



Team News



Dear friends, welcome to our new Team newsletter. Revd. David, Revd. Diana and I hope this will help us keep in touch as we pray for and support each other across our Team.

The observant amongst you will notice our October Team Service is not on a fifth Sunday. This is because the fifth Sunday this quarter is Advent Sunday: there will be Team Advent Carols at 6.30pm at Holy Trinity. We decided we'd still like a Team Eucharist on another Sunday morning though, so have revived the tradition of celebrating the formation of the Team, on the Sunday closest to the inauguration service: 11th October 2009.

Our Team anniversary falls at the turning of the year. Harvest has been celebrated, All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance draw near, and soon after a new Church year will begin at Advent. The heat of summer has ebbed away, the leaves are turning, the nights draw in, and almost every day, the Anglican calendar celebrates a saint. I was interested to see which saints have festivals near our Team anniversary. I think there is a clear theme. 10th October: Paulinus, Missionary, d.664. 12th October: Wilfrid, Missionary, d.709. 13th October: Edward the Confessor, King of England, d.1066. All three founded important churches on the foundations of which stand present day Ripon Cathedral, York Minster and Westminster Abbey. All three wanted to create Christian communities of learning, worship, welcome and mission. Wilfrid and Paulinus were directly involved in mission, taking the Gospel to the Anglo Saxons. Edward the Confessor created one of the most important places of Christian learning, worship, pilgrimage and prayer in the British Isles.

The setting of our founding date among these saints gives us lots of pointers for what our Team is called to be – a supportive network enabling each of our churches to be places of welcome, worship, community and mission. May we be inspired anew in our worship together this weekend, and in remembering the example of those who have gone before, may our Team be just that.

Every blessing,
Fr. James



Saint Benedict's
Bennetts End

All Saints
Kings Langley

St Mary's
Apsley & Nash Mills

Holy Trinity
Leverstock Green

Team Host Church:

We are delighted to be hosting this Team service, and we look forward to welcoming friends from across the Team Ministry.

St Mary's is a church for everyone, young and old, and everyone in between. This will be an all-age service, so we will all be worshipping together. Children are warmly invited to join in throughout, and there will be no separate children's group.

Whether you worship with us every week or are joining us for the first time, you are very welcome. If you need anything during the service, please ask someone sitting nearby. They will be very pleased to help. After the service, do stay for refreshments and a chat in the Refectory at the back of the church. It's a lovely chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

St Mary's Church



Our Vicar's ✨



Father James

James is Team Rector and Vicar of All Saints, Kings Langley. He enjoys being part of a liturgical, fun and welcoming church which has growing links with the village and Team. If you get him talking about Church history, especially the Reformations of the 16th century, expect to be there a while! In his spare time, James enjoys reading, TV dramas and comedy, the gym, walking (especially if a pub or coffee shop is involved!) and board games.



Revd Dr Diana

Diana is Team Vicar with special responsibility for Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green. She loves the variety of things that go on in Holy Trinity and across the Team and the fact that every day is different. If you get her talking about the theology of coinherence then expect to be stuck for a while! In her spare time, Diana enjoys crochet, music and board games and has recently started learning Japanese sword styles.



Revd David

David is Team Vicar with special responsibility for St Mary's and Saint Benedict's, which he leads alongside his wife Janey. He loves seeing church become a place where everyone can join in, whether that's an All In service or a FuelNight. If you get him talking about church planting, expect to be there a while! In his spare time, David loves going on holiday, watching a good TV series, walking the family dog, and hanging out with his family and friends.

Six Months on the Hill

On Easter Sunday, around 150 people joined us as we opened the doors of Saint Benedict's in Bennetts End. Six months on, we are thankful to God for all he has done.

Gathering together

Every Sunday at 4pm we gather for worship, two children's group, and tea and cake. Once a month, All2gether brings every age

together. Over the last 27 Sundays we have welcomed over 1000 people and the amazing thing people keep coming back!

Our summer together

We shared our first church family BBQ in the Vicarage garden, celebrated Father's Day and held our first Gift Day. Our All2gether services began a series on the life of Moses, and our Foodbank Basket has been collecting for Bennetts End Foodbank. With many people away, our church family stepped up to keep every Sunday going.

Growing in prayer

Fuel Prayer and our monthly FuelNights keep prayer at the heart of it all. In September we hosted Prayer Hemel, with Christians from across the town.

Welcoming Storehouse into the family

We are delighted that the Children's Storehouse is becoming part of the Saint Benedict's family. For around 15 years, Meg and her team have cared for local families with young children. We host the first session in our building on Saturday 14 November.

