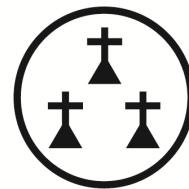


**We are an inclusive church, called to
be caring, loving and welcoming to all**

**Parish of
Harpenden**



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple 28 January 2024

Services in the Parish

- 8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd James Brown
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher - Revd James Brown
This service will be live streamed on Facebook (or available as a recorded service afterwards) this week as normal
You can also join by telephone: 02034815240, enter ID#: 81402722773, followed by # (no password needed).
- 9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**
President & Preacher - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen
- 10.00am **Holy Communion at All Saints' and on Zoom**
President & Preacher - Revd Sally Goodson
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or by request from associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org
- 11.30am **Morning Praise with Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
Leader - Christy Monson; President & Preacher - Revd Cath Rindl
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong**

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

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.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK

MONDAY - FRIDAY

10.00am - 2.00pm

●●● | Collects, Reading and Gospel

COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ 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

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

FIRST READING Malachi 3.1–5

Thus says the LORD God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

SECOND READING Hebrews 2.14–18

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week: *Going Deeper into God* : Bible Study Groups

The Sick: Mike Clasby, Rosemary Hill, Kevin Gill, Peter Norwood, Gill, Rosemary Farmer

The Recently Departed: Vanessa Gibson (née Timms), Dennis Southwick, Fiona Marsh, Graham Cowles, Jacquetta King, Florence Coughlin, Gillian Murdoch

First Anniversary of Death:

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.

PSALM 24.7-10



Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you ever/lasting / doors; ♦ and the
King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is the / King of / glory?’ ♦ ‘The Lord, strong and mighty, the / Lord · who is
/ mighty in / battle.’

Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you ever/lasting / doors; ♦ and the
King of / glory / shall come / in.

‘Who is this / King of / glory?’ ♦ ‘The Lord of hosts, / he · is the / King of / glory.’

GOSPEL Luke 2.22–40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 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.’ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

POST COMMUNION

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

● ● ● | Parish Notices

LENT BEGINS ON 14 FEBRUARY. Plan to attend the Ash Wednesday services on the 14th (10.30am at St Nicholas'; 8pm at All Saints'; 8pm at St Mary's)

LENT STUDY GROUPS will begin that week. We will be looking at the book, The Joy of the Gospel by Paula Gooder, which explores the gospel message and how to live it and share it. Group dates and times will be published next Sunday. Sign up for a group that suits your schedule. The Wed morning Holy Communion service will also use the book for the sermon time in Lent. Home groups are encouraged to use the book for their study in Lent.

WALKING FOR LENT, 5.30pm each Tuesday in Lent, starting 20 February. Meet at All Saints' Church for walks through Batford Springs Nature Reserve with pauses for readings, poems and prayers to help us reflect on life in this season. Lasts 30 minutes, and those who wish can visit the Marquis of Granby for a drink afterwards.

CONFIRMATION: Would you like to be confirmed? Adults and young people (11+) interested in being confirmed, please contact the parish office or one of the clergy. Preparation for confirmation will be explored with those interested, to find times and dates that work. Confirmation service is 5 June, in the evening at All Saints Church.

JOIN US FOR DELICIOUS SWEET AND SAVOURY PANCAKES hosted by our youth group on Sunday 11th February 2024 from 5.30 – 6.30 pm at All Saints Hall (129 Station Road, Harpenden AL5 4UU). All Welcome. Cost: £2 per person / £5 per family. To buy your tickets, contact Revd Cath 07961564385 / assistant.curate@stnicholas.parishofharpenden.org. Funds raised will go towards the youth work within Harpenden Parish.

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 Salvation Army and FEED at the Vineyard Church as usual. Donations are still very much needed and your contributions are gratefully received; they can also be left at All Saints' or St Mary's. We would also appreciate any spare carrier bags for transporting the goods to the Food Banks. Thank you.

BROWNIE LEADER NEEDED: 21st Harpenden (St Nicholas) Brownies are looking to recruit at least 1 adult Leader. We meet at the church hall on Mondays from 6.30-8.00pm during term time and ideally a new Leader should be available most weeks. A Leader would need to be involved in the planning and implementation of the Brownie Programme involving fun activities, games, crafts and informal learning. More details about the voluntary roles in Girlguiding can be found on the website: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/what-we-do/brownies/> Training would be provided which would include First Aid, Safeguarding and also an enhanced DBS check would be required. If you, or anyone you know, are interested please contact Catherine or Julia at 21stharpendenbrownies@gmail.com . Thank You.

NEW BROWNIES WELCOME: If you have a daughter who is interested in becoming a Brownie (21st Harpenden Brownies, Monday evenings 6.30-8.00pm), please add her to the waiting list by visiting www.Girlguiding.org.uk and go to the "For Parents" page. The system will default to adding you to the waiting list of the unit closest to your home, according to the postcode, but you can over-ride that if you wish.

FUNERAL OF FIONA MARSH will take place on Tuesday 13 February at St Nicholas' at 1.30pm. All are welcome to come and give thanks for Fiona's life and support one another at this time of loss.

