

NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY – *Accession Day of HM The King*

8.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
10.00am	Parish Eucharist <i>Part 1: Sermon Series: God's Creation</i>	St John's
10.00am	Sung Mass <i>celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	St Francis'
11.30am	Holy Communion	St Stephen's

Monday	1.00pm	Funeral: Fr Rex Murray	St John's
	7.45pm	Together on Monday	St John's Hall
Tuesday	9.30am	Tiny Tots: Stay & Play and Service	St John's
	12.30pm	Deanery Clergy Chapter – Eucharist and Meeting	St John's
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion <i>followed by Coffee</i>	St John's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Francis'
Friday	7.00pm	Choir Practice	St John's Hall
Saturday	All Day	Bike 'n' Hike for Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust	All churches

SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY – *PARISH GIFT DAY*

8.00am	Holy Communion	St John's
10.00am	Parish Eucharist <i>Part 2: Sermon Series: God's Creation</i>	St John's
10.00am	Mass	St Francis'
11.30am	Morning Worship	St Stephen's
6.30pm	Choral Evensong: <i>observing The Holy Cross</i>	St John's

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

for peace between Israeli and Palestinian, and for the peoples of Ukraine;

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Andrew, Becky, Stewart Blake, Matthew Bloor, Brenda, Rev David Brooke, Arthur Brown, Carl & Justine, Hugh Cumberland, Sandy Cutts, Jean Dawkins, Emily Gager, Annetta Gray, Dave Harvey, Angie Jackson, Janice, Kevin, Alan Kirtley, Alex Labern, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Mary, Ann & Paul Meeder, Pamela, John Poole, Stanley Rose, Cathy & Trevor Stone, Penny Williams;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, John Bery, Peter Clayton, Melissa Clayton, Marion Cowe, Val Darvill, Gill Dow, Eve Davis, Ken Farmborough, Michele Finch, Pam French, Josie Gower, Graham, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Elizabeth Jones, Paul Kessell-Holland, Sheila Lewis, Anne Lyne, Ruth Merry, Gladys Mimer, Sharon & family, Steve Randall, Marion Roff, Jane Rombout, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Gill Williams, Christine Wilson, John Wilson, Mike Winch;

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead:

St Benedict's Church, Bennetts End: for Mthr Alice on her return to work from illness, and for congregational growth

those who have died recently and we pray for their families and friends:

Rex Merry – Priest	funeral: Monday 9 September,	1.00pm	St John's
Sheila Watts	funeral: Tuesday 24 September,	12noon	St John's
John Birnie	funeral: Tuesday 1 October,	12noon	St John's
Odette Bery, Steve Norris			

those whose Years mind is this week: 8–14 Sept

Jean Murphy (11.09.23), Peter Plested (13.09.20).

PARISH NOTICES

LIVE STREAMING – THIS WEEK: Due to ongoing technical issue our Parish Eucharist will go out after the live service as a recording. We hope this will be later that afternoon but it may take up to 24 hours. Thank you for your understanding.

SERMON SERIES: Starting today, and continuing for the next 2 Sundays, we will have a mini sermon series on God's Creation looking at how we can be better stewards of his creation, caring for the environment, and doing our part to reduce our carbon footprint. We shall be looking at the theology behind the eco-movement and what we can do as a Church and as individuals.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The Altar flowers this week are given by Di Tovey in loving memory of Derek.

PORCH FLOWERS The flowers in the porch were sponsored by the Sherriff and Ioannou families in loving memory of Fr Rex. Thank you, Rex, for your love, kindness, support, and advice over the past fifty years.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT: Fairtrade is being celebrated and championed this year from Monday 9 September to Sunday 22 September. Please see leaflets at the back of church. If you can buy Fairtrade it helps the farmers and workers get a fair price for their produce.

BIKE 'N' HIKE: This Saturday, 14 September, Mark Harbour will be cycling (and others will be hiking) round as many churches in the local area as possible to raise fund to be split between the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust and Parish funds. Why not take part yourself and get some sponsorship, or sponsor Mark. Last year over 20 churches were visited with over 40miles cycled. Or pop in to St John's or St Francis' and welcome those making the rounds.

TOGETHER ON MONDAY CLUB: We return this Monday evening with hosts Yvonne Munford and Linda Dainton. Our guest speaker, Denise Chenelle, will be sharing stories of The Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

TINY TOTS: The new term will commence this Tuesday, 10 September. All pre-school aged children are welcome to our Stay & Play, followed by a short service with action songs. 9.30–10.30am: Stay & play; 10.30am Service.

PARISH GIFT DAY: Next Sunday, 15 September, we will be holding a Gift Day when we ask parishioners to make a gift to the life of the Church. This is always a courageous endeavour so please pray that God will bless this work. For it to be fruitful we are writing to 4000 households within the Parish. Envelopes have been prepared and delivered. Thank you to those who have already made a gift and to those who delivered the envelopes.

CHORAL EVENSONG: Next Sunday, 15 September, at 6.30pm, Choral Evensong returns. Music will include Smith's Responses, Canticles from Brewer's Evening Service in D, and a lovely anthem Crux Fidelis. All are welcome to enjoy this perfect way to end the day.

STAMPS: Used stamps are no longer being collected at church as we have nowhere to take them. Thank you to all who have given stamps over the years.

FR REX MERRY RIP: Following the sad news of Rex's passing, it transpires that many of us have very shareable anecdotes about, or told by, Rex, over his long period of association with the parish. As a form of tribute to him, we would like to compile a joint article for the October Parish Magazine. If any of you have such a story to tell, could you please send it to annelyne13@hotmail.com or via the pigeonholes (St Stephen's slot) by **10 September**. Anne is happy to collect and compile what is sent in and others will then help finalise a suitable tribute.

HARVEST: On Sunday 6 October we shall once again be celebrating Harvest during our All Age Eucharist during which there will be a cash collection and a collection of produce. This will be preceded by a Quiz Evening on Saturday 5 October. For more info about the Quiz please contact Alan Munford to book your place/table. Tables are going quickly!

HARDSHIP FUND: The church has a hardship fund. Should anyone be struggling with fuel bills the parish may be able to help. Please speak to the vicar.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE: Should anyone be in need of advice or help concerning a safeguarding matter, please approach the Vicar or Rosie Akeroyd, Parish Safeguarding Officer.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL: If you wish to receive the weekly Newsletter by Email please send your Email address to stjohnchurchnews@btinternet.com and you will be added to the distribution list.

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The core office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30am–12noon.*

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