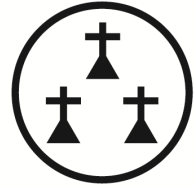


We are an inclusive church, called to be caring, loving and welcoming to all

Parish of Harpenden



Mothering Sunday 19 March 2023

Services in the Parish

- 8.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
- 9.30am **All Age Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
This Service will not be live streamed on Facebook this week (or be available as a recorded service afterwards) due to difficulty with obtaining all necessary image consent forms when we have an all age service. Our normal practice will be resumed next week.
- 9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**
President - Revd Sally Goodson; Preacher - Revd Cath da Costa
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen
- 10.00am **All Age Worship at All Saints' & on Zoom**
Led by Pauline Gilbert & Revd James Brown
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or from associate.vicar@allsaints.harpenden.org
- 11.30am **Morning Praise at St Nicholas':**
Leader - Chris Powell; Speaker - Revd Cath Da Costa
- 4.30pm **Simply Worship at St Mary's**
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

CONNECT, BELONG, SHARE, GROW

Our mission is to build connections, encourage belonging, and share an appealing faith that grows a vibrant Christian community at every stage of life.

Please contact the parish office on :
01582 765524 or office@parishofharpenden.org
You can also find information on www.parishofharpenden.org

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY– FRIDAY
SATURDAYS (manned by volunteers)

10.00am - 2.00pm
9.30 -11.30am

●●● | **Collects, Readings, Psalm, Gospel and Post-Communion**

COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Or ADDITIONAL COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1. 20-28

Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.' She left him there for the Lord.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 1.3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

IN KEEPING WITH THE TRADITION FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY, A HYMN WILL BE SUNG IN PLACE OF THE PSALM AT ST NICHOLAS 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST SERVICE.

THE PSALM IS PRINTED BELOW FOR USE AT THE SPOKEN EUCHARIST SERVICE.

PSALM 127.1-4

Except the Lord build the house : their labour is but lost that build it.

Except the Lord keep the city : the watchman waketh but in vain. It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat the bread of carefulness : for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children and the fruit of the womb : are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 2.33–35

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

POST COMMUNION

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week: *Making New*

Disciples: Those who lead Emmaus and Alpha Courses

The Sick: John Steele, Mike Clasby

The Recently Departed: Harry Houghton, Wendy Fulford, Eivor Wilkes, Theresa Rae

First Anniversary of Death: Connie Whiting

CLERGY AND MINISTERS CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR YOU AND FOR THE PRAYER LIST for the parish. If you have anyone you would like to add to the prayer list, contact the parish office or the clergy.

● ● ● | Parish Notices

ADULT CONFIRMATION. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE CONFIRMED? We are wanting to make it possible for you. We have arranged two sessions, Saturdays, 22nd and 29th April, 9.30 to 11.30am at St Nicholas Church Hall. To register contact the Parish Office or the Rector. If you would like to be confirmed and cannot make these sessions, please do speak to the Rector, Dennis Stamps (01582 712202 or rector@parishofharpenden.org).

MOTHERS' UNION HOLY COMMUNION LADY DAY SERVICE – Saturday 25th March 10.30am at St Nicholas ALL WELCOME

LENT GROUPS: This Lent we are reflecting on the transformative nature of our faith and seeking justice. Christian Aid's *Talking Climate Justice* discussion guides will help us explore Lenten themes (repentance, sacrifice, redemption, reparation and restoration) and to grapple with the realities of the climate crisis. Tuesdays 2-3pm, with Revd James at All Saints, Gordon Facer Room. Wednesdays 8-9pm with Revd Sally at St Mary's. Sundays 4-5pm with Revd Dennis at St Nicholas' Church Hall. Anyone is welcome to join whether or not you have attended earlier sessions.

SUNDAY 2 APRIL - A PERFORMANCE OF FAURE'S REQUIEM FOR THE START OF HOLY WEEK. Free performance in St Nicholas' Church at 7pm, retiring collection. If you would like to participate in singing, please email music@parishofharpenden.org with your voice part, age if under 18 (we will send you a consent form) and whether you need a score provided. 4.30pm workshop in the church hall, followed by tea and the performance in church at 7pm. Singers are asked to wear black for the performance. £10 per singer, £5 concessions.

