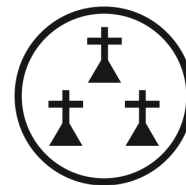


**We are an inclusive church, called to  
be caring, loving and welcoming to all**

**Parish of  
Harpenden**



## **Sunday 15 February 2026**

### **The Sunday next before Lent**

### **Services in the Parish**

- 8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**  
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://facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden)
- 9.30am **Family Communion at St Mary's**  
President - Revd Sally Goodson; Preacher - Nina Featherstone  
Live-streamed on [www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen)
- 10.00am **All Age Worship at All Saints'**  
Led by Revd James Brown and a representative of STEP  
Zoom details available in the weekly email sending the pew leaflet
- 11.30am **Café Church in St Nicholas' Church Hall**  
Leader - Suzanne Rose
- 4.30pm **Simply Worship Pet Service at St Mary's**  
Led by Revd Sally Goodson
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**

#### **Contact details**

Parish Office T: 01582 765524 E: [office@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:office@parishofharpenden.org)

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

Revd Patrick Moriarty T: 07376 661041

E: [rector@parishofharpenden.org](mailto:rector@parishofharpenden.org)

Revd Sally Goodson T: 01582 712754

E: [associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@stmarys.parishofharpenden.org)

Revd James Brown T: 01582 363 789

E: [associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org](mailto:associate.vicar@allsaints.parishofharpenden.org)

Chris Powell T: 01582 764930 (Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator)

E: [chris\\_powell51@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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, Psalm, Gospel and Post-Communion Prayer

## **COLLECT**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **Or ADDITIONAL COLLECT**

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.

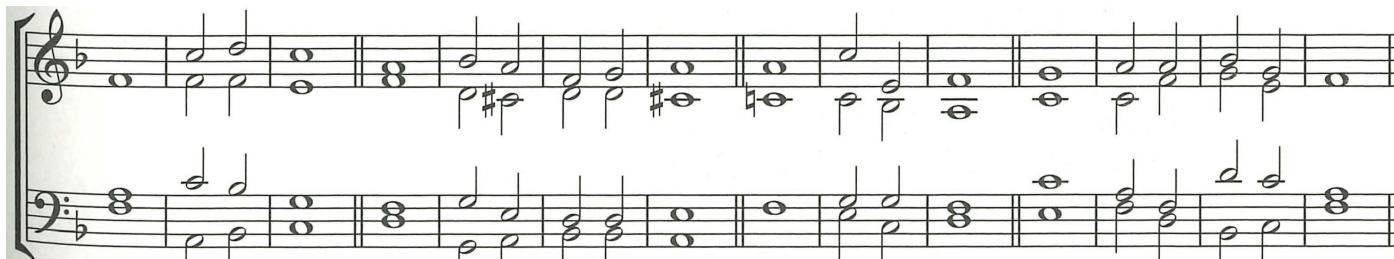
## **FIRST READING Exodus 24.12–18**

The LORD said to Moses, ‘Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.’ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, ‘Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.’ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

## **SECOND READING 2 Peter 1.16–21**

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, ‘This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

## PSALM 99



The Lord is king: let the / peoples / tremble; ◇ he is enthroned above the cherubim: / let the / earth / shake.

The Lord is / great in / Zion ◇ and / high a/bove all / peoples.

Let them praise your name, which is / great and / awesome; ◇ the / Lord our / God is / holy.

Mighty king, who loves justice, you have es/tablished / equity; ◇ you have executed / justice and / righteousness in / Jacob.

*:# Exalt the / Lord our / God; ◇ bow down before his / footstool, for / he is / holy.*

Moses and Aaron among his priests and Samuel among those who / call upon his / name; ◇ they called upon the / Lord / and he / answered them.

He spoke to them out of the / pillar of / cloud; ◇ they kept his testimonies / and the / law • that he / gave them.

You answered them, O / Lord our / God; ◇ you were a God who forgave them and / pardoned • them for / their of/fences.

*Exalt the Lord our God and worship him upon his / holy / hill, ◇ for the / Lord our / God is / holy.*

## GOSPEL Matthew 17.1–9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

## POST COMMUNION

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.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Diocesan Topic for the Week:** Going deeper into God; The Diocesan Cursillo Group

**The Sick:** Jo Morris, Marian Williams

**The Recently Departed:** Mabel Okafor

**First Anniversary of Death:** none

## 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

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES ON 18 FEBRUARY:** Ash Wednesday, which begins the Lenten season of spiritual growth and discipline, is a 'Principal Holy Day' for the church. All are encouraged to mark it, traditionally by being marked with ashes. There are 3 services in the parish, all including an opportunity for ashing:

10.30 am Holy Communion at St Nicholas' (our regular service time)

8.00 pm Holy Communion at St Mary's

8.00pm Holy Communion at All Saints'

8.00 pm Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'. This will be a joint service with St John's Church, and the preacher will be Tim Vickers, vicar at St John's.

