Parish of Harpenden
Welcome | Worship | Nourishment | Service

Sunday 22 November 2026
Christ the King

Services in the Parish

8.00am **Holy Communion** *at St Nicholas'*
President & Preacher – Revd Patrick Moriarty

9.30am **Sung Eucharist** *at St Nicholas'*
President & Preacher – Revd Patrick Moriarty
Live streamed on facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden

9.30am **Family Communion** *at St Mary's*
President & Preacher – The Venerable Dr Jonathan Smith
Live streamed on facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen

10.00am **Holy Communion** *at All Saints'*
President - Revd James Brown; Preacher – Pauline Gilbert
Zoom details available in the weekly pew leaflet email

11.30am **Morning Praise** *at St Nicholas'*
Leader – Suzanne Rose; Speaker – Revd Michael Parker

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

Contact Details

Parish Office	office@parishofharpenden.org	01582 765524

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

Revd Patrick Moriarty	rector@parishofharpenden.org	07376 661041
Revd James Brown	vicar@allsaintsharpenden.org	01582 363789
Chris Powell	pastoralcare@parishofharpenden.org	01582 764930

(Pastoral Care Coordinator)

You can find more information on our website - ***www.parishofharpenden.org***

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS THIS WEEK : *MON to FRI 10AM TO 2PM*

Collects, Readings, Psalm, Gospel and Post-Communion Prayer

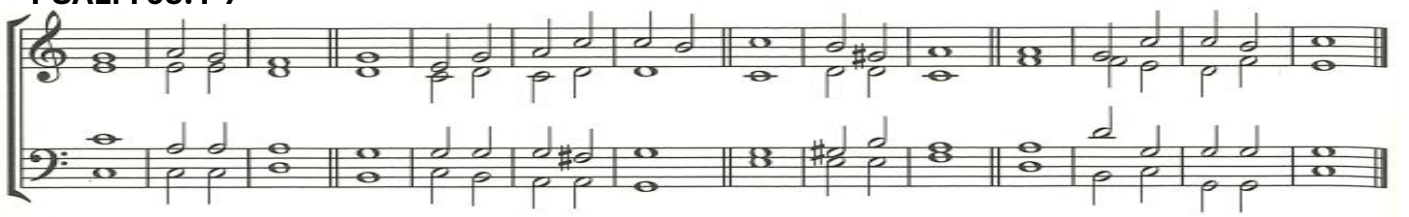
COLLECT
Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Or ADDITIONAL COLLECT
God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34.11–16, 20–24
Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1.15–end
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

PSALM 95.1-7



O come, let us ‘ sing . to the ‘ Lord; ◊ let us heartily rejoice in the ‘ rock of ‘ our sal‘vation.
Let us come into his ‘ presence with ‘ thanksgiving ◊ and be ‘ glad in ‘ him with ‘ psalms.
For the Lord is a ‘ great ‘ God ◊ and a great ‘ king a‘bove all ‘ gods.
In his hand are the ‘ depths . of the ‘ earth ◊ and the heights of the ‘ mountains are ‘ his ‘ also.
The sea is his, ‘ for he ‘ made it, ◊ and his hands have ‘ moulded the ‘ dry ‘ land.
Come, let us worship and ‘ bow ‘ down ◊ and kneel be‘fore the ‘ Lord our ‘ Maker.
For ‘ he is our ‘ God; ◊ we are the people of his ‘ pasture . and the ‘ sheep of his ‘ hand.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.31–end

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Diocesan Topic for the Week: Making new disciples: *For parents teaching their children to pray*

The Sick: Henry Malcolm-Brown, Heather Thomas, Judy Smart

The Recently Departed Angela Thomas, Jane Richardson

Parish Notices

ADVENT BOOK Our Advent Book this year is 'Walking with Angels', by Eleanor Sanderson (as selected by the Archbishop of York). There will be opportunities to explore the book with others during Advent (see the poster in all three churches).

ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP Tuesdays 1, 8, 15, 22 Dec, 11am - 12 noon. A friendly space to talk through the advent book's insights week by week. At Cornelia's Cafe, St Nicholas.

EXTRA ADVENT STUDY GROUP In addition to the group meeting at Cornelia's on Tuesdays, there will be a group discussing the material from 'Walking with Angels' in the Gordon Facer room at All Saints, Mondays 2.30pm, starting on the 23 November.

