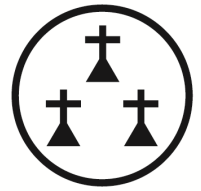


**We are an inclusive church, called to
be caring, loving and welcoming to all**

**Parish of
Harpenden**



2 February 2025

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

- 8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room**
President & Preacher- Revd Mark Rodel
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher- Revd Mark Rodel
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/
StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)
- 9.30am **Family Worship at St Mary's**
Led by Jenny Goulding & Nina Featherstone
Live-streamed on www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen
- 10.00am **Morning Worship at All Saints'**
Leader & Preacher - Revd James Brown
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 Sally Goodson
- 11.30am **Morning Praise in St Nicholas' Church Hall**
Leader - Vicky Platt; Speaker - Anne-Marie Kramer
- 4.30pm **Simply Worship at St Nicholas'**
Led by Revd Sally Goodson & Geoff Payne
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

Contact details

Parish Office T: 01582 765524 E: office@parishofharpenden.org

For any pastoral concerns contact any one of the Parish Clergy or
Pastoral Care Team

Revd Sally Goodson T: 01582 712754

E: associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org

Revd James Brown T: 01582 363789

E: associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org

Chris Powell T: 01582 764930

E: chris_powell51@hotmail.co.uk

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, Readings, and Psalm

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.

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.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan 'Living God's Love' Topic for the Week: Making new disciples: *Church Missions*

The Sick: Kevin Gill, Charlotte, Colin, James, Maggie Corley, Terry, Isla

The Recently Departed: Malcolm Hudson, Alan Hall, Rose Millar, Pauline Hakesley, Timothy Meeks, Beryl Stevens

First Anniversary of Death:

● ● ● | Parish Notices

NEW RECTOR APPOINTED We are very pleased to announce the appointment of the Revd Patrick Moriarty as Rector of the Parish of Harpenden. Patrick is currently Associate Priest at St Stephen's Church in St. Albans. An Institution and Induction Service for Patrick will take place at St. Nicholas' on Sunday 9 March at 5pm. We very much look forward to welcoming Patrick, his wife Lucy, and their family and we invite you to remember them in your prayers.

YOUTH GROUP - Sunday 2 February 5pm - 7pm All Saints' Church Hall. All in years 6-9 are welcome to join for the next youth group. We will be playing special games with the wonderful local youth charity STEP. Food, fun, and faith.

THE BISHOP OF ST ALBANS WILL BE OPENING HIS GARDEN on two weekends in February for people to come and look at the display of snowdrops. Those who came to visit in the summer will know that the garden is delightful, it also has an appeal to visitors in the spring as the snowdrops herald the end of winter. The snowdrops have also been described as an equal to those at Bennington Lordship near Stevenage. The two acres of garden is an oasis in central St Albans and only open to the public at selected limited times in the spring and the summer.

Spring opening days in 2025 are 15 & 16 February and 22 & 23 February, subject to the snowdrops. Entrance is £5 per person (children free) and dogs on leads are welcome. Please wear footwear suitable for the time of year. All money raised is donated to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust

TIM HILL WILL BE GIVING THE FIFTH TALK IN OUR SERIES AT 10.30AM SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY ON THE NATURE OF ST NICHOLAS' CHURCHYARD. The talk will last 30/45 minutes and will be held in the hall. We hope you will join us. If you wish, you can collect a coffee from Cornelia's beforehand and bring it into the hall with you. For your diaries, the remaining 2 talks in this series will be Henry Loweth on 8 March on Monuments, Ledger Stones and Vaults inside St Nicholas' Church, and Chris Muhley on 12 April on the St Nicholas' church organ, with live music and hands on pipe blowing

TEA CAKE & CHAT Friday 21 February 3.00-4.15pm All Saints' Church Hall. Come along for a chat over a cup of tea/coffee and home made cakes. Flyers at the back of each church, take one and pass one on! Lifts can be arranged; contact Chris Powell 764930 chris_powell51@hotmail.co.uk Please do this by 15 February.

NEW HELPERS REQUIRED for the above event. If you would like to help on the day and/or bake a cake please speak to Chris as above - thank you

BRITISH HUMANITARIAN AID COLLECTION on Saturday 22 February 2025 from 10 am to 3 pm in St Nicholas' Church Halls. Please see poster attached with the weekly email sending out this pew leaflet or those on display on church noticeboards for details of what is needed. Our gifts will be collected on Sunday 23 February. For further information please contact: Anne Harper on 01582 769213 or Margaret Hewitt on 01582 761008

CORNELIA'S VOLUNTEERS WILL BE GATHERING FOR A SOCIAL EVENT 7.30PM TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY, including a Health & Safety talk and consideration of charities that the café would like to support in the forthcoming year. If you would like to hear more about **joining the team**, either as a server (once a month) or a cake baker (1 cake a month), you would be very welcome to come on the evening or contact the Parish Office for details. **(Please note time corrected from last week!)**

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 GEORGE'S SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Children intending to apply to St George's Secondary School are advised to submit a clergy reference form with their application. The school gives priority to children with a clergy reference. To ensure this can be given, a Record of Attendance should be completed for 2 years prior to date of application (i.e. during school Years 4 and 5). You can pick up a blank copy from any of our three churches. The School website provides further details of the admissions criteria. The school will consider applications without a clergy reference but through a separate admissions category.