Looking ahead

On Saturday 14 November, Children's Storehouse, holds its first session. On 5th December we hold our first Angel Festival, and local schools will visit to hear the Christmas story. We are in the process of advertising for a parish administrator and a worship pastor which will be part time roles to start with. We are looking forward in see where we ill be in the next 6 months. Everyone is very welcome to come and visit us.



Christmas @ Saint Benedict's

Sunday 6 Dec <i>Advent 2</i>	4pm Christmas All2gether
Sunday 13 Dec <i>Advent 3</i>	4pm Sunday service
Sunday 20 Dec <i>Advent 4</i>	4pm Carol Service
Thursday 24 Dec <i>Christmas Eve</i>	5pm Nativity & Christingle
Friday 25 Dec <i>Christmas Day</i>	10.30am – 11.15am Family Christmas Celebration
Sunday 27 Dec <i>Christmas 1</i>	10.30am Team Service
Sunday 3 Jan 27 <i>Christmas 2</i>	4pm All2gether – New Beggins



ALL SAINTS, KINGS LANGLEY

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

11th-13th DECEMBER

Friday 4-6pm

Saturday 10am-6pm

Sunday 11am-4pm

Come and visit the church full of magical trees
and twinkling lights!



Live music
Mince pie and mulled wine
Kids activities

www.bit.ly/allsaintskl
[allsaintskingslangley](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintskingslangley)

5th anniversary Beer Festival

We can't quite believe that this September saw our 5th annual Beer and Fizz Festival! The Festival committee, ably led by Chris Hughes, put together a wonderful community weekend of food, drink, music and children's activities. Over 1200 adults and 200 children came through the doors. It is now a firmly established event in village life and we look forward to building on the opportunities for mission. A huge thank you to our volunteers and sponsors - here's to next year!

Administrator - a farewell and a welcome

Knowing that Sue Bassett, our Team Administrator, would be retiring over the summer, the Team decided to appoint administrators for each church, the one at Kings Langley retaining some important Team duties. We said farewell and thank you to Sue Bassett on behalf of the Team on 6th of September and welcomed Nicki Botha as the new All Saints Administrator on 6th October. We pray for Sue in her new chapter, Nicki in her new role and the appointment processes around the Team. For now, the All Saints Administrator will continue to use info@beneficeoflangelei.org.uk.

Reordering Project

All Saints has nurtured a vision to reorder the church building for welcome, worship and mission since the 1990s! Recently, we have moved the project forward in earnest and are at the point of getting a Faculty decision from the Diocese: more in the next issue of Team News! Meanwhile, we have started to raise funds. Initially, we are looking for 20 leadership gifts of £25,000 to form a cornerstone fund for the project. We have 3 at time of going to press. Of course, this is a large sum, but if you or any individual, group or business you know would be open to a conversation about helping to ensure our ancient Parish Church is renewed for mission for the next 800 years(!), then please get in touch.

**All
Saints**



All Saints presents

A Night of Classical and Contemporary Music

FEATURING:

Soprano **Madalina Tudoran**
Piano **Bertha Kum**
String Quartet led by **Arwen Newband**

**October 17, 2026 (Sat)
7.30pm**

All Saints, Kings Langley

Entry: £12 (includes a drink)

Get your ticket online via the QR
code or the link below!
<https://bit.ly/askl-17oct>



All Saints
Kings Langley



Our God is a great big God

As we were singing this in a recent all-age service, my attention was caught by the last line: “How wonderful to be a part of God’s amazing plan!”

But what sort of plan is it? Does God have a detailed plan into which our lives have to fit? In reading about the Amish people, I’ve been struck by how they accept bad things happening to them, not as a result of sin or bad choices, but as God’s will. In the end, they believe, it will all turn out as God intends.

But is that the sort of plan God has for us? I’m reminded of a well-known saying by the Prussian military strategist Helmuth von Moltke: “No plan survives the first contact with the enemy”. I’m sure God’s plans are constantly being affected by the enemy, the devil, or however we describe the evil at work in the world. But planning can be flexible, designed to adapt constantly to changes in circumstances. I can see two ways to look at this: either everything that happens is part of God’s plan, is God’s will, because God’s will must prevail – or things happen through free will and human sin that are not God’s will, not part of any plan. When I see some of the things that are happening in the world, I simply can’t believe they are what God wants to happen.

We say sometimes, often jokingly, “the age of miracles is not yet past”, but in fact it’s true. There are genuine healing miracles, as well as many cases of healing achieved by the use of the knowledge God has given to skilled doctors and surgeons. These are a prime example of people who are playing their part in God’s world. Most of the time it seems that God does not intervene directly in our lives. As in the field of medicine, he depends on us his servants to be his hands and feet in making things happen.