MOTHERS UNION - THE TRAVELLING CRIB Will be making its way around the Parish, stopping at a new home each night, from Advent Sunday, 29 November, until Christmas Eve. Overnight resting places required for our child-friendly, knitted Mary, Joseph and Donkey! All ages/groups are welcome to host. Please contact Pamela Woodford-Smith, Tel.764368, pamelaws@btinternet.com; or Emily Taylor emilykatytaylor@gmail.com; or St. Nicholas' Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT STALL The traditional craft stall returns to St Nicholas' Church this year - but in a slightly different way. **Preserves** will be on sale at Cornelia's on 25, 27, 28 November (normal opening hours) and between the 9.30 and 11.30am services on 29 November. **Craft items** will be on sale at Cornelia's on 5 and 12 December (accompanied by the Brass Band) and between 9.30 and 11.30am services on 6 and 13 December. The stall is a true Harpenden institution, offering products made with love and skill, and run by John & Anne Harper and Neil & Margaret Hewitt. Proceeds are split 50/50 between the Church and the Cornelia's charities. Please put the dates in your diary and come and support!

SOUP AND CAROLS Join us for Soup and Carols at St Nicholas' Church on Fridays 4, 11, 18 December from 1pm – 1:30pm. Sing a few carols, hear a few readings and enjoy some soup as we celebrate the season and prepare for Christmas.

COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT THURS 3, 10, 17, TUES 22 DEC, 8PM Join us for a short reflection on Bishop Eleanor Sanderson's book Walking with Angels followed by a beautiful and quiet service of night prayer. Behind the altar in St Nicholas.

CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES Christmas Cards from over 30 charities await you at the annual Cards for Good Causes temporary shop in the United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road, Harpenden AL5 4ED. The shop also sells Advent calendars and candles, plus small gifts and wrapping paper. These all help the charities involved. Open Monday - Saturday 10am – 4.30pm until Thursday 17 December.

PARISH GIVING If you **do not** already make a regular donation to the Parish, please consider doing so. It is easier than ever to set up a Direct Debit with The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS).

Scan the QR code from your mobile or follow this link:

www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/harpenden-st-nicholas-st-albans

Any queries can be sent to Claire Petevinos: giving.recorder@parishofharpenden.org

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE Our annual Christingle celebration will take place during the Strictly Worship service on Sunday 6 December at 4.30 pm. The service is for people of all ages but particularly children and their parents and carers. Each child will receive a Christingle, which is an orange, decorated with sweets, dried fruit, red ribbon and a candle. Come and sing Away in a Manger by candlelight, a lovely way to start the Christmas season! You will hear a little about the work of The Children's Society, a national charity that runs projects helping children and young people when they are at their most vulnerable and have nowhere left to turn; an important new project, 'Save Teenhood', works to ensure teens are safe and supported.
You will be invited to make a donation towards the work of the charity or alternatively scan the QR code.

FREE LOCAL CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY FOR ELDERLY Harpenden District Cubs are pleased to offer a free Christmas card delivery service for the elderly again this year. This service allows elderly residents to post cards for free to others in Harpenden, Batford and Redbourn only. The post boxes will be available until Monday 7 December at St Mary's, Wednesday 9 December at All Saints' and Thursday 10 December at St Nicholas' (in the Parish Office). There are also other post boxes around the town; these are available until Monday 7 December. Delivery will be on Sunday 13 December.

CHRISTMAS TEA, CAKE, AND CHAT There is a special concert by the students of Sir John Lawes School followed by a lovely tea in the church hall at All Saints' on Thursday 17 December, 2pm, particularly suitable for local senior residents. Please come along and spread the word. Lifts can be arranged by contacting Chris Powell on 01582 764930 or pastoralcare@parishofharpenden.org

AZALEA'S VOLUNTEERS AWARD We are delighted to share that Azalea's volunteers have been awarded The Kings Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest honour given to local volunteer groups across the UK, often described as the MBE for voluntary organisations. Azalea's would like to say thank you to every volunteer past and present for being part of the Azalea story for giving time, energy and hearts to support some of the most at risk people in our society.

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA IN HARPENDEN If you or a loved one are living with dementia, Harpenden Town Council would like to hear about your experiences. The survey can be found at www.Harpenden.gov.uk/dementia The closing date is 18 December.

POSTCARDS (both new and used). MAF- Mission Aviation Fellowship, collect postcards which they sell to raise funds for their work of helping vulnerable people in hard-to-reach places by providing planes to get medical assistance to them when needed. If you have any postcards you would like to get rid of please leave them at the parish office and I will continue to organise sending them off. Jenny Clark. Find out much more at www.maf-uk.org

BIKE N' HIKE EVENT FOR BEDS & HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST Congratulations to our Parish for raising £1,814.00 in September. (All Saints' raised £845.00, St Nicholas £519.00, St Mary's £450.00). Well, done to all participants and donors. Half the total amount will come back to our churches.

CLERGY AND MINISTERS CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR YOU AND FOR THE PARISH PRAYER LIST

If you have anyone you would like to add to the prayer list, contact the Parish Office or one of the clergy.

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.