St Nicholas' Church Notices



MUSIC

9.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Setting Darke in F

Hymns 80 When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day;
476 Let us light a candle; 516 Love divine, all loves excelling

Anthem Nunc Dimittis (Sumsion)

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**

Responses Leighton

Setting Howells St Paul's

Anthem When to the temple Mary went (Eccard)

We are still seeking a **CHRISTMAS FAYRE ORGANISER** for later this year. In practice most of the work is completed by the long-established stall holders, it just takes someone to coordinate bringing it together. If you like organising, would like to get involved in a fun community event and help raise funds for some worthwhile charities, please contact Rachael Threlfall or the Parish Office for further information.

SIMPLY WORSHIP AT ST NICHOLAS' – SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY AT 4.30PM

The theme for our February service is 'Love Yourself' – the importance of believing in ourselves and celebrating what makes us unique. We would love to have volunteers to read the reading or bidding prayers. If your child/ren would like to read by themselves or with friends, please contact the Simply Worship Team on simplyworshipstnicholaschurch@gmail.com. We can send you the text in advance to practice if you wish, it's a lovely way for children to build confidence in public speaking. We will as usual be stamping St George's passports after the service in Cornelia's Café in the church hall and refreshments will be served.

PLEASE JOIN US ALL SATURDAY 8 MARCH 11.30 – 12.30 to help to make the **church sparkly, dust free & beautiful** in readiness for the Institution and Induction Service for Patrick the following day. Please let Rachael Threlfall or the Parish Office know if you are able to come.

ST NICHOLAS' WILL BE HOLDING A QUIZ SATURDAY 15 MARCH IN AID OF

CHURCH FUNDS. Tickets are available from the Parish Office - Adults £15/Under 18s £5. Doors open 7pm, quiz starts 7.30pm. Soft drinks provided, and desserts provided in the interval. Please bring your own nibbles/meal/alcoholic drinks if required. Glasses, plates & cutlery available.

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. They will be collected for delivery to Salvation Army and FEED at the Vineyard Church as usual. Donations are still very much needed. Thank you.

St Mary's Church Notices



TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION - 4 & 18 February

SUNDAY SERVICE ROTAS we would welcome more volunteers for our Sunday morning rotas. We need help in all areas, but especially Welcomers, and people to lead our intercessions. Please speak to Sally if you could help in any way. Thank you

All Saints' Church Notices



Emergency Prayer Chain: jenny.britt@yahoo.com

FAITH AND LIGHT TEA, a tea that we provide and serve to a group with learning difficulties at St John's Church Southdown. Please bring your contributions of cakes, sandwiches, crisps etc from the congregation to the 10am service **this Sunday**. Thank you

Harriet Parks

EDWARD STROHM HAS BEEN FUNDRAISING for a trip to work on a conservation project in Borneo, organised via his school. If you would like to donate to this you can do so via the following link https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/world-challenge-borneo-2025?utm_term=wzbGqQKP8 I'm sure Edward would be delighted to tell you what he has been doing to raise funds.

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 (if you are reading this before the weekend) will be on **Saturday 1 February**. Coffee served, jobs done, fun had.

ROSE MILLAR RIP: Rose was a long-standing member of All Saints' congregation, part of the choir, flower team and Women's Fellowship / knitting group. Her funeral will be at 3.30pm on Tuesday 4 February at West Herts Crematorium. Any who knew Rose would be most welcome.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - GET CREATIVE This Lent we will display stations of the cross scenes around the church that we make ourselves. There is no need to be a great expert but a willingness to give it a go. You'll find that the process is a very rewarding and prayerful one. There will be a sign up sheet in church for the 15 different scenes and their relevant readings. You can paint, draw, stitch, write, or anything else that you like. As long as the station can be displayed on the walls of the church, feel free to present the station as you wish. This is open to any adults or children. Revd James is very happy to talk through ideas if you would like. The deadline is Ash Wednesday (5 March) as we will be displaying them throughout Lent from that point.



What's on This Week

Monday 3

9.15am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

Tuesday 4

9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

10.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's

1.00pm Funeral of the late Alan Hall at St Nicholas'

7.30pm Meeting for Cornelia's volunteers in Cornelia's - see Parish Notices

Wednesday 5

9.00am Morning Prayer at All Saints'

10.30am Holy Communion in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room

Thursday 6

10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints'

Saturday 8

10.30am Talk on the nature of the churchyard in St Nicholas' Church Hall

Sunday 9 February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent

8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church Hall, Cunningham Room**
President & Preacher- Revd James Brown

9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**
President & Preacher– The Right Revd Steven Venner
This service will be live streamed on [facebook.com/
StNicholasChurchHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)

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'**
President & Preacher - Revd James Brown
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 Prayer Stations in St Nicholas' Church Hall**
Leader - Jacquie Hibbert

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

Readings

Isaiah 6.1-8

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Luke 5.1-11