

**Collect for Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your  
presence: give us pure hearts and  
steadfast wills to worship you in spirit  
and in truth; 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 forever  
**Amen**

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God, the source of truth and  
love, keep us faithful to the  
apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking  
of bread, and one in joy and  
simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ  
our Lord. **Amen**

**PRAYER POINTS:**

- For Rope and CMS Uganda.
- For all who have lost loved ones and for those families who have lost their homes and all their belongings in the monsoon floods in Kerala State India.
- For the people of Yemen, suffering as a result of the war.
- For Ryan as he prepares to start his new career in teaching.
- For all children and teachers as they embark on a new term this week.
- For all people in the world suffering with disease as a result of a lack of safe drinking water.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:**

Alexander Torrance, Tony Eccleston, Brian Panter, Alan and Iris Austin, Oliver Baillie, Gladys Page, Suzie Aries, Michael Hopkins, Philippa King, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Hazel Sullivan, Philip and Sally Jones, Shirley and Eric Watts, Barbara Higgins and Ann Phillips.

**WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:**

Ashleigh Nichas, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Alex Chauhan, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Tony Mead, Hazel Boon, Jorge, Peter Braithwaite.

**WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:**

Linda Lawrence, Bishop Peter Nott and Douglas Hands.

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St Mary's  
with  
St Peter's  
PRINCES RISBOROUGH  
& ILMER

# News

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

### Dear Friends

The vegetable patch has not been as productive this year as it has been in the last few years. Some things have done well (the tomatoes in particular) but the beans and peas have been dreadful. The cold wet spring hampered germination with less than 10% of the seeds sprouting, even with a later second attempt when the weather improved. The handful of plants then struggled through the hot dry weather which delayed cropping until later than usual (which then coincided with holiday time away).

As a result, there has been barely a handful of produce to pick and the plants are now bare and over for the year. After a time of plenty this year has been a salutary reminder that lean times are never far away, and that the events and circumstances that come our way in life bring both up and down, plenty and scarcity, sorrow and joy. All that's left are a few brown, dry and shrivelled pods lying on my desk in front of a small holding cross.

A cross that reminds me that God knows this human experience of up and down, plenty and scarcity, sorrow and joy: that God has travelled through it, and in Jesus' death and resurrection has given hope for the future. Within the seemingly dead pods lie the hope of new beginning, new life in the form of seed for next year's vegetable patch. The cross, a sign of hope, and a reminder to me of God's call to join with others in sharing this life, enabling me to pray with others at the start of a new school year and a return to work and usual routines:

*God of hope, may we long not for the smoothness of sand which looks good, and feels flat, and is easy to walk on but will not withstand the storm. May we build our hopes on you. Though you may not prevent the storms, you keep us firm within them. So even if we're battered, we cannot fall, except deeper into a crevice in the rock: deeper into you. Amen*

**Rev Michael Hunt**

## NEWS & NOTICES

**RYAN:** Today is Ryan's last Sunday with us as he takes up his new career in teaching. Luckily he is staying in the area so I am sure you will still see him around. We wish Ryan all the best in his new career.

**HISTORIC CHURCHES BIKE RIDE:** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September – You can help in **3** ways: **1** – You can come out and **cycle or walk** to some local churches, having raised sponsorship for the Historic Churches. **2** – You can **greet** at St Mary's for a while to check and encourage other cyclists. **3** – You can **sponsor** the intrepid cyclists/walkers (a fixed sum or per church visited). Or you can **do all 3!!** If you prefer to **walk**, start at 10 o'clock at the Baptist Church. It should be a fine day to cycle around the local churches this year and raise money while enjoying the countryside. Please see Michael Hoey (01844-275192) or Val Stattersfield (01844-275014) if you would like to help in **any** way.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next Men's breakfast will be on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Church Hall. Cost £6 a head. Following breakfast there will be a tour of bomber Harris's offices at Strike Command, Walter's Ash. Contact Phil Ince at [philince@gmail.com](mailto:philince@gmail.com) for more details and if you would like to go.

**TIME TO REMEMBER:** On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm there will be a special service to remember loved ones no longer with us. Please tell anyone who might be interested. Refreshments after the service.

**ST MARY'S BIG NIGHT OUT:** Starts September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. Join us for a night of good company and laughter. Families welcome. The first one will be about sharing holiday memories, good or bad! If you have any amusing (or not!) photos or videos you would like to share, send them to Hazel at [wynnfamily@btinternet.com](mailto:wynnfamily@btinternet.com).

**GOOD NEWS FROM UGANDA:** Thanks to donations from Rope, Youth Action in Uganda are now able to drill another borehole in Soroti. When this is done, Rope in conjunction with YAU, will have drilled a total of three boreholes in Soroti and Napak. This is great news and means many more people can have access to safe drinking water. Please see the notice board for the news and latest pictures.

**LADIES' BREAKFAST:** The next Ladies' Breakfast will be on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> September at 9am and the speaker will be Louise Fell 'Keeping Faith through Adoption'.

**ROPE WOMEN WALKING FOR WOMEN:** On 15<sup>th</sup> September, there is a walk for women in aid of widows in Cameroon. It is a 10 mile walk, 10-4pm and starts from Speen Baptist Church. Refreshments en route and a pub lunch. Tea afterwards. If you would like more info or to sign up, go to [www.rope.org.uk](http://www.rope.org.uk).

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

**Readings: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9, Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**3.00pm** Open Door, a Back to School tea in the Chapter House  
**11.15am** TGIS  
**6.00pm** Evensong at St Peter's, Ilmer

### What's on in the week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

- Weds 5<sup>th</sup>** **9.00am** Wednesday Prayers at St Mary's  
**10.30am** Holy Communion followed by coffee  
**2-4pm** Church open for prayer  
**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup>** **10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House  
**Fri 7<sup>th</sup>** **2.00pm** Praise and Play  
**7.00pm** Puppet Club  
**Sat 8<sup>th</sup>** **9.00am** Men's Breakfast in Church Hall.

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September, Patronal Festival

**Readings: Psalm 24, Luke 12: 22-32**

- 8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's  
**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee  
**11.15am** TGIS including baptism  
**3.00pm** Time To Remember Service at St Mary's  
**3.00pm** Service at Icknield Court  
**6.00pm** United Service Anglican/Methodist/Baptist at Baptist Church

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**Rector:** Revd. David Williams 346984

**Associate Minister:** Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

**Curate:** Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

**Assistant Clergy:** Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;  
Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;  
Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

**Churchwardens:** David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew