

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD

[www.htboa.org](http://www.htboa.org)



Benefice Office Tel: 01225 864444 – Netty Hucknall

Benefice Office Email: [beneficeoffice@htboa.org](mailto:beneficeoffice@htboa.org)

The Rector, Revd Jenny Nelson:

The Rector's Home Office Tel: 01225 680808

The Rector's Email: [revjennynelson@outlook.com](mailto:revjennynelson@outlook.com)

The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Monday

## 14 SEPTEMBER 2025 HOLY CROSS DAY



**Welcome to our Service today**

**And welcome if you are reading this at home**

### **HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE**

**11.15am Holy Cross Holy Communion**

**30** – And can it be

**318** – Lord thy word abideth

**311** – Living Lord

**76** – Christ is made the sure foundation

## **COLLECT**

Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

### **Philippians 2. 6-11**

Jesus Christ, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## **GOSPEL READING**

### **John 3. 13-17**

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Faithful God, whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes: give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our hope, who reigns as Lord, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **NOTICES**

**COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS** – please send to Netty on: [beneficeoffice@htboa.org](mailto:beneficeoffice@htboa.org)

## **NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETINS –**

please send any messages *by the end of a Wednesday* to Netty on:  
[beneficeoffice@htboa.org](mailto:beneficeoffice@htboa.org)

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL – 5 October @**

11.15am: Gathering and Giving Canned and Non-Perishable Foods. As part of our Harvest Thanksgiving Service, we will be collecting tinned foods and non-perishable foods such as pasta and sauces to give to the local foodbank in Bradford on Avon for those enduring challenging circumstances in this season. Please do invite all you know; your family, friends and neighbours to join us for this service, so we can make this gift for the community. Following the service there will be refreshments served: coffee or cider, and a piece of Becca's Apple Cake. Come and join us. We look forward to seeing you.

**MESSAGE FROM JENNY** - As we move through early September, our thoughts turn towards Holy Cross Day. We are invited to pause before the mystery of the cross: not as a sign of defeat, but as the 'tree of life', where God's love is revealed most fully in Jesus Christ. The cross is a paradox. To the world it may seem a symbol of suffering, yet it is also a sign of hope, healing, and salvation. St Paul reminds us, "we proclaim Christ crucified... the power of God and the wisdom of God." Each time we gather at the cross, we place ourselves afresh within the love that holds and forgives us, and sends us out in Christ's way of compassion. It has been a joy this term to lead assemblies at Westwood and Iford Primary and The Mead School, Wingfield, seeing pupils and teachers begin this new school year with such energy and enthusiasm. Huge thanks to Churchwardens, PCCs, ministry teams, and all who serve, from florists and bellringers to sacristans and cleaners. Your commitment sustains our church family. As one hymn encourages: 'Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.' Thank you. Yours Jenny and Team

**WEEKLY PRAYERS** at noon every Thursday in the Saxon Church for Israel and Palestine using prayer from Sabeel based in Jerusalem, 11.50 - 12.10. Everyone warmly welcome.

**SPECIAL EVENSONGS** – TODAY at Holy Trinity we are delighted that the Nordic Singers, under Kevin Duggan, are making a return visit. They are singing Herbert Howells' wonderful Collegium Regale (King's College) canticles and a beautiful anthem by Dietrich Buxtehude. We're very much aware of the famous story of Johann Sebastian Bach walking 300 miles from Arnstadt to Lubeck in 1705 to hear the great Buxtehude play the organ, so hopefully that inspires us all to come back to church that day to hear some of his music. Then on 5 October, the Holy Trinity choir have their own Choral Evensong planned for us and this will include a canticle setting by another British composer, Ernest Moeran, and a wonderful anthem by Victorian composer, Charles Steggall, 'Remember now thy Creator,' which we shouldn't miss! Martin will be conducting and our good friend, Marcus Sealy, will be accompanying. Do pop these dates into your diaries.

**LIVE AT SHAW** – Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of Ramsbury – an evening of poems, readings, songs and guitar playing. Thursday, 23 October @ 7.30pm, Christ Church, Shaw. Tickets £10 from [aswparish@gmail.com](mailto:aswparish@gmail.com)

**HOLY TRINITY NEW CONCERT & RECITAL SERIES - Opening Recital - Thursday, 25 September @ 12pm.** We're delighted to announce the launch of a new series of concerts and recitals at Holy Trinity, featuring both local and visiting musicians. The opening recital will take place on Thursday, 25th September at 12.00pm, with a Clarinet and Piano Recital given by The Revd Jenny Nelson, Rector of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield, and pianist David Arkell. Their programme will include works by Elgar, Finzi, Rutter, and other British composers - an uplifting and reflective celebration of English music. Join us for this special lunchtime concert as we begin what promises to be an inspiring new musical tradition at Holy Trinity. Future dates include 30 October and 13 November with Martin Cooke, Director of Music at Holy Trinity.

**WESTWOOD BELLS** - Anne Willis has written a history of Westwood bells which can be found on <https://sdgr.org.uk/westwood-bells>

**CONFIRMATION AT SALISBURY CATHEDRAL, 1 NOVEMBER** - We're delighted to share that preparation for Confirmation is well underway, with five candidates preparing for confirmation. Teenagers Mason and Stevie are preparing alongside Chris, Sally, and Jill, and all looking forward to being confirmed at Salisbury Cathedral on 1st November. Please do keep them in your prayers : "Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit." If you are considering baptism or confirmation, or simply want to explore what that means, please get in touch with Jenny, who is planning an upcoming Exploring Confirmation Course. All are welcome.

**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER - A TIME FOR CREATION** - September often brings a welcome return to rhythm and routine. Across the church, it's also a time of prayer and ecological awareness, culminating in the feast of St Francis and Harvest Festival celebrations. Our usual pattern of services continues this month, with the additional Creation-tide themes of stewardship, and the sacred gift entrusted to us. Here are our services in the weeks ahead:  
TODAY - Holy Communion - Holy Cross Day  
21st September – Matins  
28th September – Morning Prayer  
5th October - Harvest Festival - raising the glorious song of Harvest home!  
All are welcome to the services at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood. we look forward to seeing you, your friends and neighbours.

**ANNE WILLIS NEWS ON BELLS AND RINGING** - Do come along and try some 8-bell ringing! We'd love to see you. The bells at Westwood make our hearts sing! If you'd like to know more about the bells at Westwood please do get in touch with Anne Willis, via the Benefice Office.

**COMMUNITY CAFÉ** – Holy Trinity holds a weekly Community Café Wednesdays from 10am-12noon, to which all across the benefice are warmly welcome – coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided on a donation basis

## THIS WEEK @ HT

**CHORAL EVENSONG WITH NORDIC SINGERS** – TODAY @ 6pm

**MORNING PRAYER** – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday @ 8.30am

**MAINLY MUSIC** – Tuesday @ 10.30am – fun & friendship for pre-school families (contact Marlene on 864412 if you'd like to come). We have vacancies at the moment so would love to welcome more families.

**SAXON CLUB** – Tuesday @ 2.30pm – fun & friendship for 'seniors'.

**GRAPPLING WITH JONAH COURSE, SESSION 3** – Wednesday @ 10am with Bishop Robert

**COMMUNITY CAFE** – Wednesday, 10am – 12noon. All welcome.

**MOTHERS' UNION COMMUNION & TALK** – Wednesday @ 2.30pm with Revd Jenny Nelson presiding, followed by a short talk.

**FORGET ME NOT CAFÉ** – Thursday @ 11am-12.30pm – lots of fun, music and good company.

## FUTURE EVENTS @ HT

**SING FOR PEACE WORKSHOP** – Sunday, 21 September, 2pm-5pm. On International Peace Day, sing songs for Peace, Hope and Justice at this workshop with Clara Atkins and Sophie Sterckx, plus Clara's Doves Peace Choir, in support of Medecins San Frontieres. Tickets can be purchased via <https://www.claraceciliaatkins.com>. All welcome – no singing experience required.

**THURSDAY CONCERT SERIES** – Thursday, 25 September @ 12noon

## FOR OUR PRAYERS

**Please pray for all who are sick, remembering especially:** David Chalmers, Betty & Doug Hancock & Mary Needham.

**Pray for all those who mourn and for those who have recently died, especially:** Elizabeth Warren

**Please let Revd Jenny know of any pastoral need, including prayer.**

## FOR PRAYER THIS WEEK

- The communities of Westwood and Iford Primary School, for the school community. Pray for those preparing to start university.
- All who are preparing for Baptism and Confirmation at this time
- For all Bishops, and for our Ministry Team
- Peace and safety amid all the world unrest
- All those caught up in tragedy and unrest
- Praise for the beauty of autumn and a fruitful harvest
- Our local surgeries and pharmacies
- Love, kindness and time for family and friends



We continue to work together in our shared commitment to Safeguarding: **'The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield takes its**

**responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.'**

**SAFEGUARDING** - If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Safeguarding Adviser for the Benefice:

**Andrea Unwin** 07553161654

Email: [safeguarding@htboa.org](mailto:safeguarding@htboa.org)

If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from: [safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org) to speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor 01722 438651 and press option 3

**NEXT WEEK – 21 SEPTEMBER – MATTHEW**

**11.15am** – Matins

**Readings:**

2 Corinthians 4. 1-6  
Matthew 9. 9-13