



**St Andrew's Whittlesey, St Mary's Whittlesey,
St Thomas' Pondersbridge and Holy Trinity Coates**
Church of England Team Ministry:
www.wpcteam.org.uk

HARVEST FESTIVAL
Sunday 4 October 2020
Services in our parish churches

**At Communion only the bread will be received and we will stand.
Bread to be administered by the priest only.
Face masks must be worn by those attending**

Services for 4 October – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)-Harvest Festival Services

If you are able to come to Church with a Harvest Gift, please, could it not be fresh fruit and vegetables this year. Any gifts of boxed, wrapped or bottled goods will be forwarded to our Whittlesey Food Bank. Any financial gifts would be welcomed in an envelope marked for Food Bank and any cheques should be payable to Whittlesey Emergency Food Aid, please, thank you

09.30am	Zoom	Morning Praise
	Holy Trinity	Morning Praise
	St Andrew's	Holy Communion – Rev'd Mike Jones
11.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion – Rev'd Mike Jones
	St Thomas'	Morning Praise

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Revelations 14:14-18 Gospel John 6:25-35 (Year C)

The Collect for Harvest Festival

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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 for ever, **Amen**

Monday 5 October- Saturday 10 October 2020

Monday	M P	Psalm 71	1 Kings ch 21	Acts 21:37-22:21
Tuesday	M P	Psalm 73	1 Kings 22:1-20	Acts 22:22-23:11
Wednesday	M P	Psalm 77	1 Kings 22:29-45	Acts 23:12-35
Thursday	M P	Psalm 78:1-39	2 Kings 1:2-17	Acts 24:1-23
Friday	M P	Psalm 55	2 Kings 2:1-18	Acts 24:24-25:12
Saturday	M P	Psalm 76	2 Kings 4:1-37	Acts 25:13-27

Holy Communion at St Andrews 9.15am Thurs 8 Oct will be taken at 9.15am on 8 Oct presided by Rev'd Paul Bennett.

Services for 11 October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)-Harvest

09.30am	Zoom	Morning Praise
	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion – Rev'd Andrew Smith
	St Andrew's	Morning Praise
11.00am	St Mary's	Morning Praise
	St Thomas'	No Service

Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14

School Services - LLM John Crisp

Wednesday 7 October

11.00am Park Lane Primary School Harvest Festival by Zoom

Wednesday 7th October

11.30pm at St Andrew's churchyard Interment of the cremated remains of Margaret Peacock

A Prayer for the world

God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation, but the world feels strange right now. The news is full of stories about Coronavirus. Some people are worried that they might get ill. Others are anxious for their family and friends. Be with them and help them to find peace. We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists, and all who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill. Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us. Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe. **Amen**

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus for daily use.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

Those who are in residential homes, hospital or hospice & those known personally to us including:

Marie Rogers, Terry Randells, Emma Aindow-Gregory, Lizzie Monk, Joan Kefford, Cheryl Tyner, Judy Stewart, Richard Willows, Mavis Connor, David Jarvis, John McGowen

All NHS staff, care workers, emergency services, shop workers, funeral directors and all key workers.

The families and friends of those who have recently died:

Janet Brown

Don Sutton 9 Oct 12.30am Fenland Crematorium

Anniversaries 27 September-3 October

St Andrew's: Kathleen Audrey Hilliam 4 Roland Jack Hull 15 Reginald Peter Holding 5 David Reginald Dickinson 5
Richard Dennis Phillips 6 Jean Beatrice Mullis 6 Arthur William Green 6 Jesse John Kisby 7

Eva May Flatt 9

St Thomas':

St Mary's: Herbert Cecil Wright 5 Anthony (Tony) Chapman 6 Lynne Sarah Porteous 7 Reginald Foster 10

Holy Trinity: Kath Blunt 9

To support you with your daily prayer and contact with the wider church please make use of the following websites.

Church of England. <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Prayer online. <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

Diocese of Ely. <https://www.elydiocese.org/>

Ely Cathedral. <https://www.elycathedral.org/worship-at-home>

The diocesan prayer calendar can be found at

<https://www.elydiocese.org/growing-in-faith/prayer-calendar/>

Ministry Team - Contacts

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Notices

Thank you We, the Ministry Team, would like to thank Stephen Palmer for all of his hard work on our Web pages and the like. We have many skills between us, but this was not one of them, again, thank you so much for all of your help Stephen.

Congratulations We are sure that you would want to join with us to pass on our congratulations to Sarah and Joe following their wedding last weekend. We trust that it was a wonderful day and that they will have a long and happy marriage, Love and Blessings from us all.

Jane Randells On Saturday 3rd October, Jane will be licensed with 17 others via a virtual on-line service by Bishop Dagmar as a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader) in this Diocese. Jane will now be licensed to serve in the Whittlesey, Pondersbridge and Coates Team Ministry. As members of the Team Benefice we wish to congratulate her and celebrate with her in this next step in her ministry. Our prayers are with her as we formally greet her as a Reader in our Team, although she is already well known to most of us.

John and Roger fellow Readers/LLMs

Reflection for Harvest

We read in Leviticus of the Israelites being camped at Mount Sinai some 1440 years BC and that they were to 'bring to the Lord ...an offering of the first fruits.' [Lev: 2:12] In many respects this was the first Harvest Festival.

Harvest Festival as we know it comes from the Victorian era. It basically originated in the North Cornwall church at Mowenstow in 1843. The rather eccentric poet-priest, the Revd Robert Hawker, had concern for the poor people and as there had been a good harvest that year he asked for fruit and vegetables from local gardens to be brought to church and then distributed to those in need.

Harvest Festival is a time to thank God for his rich provision to us. 'All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.'

In our own Fenland area, we see the land being ploughed, the seed being drilled (sown) and then there is warmth and water to support the growth. Our supermarket shelves have such a variety of foods available but we are still dependent on the harvest being safely gathered in. Nature is finely balanced and crops are affected by changing weather patterns caused by the world's commercialisation. There are indeed universal concerns about the exploitation and destruction of our environment.

Society has changed quite a bit over the last 50 years and with it our own Harvest Festival. In many respects fresh produce is more readily available through refrigerated lorries that bring us that food, often from overseas. Gifts of perishable goods at Harvest Festival have been replaced by tinned and packaged goods and other essential items such as soap and toothpaste. And Harvest gifts include financial giving to worthwhile charities.

Yet Christian giving is about offering our whole selves to God, who has given us everything. He doesn't want just our 'first fruits' but the fruits of our lives dedicated to serving him. 'He calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.'

Harvest Festival also focuses on the harvest of our souls as in Sunday's second reading from Revelation. In the hymn, 'Come ye thankful people, come..' the first verse says, 'all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin' but the last verse, 'all be safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin, there for ever purified in God's garner to abide.'

Another Harvest hymn 'The sower went forth sowing' ends with the verse;

'One day the heavenly Sower shall reap where he hath sown and come again rejoicing, and with him bring his own; and then the fan of judgement shall winnow from his floor the chaff into the furnace that flameth evermore. O holy, awful Reaper, have mercy in the day thou putttest in thy sickle, and cast us not away.

Heavenly Father, thank you that we will one day meet you face to face. Until that time comes, let us learn to be your people here on earth. Amen. RB