**LENT BOOK 2026** We have chosen as our Lent Book for this year 'Notes on an Execution' by Rhidian Brook. He is an award-winning TV writer and the book presents the events of Holy Week as if contemporary reports to people at the time, enabling us to imagine them unfolding in real time as first-hand followers.

Join the Study Groups:

Mondays 23 February - 23 March, 8pm at St Mary's

Tuesdays 24 February - 24 March, 2pm at St Nicholas' in Cornelia's

Wednesday 10.30am Holy Communion Services will also use the book as the basis for sermons in Lent and other groups are invited to use the material. Copies are available from the Parish Office for £8. .

**COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT** Tuesdays 24 February - 24 March, 8pm with a short reflection from Rhidian Brook's book followed by a quiet service of night prayer. Behind the altar in St Nicholas' church.

**SPIRITUAL HEALTH CHECK FOR LENT.** Lent is a good time to take stock of our spiritual health, where we are with on our walk with God and how we might refresh or re-find our faith. The clergy of the parish (Patrick, James and Sally) offer you a one-to-one Spiritual Health Check' - a conversation about the spiritual life, with honesty, humanity and humour, and in complete confidence. Bring your questions, frustrations, joys and hopes and we will explore them together. Contact any one of us to arrange a time.

**TEA CAKE & CHAT FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY 3.00PM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL.** All welcome. Why not invite someone new by giving them a flyer of this date and future ones too - available at the back of each church. Lifts can be arranged; contact Chris Powell 01582 764930 or [chris\\_powell51@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris_powell51@hotmail.co.uk)

**AZALEA** are looking for new volunteers to join their team in Luton. We have a long association with this locally-based Christian charity which supports those affected by sex trafficking and the sex trade. This issue is more live in Harpenden than many people realise, and there are obvious links to the story of St Nicholas' rescue of three young women. No experience is needed to volunteer - only a concern for the wellbeing of people. Azalea provide full training and supervision, and will help volunteers choose the right role from the range of different ones they wish to fill. Training runs 7-8 March in Luton. Please contact [info@azalea.org.uk](mailto:info@azalea.org.uk)

**CONFIRMATION** we are running courses of preparation for Confirmation, for adults and for children. Please speak to a member of the clergy if you are interested in joining: dates and times to be confirmed to suit the groups once they are convened.

**SNOWDROP GARDEN – POSSIBLY FOR THE LAST TIME** The Bishop of St Albans' Garden will open for what may be **the final time** this February, with thousands of snowdrops and early bulbs in bloom. All proceeds support the **Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust**.

**Dates:** 14 & 15 Feb; 21 & 22 Feb

**Time:** 2–4pm

**Location:** Abbey Gate House, Abbey Mill Lane, AL3 4HD

**Entry:** £5 per adult

A warm invitation to enjoy the garden's early spring beauty and help care for our historic churches.

**THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE, PREPARED BY THE WOMEN OF NIGERIA, IS BEING HELD AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ON FRIDAY 6 MARCH AT 11AM.** All are welcome. Informative postcards are available at all 3 churches, please take one.

**BRITISH HUMANITARIAN AID COLLECTION** will be held on Saturday 28 February in the Cunningham Room within the Church Halls between 10 am to 3 pm. For the detailed list of requirements, please see either the attached flyer, or the Posters in Church & Halls.

**PASTORAL CARE IN THE PARISH** We have an active Pastoral Care Group in the parish. Together with the clergy, this trained team receive and respond to requests for prayer, practical support, visiting or phone contact for any who would like them, whether short or longer term. They also offer bereavement support and can signpost to more specialist help as required. If you would like to make a request, or just to have a conversation, please contact Chris Powell, Pastoral Care Coordinator, or Patrick, Sally or James. All contact details are on the front of this pew leaflet.

**FEBRUARY HALF-TERM PLAYScheme** Funding towards holiday playschemes for school-aged children (5-16 years) from Hong Kong or Ukraine. Visit [www.citizensadvicestalbans.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvicestalbans.org.uk) for more details.

**THE TWICE MONTHLY COURSE ON ROMANS CONTINUES AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH HALL ON TUESDAYS 2.30 TO 4PM** The next session is 24 February. Please contact Kirsteen Say 07941 480917 or Sarah Sewell 07746 070443 or just come along. All welcome.