ALL SAINTS' REPAIR FAIR: For the third year running, All Saints' with St Albans District Fixers will be hosting a Repair Fair **on Saturday 17 February, from 2-5pm**. Dig out those broken and dysfunctional portable electrical and electronic items, and clothing and fabrics in need of minor repairs and alterations, and our team of skilled amateur fixers will work their magic. A booking system will open early February. We would very much welcome anyone handy with a screwdriver and with a basic understanding of electricity to join our friendly fixing team. Initially at least we would buddy you with a more experienced fixer, and can guarantee you an interesting and enjoyable afternoon! All questions and enquiries should be directed to Philip Le Riche or Revd James Brown.

DEMENTIA FRIENDS INFORMATION SESSION Sunday 3 March, 2-3pm in All Saints' Church Hall. For anyone living or working with those who live with dementia, to increase awareness of how dementia affects people and how we can all help by understanding and taking simple steps. People actually living with dementia can find the sessions difficult but the decision as to whether to come or not is up to them and their carers.

CALLING ALL WOMEN! Do you feel able to take on leadership roles within your church or parish and what barriers do you perceive you would need to overcome to do so? I am doing a piece of research for my master's dissertation looking at female leadership in parish settings and what barriers women experience, and I need your help. If you choose to take part you will be asked to meet in a small group of other women and shared to your thoughts, views and experiences on this subject. You will remain anonymous. Please contact me if you would like more information or to participate: 07961564386 or revcathrindl@gmail.com. Revd Cath Rindl

RECORD OF CHURCH ATTENDANCE FOR ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATION
Please remember to bring your 'passport' to church and get it stamped at least one Sunday a month for the **duration of school years 4 and 5. Children in Year 6 will need a stamp for September.** There are new copies of the passport available from the back of church now. We do not stamp passports at Morning or Evening Prayer. We recommend taking a photo of the card regularly in case you mislay it.

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 Nicholas' Church Notices



MUSIC

9.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Setting: Thorne

Hymns: 426 Firmly I believe; 450 God, we praise you;
360 Faithful vigil ended; 494 King of glory, King of peace

Anthem: When to the temple Mary went (Eccard)

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**

Responses: Reading

Setting: Wood in D

Anthem: Expectans Expectavi (Wood)

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.

WE NEED YOUR HELP: DCC Secretary (attend DCC meetings and keep and distribute minutes)

Ongoing help needed with Cornelia's, Tea-Cake and Chat, Servers (9.30service)

AZALEA - Please continue to support this charity by donating women's toiletries and sanitary products. Unwanted Christmas presents perhaps! Boxes are available in St Nicholas' Church and in Cornelia's. Thank you

HOMEMADE MARMALADE ON SALE SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY AFTER THE 9.30AM SERVICE - Audrey Went will be selling her delicious homemade marmalade after the 9.30am service on Sunday 4 February, with all proceeds going to Vineyard (including the Foodbank). Please bring some cash along to church on that Sunday so you don't miss out!

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE AUDREY TALBERT IN CHURCH ON MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY AT 12NOON - Audrey's family would be delighted if all who knew and remember her, were able to join them in this celebration of her life.

All Saints' Church Notices



Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com

COMMUNION TRIAL - Please let James know any reflections on how our trial of offering both intincted (dipped) wafers as well as the bread then the cup, is working.

PATTERN OF WORSHIP - following discussions with the LMDT and DCC, we are now trying a new monthly structure to our rhythm of worship. With occasional adjustments for festivals etc, we are following this pattern: Week 1 - Worship Service; 2 - Communion; 3 - All Age Worship; 4 - Holy Communion. There will also be more regular use of the organ and guitar to compliment the piano in our musical worship.

ECO CHURCH PROJECT - at the next working party (Saturday 3 February, 9.30-11.30am) we are going to be working on our dead hedge project to provide this excellent habitat for local wildlife. If you haven't been to a working party before this would be an excellent time to try it out!

St Mary's Church Notices



TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION - 6 & 20 February

PARISH WALK Sunday 28 January, meet at Nomansland car park at 2pm. All are welcome, adults, children, dogs, as we walk and chat, do come and join in.

ST MARY'S QUIZ: SATURDAY 2 MARCH, put the date in your diary, chose your team, more details in due course.

LITTER PICKING: SATURDAY 9 MARCH 10.30AM. Meet outside church to clean up our district.



What's on This Week

Monday 29

9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

Tuesday 30

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

2.00pm Memorial Service for Jacquetta King at St Mary's

Wednesday 31

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

10.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas'

5.00pm Evening Prayer at St Nicholas'

Thursday 1

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas'

10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints'

Saturday 3

10.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Nicholas'

Sunday 4 February - The Second Sunday before Lent

8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**
President - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher - Heather Richards

9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President - Revd Canon Dennis Stamps; Preacher - Heather Richards
This service will be live streamed on Facebook (or available as a recorded service afterwards) this week as normal
You can also join by telephone: 02034815240, enter ID#: 81402722773, followed by # (no password needed).

9.30am **Family Worship at St Mary's**
Leader - Nina Featherstone; Preacher - Jenny Goulding
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen

10.00am **Morning Worship at All Saints' and on Zoom**
Leader - Philip Le Riche; Preacher - Revd Cath Rindl
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet or by request from associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org

11.00am **Said Holy Communion at St Mary's**
President & Preacher - Revd Nick Goulding

11.30am **Morning Praise at St Nicholas'**
Leader - Chris Powell; Speaker - Liz de Jong

4.30pm **Simply Worship at St Nicholas'**

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**