



2 March 2025

Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our services today

9am: Parish Eucharist at St John's

10.30am: All Age Eucharist at St Mary's

Music: Organist St. John's: Sam Stringer, **Hymns: 2, 281, 766.**

Organist St. Mary's: Alan Cafaude, **Hymns: see order of service.**

Anthem: Christ be our light.

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>

Tues 4 *7.15pm Wedding rehearsal at St Mary's*

Tues 4 7.30pm Bellringing practice at St Mary's

Wed 5 10am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St John's

Wed 5 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St Mary's

Thurs 6 10am Said Eucharist with Coffee & chat to 12noon at St Mary's

Thurs 6 2pm Mothers Union AGM, meeting at Ruth's home

Thurs 6 *3pm Wedding of Sophie & Tristan at St Mary's*

Fri 7 10am World Day of Prayer Service at Hope Methodist Church

Sunday 9 March 2025 First Sunday of Lent

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's & Breakfast Church in the Bede House

10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

Collect Prayer.

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:

set straight our crooked hearts,

and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory

in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Exodus 34:29-end

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the

Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah’—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, ‘This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!’ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Post Communion Prayer.

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

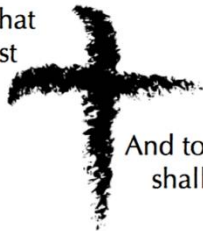
In memoriam: Ken Robinson (funeral – Nene Valley Crematorium, Mon. 10 March at 12noon), Jon Green.

Year's mind anniversaries: Aubrey Newell, Richard Hale, Leonard Eagles, Ravi Nayyar, Hugh Felce, Elsie Frisby, Grace Jones, Stanley Bosworth, Frederick Horner, May Thomas, Kenneth Smith, Eric Buchanan (Priest), Bruce Bass, Jesse Lawman, Arthur Batt, Jane Palmer, Lily Cox, Helen Ball, Kate Wilmott, Denis Taylor, Grace Millgate, Alice Parker, Alice York, Reginald Cooper, Kenneth Daly, Edith Newell, Edith Parker, Kathleen Chapman.

NOTICES

BENEFACTICE

Remember that
you are dust



And to dust you
shall return

**5 March - Ash Wednesday Eucharists, with
imposition of ashes**

St John's at 10am and St Mary's at 7.30pm.

30 March – Mothering Sunday

This is a 5th Sunday and usually we would have a joint service, but because of the special nature of the day we will have services at both churches.

In the afternoon there will be another **Mothering Sunday – It's complicated!** service and space for all who find the day hard, emotional or complicated.

The clocks also change on this day, be warned!

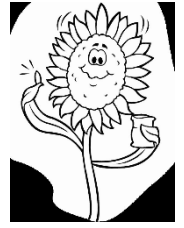
ST. MARY'S

Mothers Union AGM – Visitors welcome for a chat but cannot participate within the AGM itself.

Celtic Evening services will restart on Thursday 13 March in the Chantry Chapel. A short Celtic service with a time of meditative silence with our Lord.

31 May Farmers Market, the Vicar's Version – advance warning of coffee & cakes with a twist!

It's the time of year for plants – can you grow a few extra bedding or veg plants, could you split some of your border perennials? If house plants are your thing, I have lots of cache pots that we could put them in. If you have any ideas of other new things to try, come chat to Mthr Louise.



Cards – Lots of lovely photo cards in many designs for sale in church in collaboration with Pam. See the dresser on the right side of the church.

ST JOHN'S



Do visit anytime to enjoy their beauty, they are still looking stunning. The church is open between 10am and 4pm daily. Currently there are still some plants for sale in the porch, and snowdrop themed cards in church.

Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM) – 23 March, after the 9am service

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 25 March, 22 April, 27 May, 24 June, 22 July, 26 August

Tea and Cakes, 2-4pm 18 March, 15 April, 20 May, 17 June, 15 July, 19 August

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

Mother Louise revlouisebishop@btinternet.com

07974 018160

Brenda Elldred (Reader) brenda@elldred.co.uk

07816 771702

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 benefice office is open Tuesdays and Fridays.

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 Monday 3 March.