



X Sunday after Trinity

9 August 2026

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10am Parish Communion

Readings: 1 Kings 19.9-18 *Elijah meets God*
Romans 10.5-15 *Salvation is for all*
Matthew 14.22-33 *Jesus walks on water*

Collect: Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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

(No Zoom this week -11:30am service from St Alban's available online -see box below)

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

Services to watch online from St Albans

These can be viewed here:

<https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/live-streaming-at-st-albans-cathedral>

YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuluP-WWPQ-dxOImR8WxHlg>

Hear2 Listen Holiday Club 8:30am-1pm Mon-Thurs

Thursday 13 August

9:30am Holy Communion—Jeremy Taylor 1667
Readings: Ezekiel 12.1-12
Matthew 18.21-19.1

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

11am Mantles Court Home Communion

6pm onwards—Holiday Club marquees up
(any help gratefully received)

Saturday 15 August

6:30am Mafambisa Team return to UK

10am-12noon Coffee Shop, Craft and Chat,
Chapter House

3pm onwards- Holiday Club marquees up
(any help gratefully received)

Sunday 16 August

10am Parish Communion

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

Holiday Club set up in church

5:30pm Taize Service—Cockayne Hatley

6pm Holiday Club Opening Service

Vic-

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All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:



Intercessions

Let us pray for: Tourism in our locality: Jordans Mill, Shuttleworth, RSPB Sandy, The Bigg Theatre

Requesting our Prayers: Pat Boulter, Joan Chelley, Percy Doughty, Thelma Holden, Margaret Hulley, Charles Rutt, Steve Waldron, Derek and Gill Whinnett.

We continue to pray for: Ricardo Landsman, Julia Pilgrim

We pray for the souls of the recently departed : Janet Castle, Brian Davison

For families and friends preparing for services of thanksgiving and celebration of life.

We remember with prayers and thankful, privileged, memories those whose Year's Mind fall at this time: George Spring (12th), Oscar Etuge Elong (13th), Cecil Cutter (14th)

Mafambisa: We remember the people of our partner community of Mafambisa, for the vulnerable and orphaned children, the care workers, the caregivers and all who support them. By name this week we pray for care-worker: Kethiwe and children: Ayama, Lethokuhle, Asanda, Ayanda

Team Africa 2026

The Africa Blog for 2026 is now live and the team departed Saturday 1 August.

<http://standrewslink.blogspot.com/2026/07/team-2026.html> please continue to pray for the team in the weeks ahead — for safety, unity, and God's guidance in every step.

While we are in Africa, you can follow our journey through the blog. We would be grateful if you would keep praying for us throughout the trip as we serve, learn, and support the communities we visit. Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and prayers.

Zoom

There will be no Zoom for Sunday 9 August. 'Normal' service will be resumed on 16 August.

Apologies -Zoom Team

MU Saturday 8 August

This year MU is celebrating its **150th anniversary** (as you're probably aware) and we are planning a **Ploughman's Lunch** for the 8 August, the day before Mary Sumner Day (our founder). This will be our usual lunch but includes a cold dessert. We will ask for a minimum donation of £5 with proceeds split between the MU appeal and St Andrew's. A list and details will be in the foyer.

Maggie McLoughlin and Rosamund Drakes

Mary Sumner Day Sunday 9 August

150th Anniversary of founding Mothers' Union

Mary Sumner's legacy wasn't about keeping people in line with Victorian ideals and judgements, but about responding to real needs with love, faith and courage. She saw the struggles of women and families in her time and chose not to stand by but to act, offering practical help, spiritual support and a place of belonging. She followed Christ's example and became a pioneer for social and spiritual change.

That same spirit which stirred her stirs us too, calling us to be Christ's hands and feet in our own communities. Really, we're just called to love – to put Christ at the centre of all we do and let that love lead us.

With the help of God, we will.

