Rt Revd Alex Hughes, Bishop of Brixworth

Thursday Morning Prayer Group at 8 Windmill Way, Lyddington,

Please contact 01572 821202 for details of meetings

**There is a coffee morning at 6 Colley Rise following the service on the first Thursday of each month.
All are welcome**

Common Lectionary Readings for October 2026

October 2026

Harvest Readings

Deuteronomy 8.7-18 or Deuteronomy 28.1-14; Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9.6-15;
Luke 12.16-30 or Luke 17.11-19

4 October: Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 22)

Green

Isaiah 5. 1-7; Psalm 80. 9 – 17; Philippians 3. 4b-14; Matthew 21. 33-end

11 October: Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 23)

Green

Isaiah 25. 1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4. 1-9; Matthew 22. 1 – 14

18 October: St Luke the Evangelist

Red

Isaiah 35.3-6 or Acts 16.6-12a; Psalm 147.1-7; 2 Timothy 4.5-17; Luke 10.1-9

25 October: Last Sunday after Trinity (Proper 25)

Green

Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-8; Matthew 22. 34-end

Or **Bible Sunday**

Nehemiah 8. 1-4a [5-6]8 – 12; Psalm 119. 9 – 16; Colossians 3. 12 – 17; Matthew 24.30-35

November 2026

1st November: All Saints' Day

White

Revelation 7. 9 – end; Psalm 34. 1 – 10; 1 John 3. 1 – 3; Matthew 5.1-12

Services in The Lyddington Benefice: October 2026

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th Sunday
	4th October Trinity 18	11th October Trinity 19	18th October Trinity 20	25th October Trinity 21	1st November All Saints' Day
Bisbrooke	<i>No Service</i> Services at Caldecott, Harringworth & Glaston	6.00pm Evening Prayer & Harvest celebration WL	11.00am Holy Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	9.30am Gathered Church WL	<i>No Service</i> Services at Caldecott, Harringworth & Glaston
Caldecott	9.30am Parish Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	11.00am Family Service & Harvest Festival WL	6.00pm Evening Prayer WL/CW	<i>No Service</i> Services at Harringworth and Lyddington	9.30am Parish Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders
Glaston	4.30pm Harvest Celebration WL	11.00am Holy Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	<i>No service</i> Services at Seaton & Bisbrooke	11.00am Gathered Church WL	11.00am Morning Prayer WL
Harringworth	11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving The Ven Alison Booker	10.00am Family Service WL/CW	<i>No service</i> Services at Seaton & Bisbrooke	9.30am Parish Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	<i>No service</i> Services at Caldecott and Glaston
Lyddington	6.00pm Compline WL	<i>No Service</i> Communion Service at Glaston	<i>No service</i> Services at Seaton & Bisbrooke	11.00am Parish Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	6.00pm Compline WL
Seaton	<i>No Service</i> Services at Caldecott & Glaston	9.30am Morning Prayer WL	9.30am Sung Holy Communion Rev'd Jo Saunders	11.00am Family Service WL	<i>No Service</i> Services at Caldecott & Glaston
Stoke Dry	6.00pm Harvest Thanksgiving Rev'd Andrew Birks	<i>No service</i> Communion at Glaston and all villages	<i>No service</i> Services at Seaton & Bisbrooke	<i>No Service</i> Services at Harringworth and Lyddington	<i>No service</i>

For all the saints!

For all the saints, who from their labours rest
Who thee by faith before the world confessed
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed
Alleluia, Alleluia!

William Walsham Howe

As Bishop Alex has noted at the beginning of this Newsletter, **St Francis of Assisi** is celebrated on the 4th October: if you have glanced at the service plan you will have seen that **St Luke**, Apostle and Evangelist, is

celebrated on 18th October. This falls on a Sunday this year and as a “red letter saint”, he takes precedence on that day. Medieval scribes and early church compilers used red ink (rubrics) on calendars to highlight important holy days, major feast days, and celebrations dedicated to foundational figures like Apostles and Evangelists.

Various other people are commemorated during October. Here are a few of them. On October 6th it is the turn of **William Tyndale**. Born in Gloucestershire in the early 1490s, he went on to translate the Bible into English directly from the original texts. His intention was to make the scriptures available to as many people as possible. This carried a great personal risk, and he was eventually arrested near Brussels and put to death on 6th October 1536.

