



16 February 2025

Third Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our services today

9am: Parish Eucharist at St John's

10.30am: Parish Eucharist at St Mary's with *KickStart*

Music: Organist St. John's: Keith Green, **Hymns: 602, 546, 812.**

Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 333, 467, 357, 368.**

Anthem: Teach me O Lord, *Attwood*

The Benefice Online Services; 'Meeting Point' and 'Celtic Midweek Liturgy' are for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. <https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/online-worship>

Mon 17 6pm Evening Prayer in the Chantry Chapel

Tues 18 1 – 3pm, *Lego Free play in the Bede House*

7.30pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's

Wed 19 10am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

Thurs 20 10am Said Eucharist at St John's

10am Coffee & chat to 12noon at St Mary's

1 – 3pm, *Lego Free play in the Bede House*

Sat 22 *Higham Ferrers Farmers Market, with Bell Peal, Coffee in the Bede House, and Recital in St Mary's*

Sunday 23 February 2025 Second Sunday before Lent

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

4pm Lego Church in the Bede House

Collect Prayer.

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen**

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our

proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Luke 6:17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

‘Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

‘Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Post Communion Prayer.

Merciful Father,

who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:

draw us to the Lord in faith and love,

that we may eat and drink with him

at his table in the kingdom,

where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches, we have children's areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Karen Addis, Brian Bond, Liz Boughton, Nola Brockhouse, Simon Brown, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Lynda & Peter Etheridge, Freda Fernyhough, Christine Franklin, Andrew Fulcher, Colin Gilkes, Sandra Hill, Margaret Janowski, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Lorcan McLaren (age 11), Emily Ogden, Freda Pack, Val Robinson, Fr. Nichols Spencer, Elizabeth Swindley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke.

St John's: Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Nick Kirk, Lesley Littlejohn, Dr Northover, Brenda May, Lynn Redgagte, Arthur & Anita Wright.

In memoriam: Ken Robinson

Year's mind anniversaries: Jean Underwood, Harry Foreman, George Freeman, John Knight, Ethel Eady, Ellen Smith, Rosina Evans, Emily Martin, Florence Dickenson, Gertrude Crick, Margaret Bedells, Reginald McGeorge, Katey Jephcote, Cora Jones, Violet Childs, Christopher Faulkner, Elizabeth Hubbard, Bernard Fernyhough (Priest), William Hing, Mary Greatorex, Gertrude Chambers, Charles Eaton, Isaac Stapleton, Elvina Batt, Leonard Barton, Lilian Pladdys, Peter Newman, Dennis Watts, Jane Purcell, Lawrence Britchford, Ivy Pendered, Sidney Parnell, Ian white, Mabel Tilley, Avril Jephcote, Mary Kilsby, Stephen Hill, Mark Lovell, Nellie Grant.

NOTICES

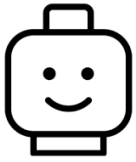
BENEFICE

Old palm crosses are requested to make the new ash for Ash Wednesday – a basket is available in each church. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday Eucharist, 5 March, will be celebrated at St John's at 10am and St Mary's at 7.30pm.

ST. MARY'S

Children's corner – the render repairs have been completed and now need to dry out before they can be painted.



Lego freeplay afternoons; Half Term fun on Tues 18 and Thursday 20 February in the Bede House, 1 – 3pm. Family participation event. Offers of help welcomed (check people in, make drinks, and chat to families) – See Mthr Louise for details.

ST JOHN'S

Snowdrop Weekend - 15 Feb 10am - 4pm & 16 Feb 11am- 4pm.



If visiting the Snowdrop Festival this weekend please consider car sharing, and consider parking in the village centre and walking up to the church.

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 25 Feb. Tea and Cakes returns in March

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

Mother Louise revlouisebishop@btinternet.com 07974 018160
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Parish Office & Bede House: 01933 741140
Benefice Administration and enquiries: stmarys.higham@gmail.com
Bede House Bookings only: thebedehouse@gmail.com
Website www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk

Churchwardens:
St. John's; Arthur Wright 01933 624530, and Andrew Wager 07789 286398
St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

The office is open Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30am to 2.30pm but is closed on Tuesday 18 February. Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty Friday 21 February.

Spring is coming