Maggie McLoughlin and Rosamund Drakes



Country Fayre Exhibition 'Calmness in Crisis'

This year our exhibition will focus on Calmness in Crisis - different ways we all cope when going through challenging times, linking in with our charities Cruse Bereavement and Homestart Bedfordshire. We would love to hear from the congregation as to what you do to keep calm and if able to represent this in our exhibition (e.g. art/painting, photography, other crafts, exercise, poetry etc.). Please do contact any of the Country Fayre Committee and we can discuss with you further. As usual, we will be asking for the help with running stalls and refreshments on the day as well as setting up and clearing up - please volunteer if you feel like you would be able to help (Saturday 19 September).

Oliver Dilley, Lucy Dilley, Noah Dilley, Jane Parker, Carolyn Marron, Sue Cleghorn, Nick Gurney

Children's Society Boxes

I am happy to receive your Children's Society boxes for opening and counting until 16 August. Please bring to church on Sunday or hand in to Parish Office.

Rob Butcher

Mission Partner Review: Many churches have Mission Partners, who are organisations with whom they share a long term, mutually accountable relationship to work together for God's mission. Our current mission partner is Hands at Work. The PCC is reviewing our mission partner position. To help the PCC make future decisions, we would like to hear from you. Peter will be carrying out discussions to gather your views on our Mission Partner. There are three key themes:

- 1) Should we have a Mission Partner?
- 2) Should that mission partner remain Hands at Work?
- 3) If not Hands at Work, what kind of organisation should it be?

Ideally, we would like to hear your views on all three questions, even if you have a definite view. The format would be a short discussion, face to face or over the phone with some key questions. If this is not convenient, email exchange is also possible. Please contact Peter Giles if you would like to share your views, peterdvgiles@gmail.com

Exploring Silence: The next session of **Exploring Silence** is again at **St Peter's, at 7:45pm on Thursday 20 August**, and we would be very pleased to see you. These sessions aim to help people get into and explore a period of silence in their life. This started as a result of conversations in the "Churches Together in Biggleswade", and a number of occasional sessions have been held at St Peter's Church in Station Road.

There's more information about what we hope to do at the website exploring-silence.org.

MU Wednesday 2 September 2-4pm in the Ivel Room. Meeting: making table decorations with Helene.

Join us, join in! All welcome.

Maggie McLoughlan and Rosamund Drakes

Country Fayre – Water into Wine Stall: We are running the Water into Wine stall once again at this year's Country Fayre and would be most grateful for any donations of bottles of wine. If you can help in any way, it would be much appreciated. Please pass your bottle(s) to Paul or Ruth. Many thanks.

Paul Daniels and Ruth Marshall-Jones

Craft and Chat The next craft and chat session will be on 15 August in the Chapter House during coffee shop, between 10am and 12noon. It would be good to see you. We are a small group of people who enjoy crafting but we are also happy chatting!! Why not bring along your ongoing craft project and join us or just pop in for a drink and a chat. No extra charge...just a donation for your drink and biscuits. There will also be jigsaws on sale!

Gill Hibbert and Anna Rutt



Future Dates

18—21 August		Holiday Club
23 August	9:30am	Parish Communion
	11am	Holiday Club Service followed by BBQ
8 September	7:30pm	Standing Committee, Ivel Room
19 September	10am-3pm	Country Fayre
	2pm	Installation of Andrew, Bishop of St Alban's, St Alban's
22 September	7:30pm	PCC Meeting, Chapter House
29 September	7:30pm	Growth & Mission Working Group

Take time to claim your strength; this is a gift from God.
Take time to have fun; it is God's way of teaching you your strengths.
Take time to grow yourself; only you can grow you.
Take time to trust yourself; God trusts you.
Take time to be self-reliant; it is better than being dependent.
Take time to share with others; they will bless you and you will bless them.
Take time to have hope; you are a child of God.



Mary Sumner Prayer

All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe or the life I live. Amen

(Mary Sumner c.1848)

Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve, Holy Spirit make us heralds of good news. Stir us, strengthen us teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus. Amen

Vicar:

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