St Nicholas Church Notices



www.stnicholasharpenden.org

TODAY'S MUSIC

9:30am **Parish Eucharist**

Gradual:	Psalm 95.1-7
Setting:	Thorne - Mass of St Thomas
Anthem:	Parry – My soul, there is a country
Hymns:	170 Jesus is Lord, 450t 516 Love Divine, 497 Let all the world in every corner sing

6.30pm **Choral Evensong**

Introit:	Hamilton – Lift up your heads
Responses:	Rose
Psalm:	93
Canticles:	Stanford in A
Anthem:	Vaughan-Williams – O clap your hands
Hymns:	546 omit * O Worship the King, 466 How shall I sing that majesty

Our 9.30am service is normally live streamed on Facebook (and is 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 facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden. If you have any problems, do contact us.

MORNING PRAISE NOVEMBER There are cards at the back of church with details of services in November.

CHURCH CLEAN BEFORE CHRISTMAS Can you help for a slot between 10am and12pm on Saturday 28 November? Twice a year we do a deeper clean under the pews, hunt for cobwebs and generally tackle things that can't be covered by our weekly cleaner.
We will provide a hot drink or squash for all volunteers and have plenty of brooms, hoovers and cloths for us to use. Young people also very welcome to help us out. Thank you.

SUNDAY COFFEE AFTER 9.30AM SERVICE It is suggested we serve coffee in Cornelia's rather than the large hall as there is then no need to get out tables and chairs. If there are too many people in Cornelia's, then people can always take their coffee up to the large hall and get a chair out to sit down.

All Saints Church Notices



www.allsaintsharpenden.org

Emergency Prayer Chain - jenny.britt@yahoo.com

BIBLE STUDY GROUP The bible study group are meeting on Mondays at 2.30pm in the Gordon Facer room. All are welcome to join them.

KNIT AND KNATTER Will now be meeting on a Thursday afternoon rather than a Wednesday. It starts at 2pm, do come along and join us.

A WALK IN THE DARK SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER AT 6.30PM An atmospheric evening walk in the nature reserve. We will meet at All Saints' church and wander through Batford Springs, pausing to hear beautiful readings and prayers, before returning to church for a warming glass of port. Bring a torch and wrap up warm.

CAN YOU HELP A NEIGHBOUR? If you have a large car with a decent boot, could you help a lady without a car who lives next to the church transport two mattresses to the recycling centre (memory foam that can roll up)? Any time in December. If you can, please contact Romana 07724 790046

St Mary's Church Notices



www.stmarysharpenden.org

MORNING PRAYER IN NOVEMBER A short 30-minute service of Morning Prayer will be resuming on Tuesday mornings in November at St Mary's Church. We will be especially praying for the future of St Mary's as we seek to appoint a new Associate Vicar for the District. If you are free at 9am on Tuesday 24 November please do join Nick and Jenny for this important time of prayer.

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S DURING THE VACANCY We are pleased to say that during the vacancy at St Mary's, our Sunday services and Tuesday morning BCP communion will continue as normal. We have many visiting clergy (and Bishops!) booked.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP (TAG) There is a change of schedule for the next Tuesday Afternoon Group, on 24 November. Emily Featherstone's talk about her work in the Central African Republic has had to be rescheduled for the New Year. Instead, we will have a crafting activity in preparation for the Christmas period, making recycled festive decorative bunting to take home. A chance to start "feeling Christmassy" with friends, refreshments and festive cheer.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Monday 23 November

2.00pm **Funeral of the late Angela Thomas** *at St Nicholas'*

Tuesday 24 November

9.00am **Morning Prayer** *at St Mary's*

Wednesday 25 November

9.00am **Morning Prayer** *at St Nicholas'*

10.30am **Holy Communion** *at St Nicholas'*

Sunday 29 November

8.00am **Holy Communion** *at St Nicholas'*
President & Preacher – Revd Mark Rodel

9.30am **Sung Eucharist** *at St Nicholas'*
President & Preacher – Revd Patrick Moriarty
Live streamed on
facebook.com/StNicholasChurchHarpenden

9.30am **Family Communion** *at St Mary's*
President & Preacher – Revd Mark Rodel
Live streamed on facebook.com/StMarysKinsbourneGreen

10.00am **Holy Communion** *at All Saints'*
President - Revd James Brown; Preacher – Roy Mutlow
Zoom details available in the weekly pew leaflet email

11.30am **Morning Praise with Holy Communion** *at St Nicholas'*
Leader – Revd Michael Parker; President & Preacher – Revd Mark Rodel

2.00pm **Baptism of Hallie Byrne** *at St Nicholas'*

6.30pm **Advent Walk in The Dark** *at All Saints' (See church notice)*

6.30pm **Advent Carol Service** *at St Nicholas'*

Readings

Isaiah 64.1-9
1 Corinthians 1.3-9
Mark 13.24-37