### **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. *Please note:*

- *The School requires church attendance at least once per calendar month for each of the 24 months prior to the date of application for a school place.*
- *St George's School Governors set the admissions policy, not the Church. Queries about the policy or the process, or about your child's application, should be addressed to the admissions team at the School.*
- *It is parents' responsibility to check the admissions requirements and ensure they meet them*

To ensure we can give this reference, 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.

## **Parish Notices (continued)**

**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](mailto: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**

<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>
<b>Setting</b>	Thorne: Mass of St Thomas
<b>Hymns</b>	391 Blest are the pure in heart ; 501 Light of the minds that know him 322 Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast
<b>Anthem</b>	I will lift up mine eyes (Mawby)

<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Choral Evensong</b>
<b>Responses</b>	Bramma
<b>Setting</b>	Dyson Cm
<b>Anthem</b>	Evening Prayer (Humperdinck)

**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.

**HALF TERM SUNDAY CLUB REMINDER** A reminder that the 9.30am St Nicholas' Sunday Club, for primary school age children, takes a break for half term. We will not run on Sunday 15 February or Sunday 22 February, returning on Sunday 1 March.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Margaret Gregory who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday last week.

## All Saints' Church Notices

**Emergency Prayer Chain:** [jenny.britt@yahoo.com](mailto:jenny.britt@yahoo.com)



**PRAYER AND MEDITATION WALKS** 5.30pm Tuesdays in Lent, 24 February - 24 March. Meet at All Saints' Church to walk through Batford Springs Nature Reserve, pausing to hear readings to help us reflect on life in this season. Walks last around 45 minutes, and those who wish can come to the Marquis of Granby for a drink afterwards.

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

- 21 February 2.00 - 5.00pm Repair Fair - booking strongly recommended. Follow the link [here](#) or use the QR code to book your repair
- 28 February 7pm Quiz. Tickets £5, available from Julie Aldridge. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Proceeds towards cost of new heating for church and hall. Donations of prizes for the raffle would be most appreciated.



## St Mary's Church Notices



**TUESDAY 10AM HOLY COMMUNION** - 17 February

**CHARITY CONNECTIONS** the next stage of our Mission Action Plan is to review our charity connections. Which charities do / should we support and how? I'm looking for one or two volunteers who would be interested in taking this forward. Please speak to Sally.

**TEA CAKE AND CHAT: FRIDAY 20 FEB 3PM AT ALL SAINTS**, help needed please to provide cakes, and to serve tea. Please contact Jill Horn with offers of help.

**CARBON FAST FOR LENT: DO TAKE PART IN OUR CARBON FAST CHALLENGE FOR LENT**, details are with the Missive and on the poster in the Hall. Weeks 1/2 Feb 18th-28th: Fast From Consumerism, buy only what is really essential.

**QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY**, 7pm for 7.30pm start. Teams of six. £10 per person which includes a raffle ticket. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Contact Jacqueline Clayton to register your team.

### **LITTER PICKING SATURDAY 7 MARCH 10.30AM**

Please come along to help with our litter pick on Saturday 7 March from 10.30am. It helps to keep our district free from litter. We meet outside the front of church. Hi-vis jackets and equipment provided, please bring gloves.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP:** This group needs someone to take on the leaders role, to organise the programme, and liaise with speakers. We have good volunteer support to prepare and serve tea, to help set up and tidy up. Could you, or someone you know step into this role?



## What's on this Week

### **Tuesday 17**

- 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Mary's  
10.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's

### **Wednesday 18 - Ash Wednesday**

- 9.15am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas'  
10.30am Holy Communion with Ashing at St Nicholas'  
8.00pm Sung Eucharist with Ashing at St Nicholas'  
8.00pm Holy Communion with Ashing at St Mary's  
8.00pm Holy Communion with Ashing at All Saints'

### **Thursday 19**

- 10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints'

### **Friday 20**

- 3.00pm Tea, Cake & Chat in All Saints' Church Hall - see Parish Notices

### **Sunday 22 February - The First Sunday of Lent**

- 8.00am **Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**  
President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty
- 9.30am **Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas'**  
President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty  
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 Mark Rodel  
Live-streamed on [www.facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen](https://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
- 11.30am **Morning Praise with Holy Communion at St Nicholas'**  
Leader - Chris Powell; President & Preacher - Revd Patrick Moriarty
- 6.30pm **Choral Evensong at St Nicholas'**
- Readings**      Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7      Romans 5.12-19      Matthew 4.1-11