Paulinus was sent to Kent by Gregory the Great in 601 to support the missionary work of Augustine to the Anglo-Saxons. His life is remembered on 10th October. He was later Ordained Bishop of York in 625 and later began to build a cathedral at York. This work was cut short by political difficulties and battles, so Paulinus returned to the south and served as Bishop of Rochester until his death in 644.

Edward the Confessor, the son of Ethelred II (the Unready) has his day on 13th October. In a time of great political turbulence, his death in 1066 immediately preceded the Battle of Hastings. Earlier, he had made a vow to make a pilgrimage to St Peter’s tomb in Rome. This proved impossible, so the vow was commuted to a vow to build a monastery dedicated to St Peter. Thus began the building of Westminster Abbey, though Edward was too ill to attend its consecration.

Henry Martyn is remembered on 19th October. He was born in Truro in 1781, educated at Truro Grammar School and then St John’s College, Cambridge. After ordination, he served as curate at Lolworth, Cambridgeshire. He was later appointed a chaplain by the East India Company, working in India for six years. Ill-health meant a decision to return home, travelling by a somewhat circuitous route. He fell acutely ill en route to Damascus and died at Tokat.

James Hannington was born at Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, in 1847. He worked in business and served in the army before going to St Mary’s Hall, Oxford, to train for Anglican ministry. He was ordained in 1874 and served at Martinhoe, Devon, and Darley Abbey, Derbyshire. He then served with the Church Missionary Society in Buganda – part of present-day Uganda. On his first tour of duty in 1882-3 he was beset by various illnesses, necessitating a return home. He was later consecrated bishop to serve the diocese of Eastern Equatorial Africa. Here he was much loved and respected by his fellow missionaries. In 1885 he travelled back to inland Buganda. There had been a change of leadership and he and his party were not well received. They were put to death on 29th October 1885.

These and many, many more, both known and unknown, are celebrated on 1st November – **All Saints’ Day**.

From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Village News

BISBROOKE

Friday October 9th is Harvest Supper, 7 for 7.30pm in the church. Baked potatoes and various fillings, Salads and Seasonal puddings. Cost £12.50, children £5. Bring your own drink and please consider a donation for the food bank. Please message Olwen, Katie or Sue W, to reserve a place. Decorating the church will be on Thursday morning at 09.30 if anyone would like to assist. Also any offers of puddings would be gratefully received.

Final Friday for October will be a fundraiser for the Air Ambulance. Bring your own drink and enjoy Pizza for a £10 donation for this worthy cause.

Church flowers for October are in the care of Penny Armitage and Beverage.
Cleaning is Clare Heath and Suzie Colliss

October coffee morning is at Jennifer Parsons, Glaston Road.

CALDECOTT

DATES:-

Thursday 1ST-Ladies Group 7.30pm talk by John Richmond on 200 years of the railway 1825-2025; visitors welcome.

Wednesday 28th 7.30pm 100 club draw in the Plough.

The VILLAGE HALL committee is short of members and would welcome anyone interested in joining the current small group to keep our lovely hall in order. Contact June on 01536 770046 for more information.

The free coffee morning with Barista coffee and hot drinks continues to meet at the Hall on 30th September, and 14th October. Why not come along for a chat between 10.30am-midday.

CHURCH news-the services continue as before on 3 Sundays a month. Notices of times are on the church boards.

October 11th at 11am will be the Harvest Thanksgiving when gifts of produce and flowers will decorate the church; after the service they will be sold in aid of the Addington Fund as in previous years. Please leave offerings in church on Saturday 10th or bring to the service.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY November 8th -the service will begin at 10.50am in order to be ready for the 2 minute silence at 11am. The open collection will be sent to the Poppy Appeal.

QUIZ-SATURDAY 9th November-more details later.

TRAFFIC-please contact with offers of help as requested in flyers put round recently. There is a notice on the church board.

FOOD BANK- we deliver monthly to the pick up point; donations may be left in church or at 14 Main St.

HARRINGWORTH

Key dates for the diary in Harringworth:

AUTUMN TALK ON HARRINGWORTH VIADUCT on Friday 9 October in St John the Baptist Church

CHRISTMAS ARTISAN MARKET on Saturday 14 November in St John the Baptist Church

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT on Friday 4 December in the Village Hall (save the date – more details next month)

"Unraveling the Mysteries of the Harringworth Viaduct"

In the 150th Year since work began building Harringworth Viaduct, following the talk he gave in 2021, John Hillier is making a return visit to Harringworth in October. Much of the material is new and his talk will reveal the outcome of recent research that he and colleague Nick Hill (ex-Historic England) have undertaken.