EASTER EGGSPERIENCE, SATURDAY 8TH APRIL, 10AM-12NOON. Join us for Easter inspired crafts, games, Easter garden making, Easter egg hunts in St Nicholas' Church Hall, £1 per child payable on the day. Children need to have a parent or carer with them for a whole event. You can book via the parish website, www.parishofharpenden.org or by contacting Cath, 07961 564385 or assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR OLDER TEENS IN THE PARISH Do you have children in year 10 and above? As you know the Parish runs that SAS Youth Group which meets at All Saints Church on Sunday evenings between 5-7pm and is for years 6-9. We would like to start a group for older teens (possibly running on Sundays 6-8pm) and would like to know whether this is something people would be interested in joining, and so we would love to hear your ideas/comments on what it should look like. So please share this questionnaire below with any children you have in Year 10+. It shouldn't take more than 5 minutes to complete. Thank you for your help! <https://forms.gle/J51vth9t3NmSRSe7>

'UNCONDITIONAL LOVE' - SATURDAY, 25TH MARCH, 3.00PM, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Rothamsted Avenue. A concert of remembrance and gratitude following Covid-19. Combined choirs of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. George's School Music Society. Music by Howard Goodall, Ola Gjeilo and Karl Jenkins. Entrance £10 adults, on the door. Children under 18 Free. NHS and Care Workers Free. Refreshments provided.

SAS YOUTH GROUP every Sunday, usually at All Saints, 5-7pm. SAS is for youngsters in school years 6-9. Please contact Pete Lovell if you would like more information petel0vell@yahoo.co.uk

HOLY WEEK COMPLINE 3rd-5th April: In Holy Week we have compline with address each evening, 8pm, St Nicholas Church, Mon-Wed. This year we have an excellent preacher, Trevor Withers, from Network Church, Harpenden (meets at Rothamsted). Do plan to come, welcome to all in the parish and community.

CLIMATE CAMPAIGN - Are you concerned about the escalating climate and ecological crisis? If so there's a chance to join in one of the biggest ever displays of public concern at a peaceful gathering outside the Houses of Parliament [on April 21-24](#). It is hoped 100,000 people from all walks of life will join in the call for an end to all new fossil fuel licences and will create a moment that's impossible for the Government to ignore. It's being organised by Extinction Rebellion and other environmental, conservation and nature groups. Revd James will be there with others from Christian Climate Action. Find out more here <https://tinyurl.com/mr3d3j3n>

CORONATION TEA PARTY ON MONDAY 8TH MAY - please save the afternoon. Any groups/individuals able to help plan the celebrations please email rachaelthrelfall@btinternet.com

PARISH GIVING: If you do not already make a regular donation to the Parish, please consider doing so. It is now easier than ever to set up a Direct Debit with The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Follow this link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/harpenden-st-nicholas-st-albans/> or simply scan the QR code from your mobile device. Any queries can be sent to Claire Petevinos: giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org



TEXT GIVING is a simple, quick and convenient way to give on a one-off or occasional basis. From your mobile phone, just type CHURCH followed by an amount of up to £20 and text to 70085, to donate to the Parish. For example, text CHURCH 10 to donate £10. You can do this as many times as you wish. For every text sent, you will be charged the amount you have chosen to give plus your standard network rate.

St Mary's Church Notices



TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION - 21st March

ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN: Please come and help with our big clean, on 12th/13th & 14th April. Any time you can spare will be very helpful, we aim to clean every inch of St Mary's church and hall during that week, and there are good conversations while we work! Do join in to help give the church a fresh and sparkling clean. Please contact Olive Hayward or Sally if you can help, thank you.

DRIVERS: we would welcome more volunteer drivers for church groups. If you can help please speak to Sally or to Jenny Evans. You will need to be DBS checked and complete basic safeguarding training. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWERS As in the past you are invited to sponsor flowers for Easter. Many people find this a lovely way to remember a loved one with their name read out in the prayers on Easter Day. If you would like to do this speak to Anita on 461600 or message to - croftal@aol.com. The flower arranging team are looking forward to making church look beautiful at Easter.

St Nicholas' Church Notices



MUSIC TODAY

9.30am **Sung Eucharist**
Setting: Scarborough Fair
Hymns: 253 For the beauty ; Bind us together; Jesus took a piece of bread;
 Kum ba yah; 362 Tell out my soul
Anthem: God of my life (Barnard)

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**
Responses: Ferial
Setting: Wessex Psalter
Anthem: A Hymne to God the Father (Humfrey)

OUR 9.30AM SERVICE IS NORMALLY LIVE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK (also available as a recorded service afterwards). We are a public page and you do not have to sign up to Facebook to access (just keep saying no to joining until you get to the page (<https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden>)). Any problems, do contact us.

CAKE SALE AFTER THE 9.30AM SERVICE ON MOTHERING SUNDAY 19 MARCH - 12th Harpenden Scouts are holding a cake sale in aid of the DEC Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal - please come along and support us!