John Hillier and Nick Hill will present this illustrated talk on Friday 9th October in the Parish Church. Tickets cost £15.00 (with a free glass of wine) and the evening is hosted by Harringworth Appeals and St John the Baptist PCC who will be serving canapés at the interval. Starting at 7.00pm for a prompt 7.15pm start. The booking line is now open - just click on the 'Book Now' link below or visit the Harringworth website: harringworth.org/news



Unraveling the Mysteries of Harringworth Viaduct

Illustrated Talk with local historian John Hillier on Friday 9th October at 7.00pm in Harringworth Parish Church

The evening is hosted by Harringworth Appeals and St John the Baptist PCC who will be serving canapés at the interval. Tickets cost £15.00 & are available online <https://bookwhen.com/harringworth> or via email: harringworthvillage@gmail.com

Harringworth Viaduct - a Victorian Gem 1876 - 2026

Further details: <https://www.harringworth.org/news>

BOOK TICKETS THROUGH THE LINK:
[Bookwhen/harringworth](https://bookwhen.com/harringworth)

HARRINGWORTH CHRISTMAS ARTISAN MARKET Saturday 14 November

This November in Harringworth we see the return of the popular Artisan Market in the stunning setting of the 13C Parish Church of St John the Baptist.

On **Saturday 14th November** from 11.00 – 16.00, Harringworth will showcase local creative Artisans such as Little Print Gifts, The Supper House, Rutland Forge, Emilina Designs and many more. In addition, beautifully created and labelled "Made in Harringworth" local produce and gifts such as jam, marmalade, chutney, Christmas bulbs and delicious homemade cakes will be on sale.

As ever, the Harringworth Hamper Raffle will be centre stage filled with delicious food, wine, tea etc. To complete the day, the Harringworth Café will refresh you with Coffee, Tea, Cake, Cheese Scones and more...

The Artisan Market is in aid of the Harringworth Appeals Fund and supports Local Artisans.

Do join us.



LYDDINGTON

The Macmillan Tea afternoon last Saturday 26th Sept raised over £600. A wonderful effort by all who took part.

On **Thursday 15th October** all day, there is a Music in Lyddington Outreach Project for at least 250 local primary school pupils; they will rehearse and perform 'Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo' by Joseph Horovitz and Psalm 150 Cantata by Benjamin Britten. This takes place in St Andrew's church, and the event is not open to the public.

Sunday 8th November 10.55am Remembrance Service

Village Hall sponsored events

Saturday 3rd October 1.30pm Porsches on the Green in aid of Motor Neurone Disease

Thursday 29th Oct 3-00 to 4.00pm Pumpkin Carving in VH – please book

SEATON and THORPE

The next village hall teas will be on Thursday 15th October from 2.30 to 4.30pm. All are welcome to this friendly monthly event.

And on Saturday 31st October David Coop will be running one of his brilliant quiz nights in the village hall. Tickets cost £15 to include entry to the quiz and a homecooked two course meal. Bring your own drinks and come at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Book in teams of six or individually and you'll be welcomed onto a team on the night.

Contact helen_coop@msn.com to reserve a place.

Seaton bazaar and barbecue was held on Saturday September 26th. It was a very happy and successful occasion and has raised approximately £3000.00 for church funds. There were the usual stalls plus some games and hotdogs, beer and prosecco. We hope everyone enjoyed it. Many thanks to all who supported and came along on the day and also to the new amazing committee for organising it.

The Harvest Festival was held on Sunday September 27th with the church beautifully decorated with flowers and produce. The collection and donations for produce was in aid of World Vision and £194.50 has been sent, hopefully to help the little girl, Hiwot, whom we sponsor.

October
Robert Frost

O hushed October morning mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all.
The crows above the forest call;
Tomorrow they may form and go.
O hushed October morning mild,
Begin the hours of this day slow.
Make the day seem to us less brief.
Hearts not averse to being beguiled,
Beguile us in the way you know.
Release one leaf at break of day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far away.
Retard the sun with gentle mist;
Enchant the land with amethyst.
Slow, slow!
For the grapes' sake, if they were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else be lost—
For the grapes' sake along the wall.