EARTH HOUR: PRAY FOR THE PLANET ON 25 MARCH 8.30 – 9.30PM. Earth Hour is a worldwide initiative to switch off your lights from 8.30pm – 9.30pm on Saturday 25 March to reflect on environmental issues and pray for the planet. We hope you will consider joining in. (See also All Saints' Church Notices). St Nicholas' Eco Church committee

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTING BOXES. We plan to be getting in touch shortly to arrange to pick up your box for counting your collected coins for The Children's Society - or your box could be dropped off at the Parish Office. A donation to the charity could alternatively be made online: <http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>. For further details, please contact Helen or Peter Mellor, 01582 762284

REQUEST FOR FOODBANK DONATIONS: Please leave your contributions at St Nicholas in the green crates next to the font or in the porch when church is open for services or private prayer. They will be collected for delivery to The King's Pantry at the Salvation Army and FEED at the Vineyard Church as usual. Donations are still very much needed and your contributions are gratefully received. Thank you.

All Saints' Church Notices



Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com

EARTH HOUR - Each year people across the globe mark Earth Hour by switching off their lights as a symbol of hope and unity. This year All Saints will hold a Candlelit vigil for a world in crisis, with singing and silence. **Saturday 25th March, 8.30-9.30pm**. You are welcome to join and bring friends and neighbours.

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER Could you help with the updating of our electoral roll details at All Saints? It doesn't involve a lot of time and it's only for a short period of time between February and April. It mainly involves putting up notices at specific times, identifying any new members of the congregation that could be approached to join and checking the ER for people who have moved away or died. Please contact James if you could help in this way.

WORKING PARTY - INDOORS AS WELL AS OUT! You are welcome to come along on the first Saturday of each month when we get together to care for the grounds at All Saints and to dust, sweep and generally clean the church. We meet from 9.30 -11.30am or whatever time you can manage. Our next session is **Saturday, 1st April**. Coffee served, jobs done, fun had.

A WARM WELCOME We are now opening the church hall and offering it as warm space for any who might need it, Thursday afternoons 2 - 4.30pm. The hall will be set up with tables, chairs, a few toys, board games, and refreshments including soup to be heated in the microwave. Please contact James at associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org if you are able to help host or set up these afternoons over the winter months.

WALKING THROUGH LENT - 5.30PM EACH TUESDAY IN LENT. We will meet at All Saints Church and walk mindfully through Batford Springs Nature Reserve, pausing to hear readings, poems and prayers to help us reflect on life and faith in this season. Finish after 30mins at the Marquis of Granby, those who wish can stay for a drink.

Save the Date - All SAINTS QUIZ: More details will come soon but please save the date for a family friendly quiz and meal on the evening of 22nd April. We will be raising funds for Tearfund's toilet twinning scheme.

Save the Date - CHURCH WEEKEND AT HOME : Friday 29 Sept - Sun 1 Oct we will be holding our first ever church weekend at home. Please save the date in your diary and look forward to fun, games, teaching, worship, food and a deepening of friendships old and new.

HOME GROUPS Over the years many people at church have met in small groups to study scripture, pray and journey through the life of faith together. We would like to revitalise that part of our church life. Please have a think about whether you would like to join such a group and how often you might like to meet etc. Speak to James or any of the LMDT about this as we work out our plans over the coming weeks.



What's on This Week

Monday 20 – St. Joseph of Nazareth

9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints

Tuesday 21

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's; live-streamed on St Mary's facebook page

10.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's

5.00pm Evening Prayer live-streamed on St Mary's facebook page

Wednesday 22

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints': live-streamed on All Saints' facebook page

10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas' followed by discussion in Cornelia's

5.00pm Evening Prayer at All Saints': live-streamed on All Saints' facebook page

Thursday 23

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas' ; live-streamed on St Nicholas' facebook page

5.00pm Evening Prayer live-streamed on St Nicholas' facebook page

Saturday 25 - Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas'; Mothers' Union Lady Day service

12.30pm Thanksgiving and Memorial Service for Eivor Wilkes at St Nicholas'

Sunday 26 The Fifth Sunday of Lent - Passiontide begins

8.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**

President - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher - Revd Cath Da Costa

9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**

Live streamed on [facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)

You can also join by telephone: 02034815240, enter ID#: 81402722773, followed by # (no password needed).

President - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher - Revd Cath Da Costa

9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**

President & Preacher- Revd Sally Goodson

Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen

10.00am **Holy Communion at All Saints' & on Zoom**

President - Revd James Brown; Preacher - Pauline Gilbert (Reader)

Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or from associate.vicar@allsaints.harpenden.org

11.30am **Morning Praise with Holy Communion at St Nicholas':**

Leader - Anne-Marie Kramer; President - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps;

Speaker - tbc

6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

Readings

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Romans 8.6-11

John 11.17-45