Matthew 24 tells us that we should be ready at any time; this could refer to the end of the world, or more specifically the destruction of Jerusalem, or simply our own death. But what does it mean to be ready? The parables of the foolish and wise virgins, and of the talents, give us some clues. Towards the end of Matthew 25 Jesus lists a whole string of acts that would be typical of a good person: feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, and so on. These are simply examples of what a Christian should do, of how a Christian should live.

So what should we do if we are to play our part in God’s world? How can we contribute to fulfilling God’s plan? The answer is simple – not easy, but simple. We are to use what we’ve been given to serve God and those around us, sharing God’s love with them. As we welcome Bishop Andrew to St Albans, now is a good time to remember the challenge Bishop Alan gave us: to Live God’s Love.

It has been a full and joyful months at St Mary's, and on 14 October I mark my first year as vicar here. We are thankful to God for all he has been doing among us.

A summer of trying new things

Our hope has been to make church easy for everyone to join in, while treasuring our tradition and liturgical worship. Over the summer we trialled a new Sunday pattern and asked everyone for their feedback. Morning Prayer and our midweek Communion moved to Tuesday mornings, and many of our church family joined ChurchSuite.

Celebrating together

Our All In Family Service on the first Sunday of each month has become a highlight, with crafts, hymns and a family-friendly Eucharist. It has been a joy to celebrate baptisms there, including two at our Harvest service on 4 October, where we also collected food for the local food bank. In September, we hosted our second Scarecrow Festival which was enjoyed by all who visit for the first time or come back from last year.

Seeking God's vision

We held our APCM in the spring, and in September sixteen of us gathered for our first Away Morning with Nick Smith from the Diocese. We asked what church is, what mission looks like for us, and why a vision matters.

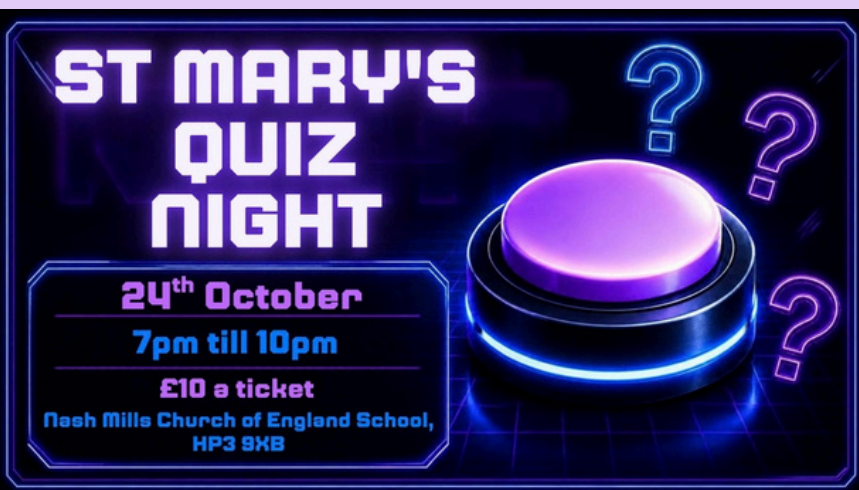
Our new pattern of worship

From Sunday 18 October:

1st Sunday	All In Family Service
2nd Sunday	Sung Eucharist
3rd Sunday	Said Eucharist
4th Sunday	Sung Eucharist

Looking ahead

We are delighted to host the Team Service on Sunday 11 October at 10am. Our second Away Morning will begin shaping our vision and values. Our Christmas Fair is on Saturday 28 November, and everyone from across the Team is very welcome.



St Mary's Church

Apsley & Nash Mills



STIR UP SATURDAY

Bring along a large mixing bowl & a wooden spoon and get ready to make, take and bake your home made Christmas pudding!

Saturday 24 October
Arrival between 2.30pm-4.30pm
(staggered arrival is advised)

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Trinity Room by 19 October

For further information, please contact Suzanne on 07989 679 266

Holy Trinity has had a busy beginning to October with our harvest celebrations. At the time of writing they are all about to begin, but by the time you read this we will have hosted the school for their harvest service and had our own harvest celebrations, including an All-Age Service, Sacred Space, and a talent show organised by our Youth Group.



As part of marking harvest and the end of the season of creation, we also hosted a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing on the climate and nature crisis, which I hope you had an opportunity to hear about and sign up to. If you missed it then don't worry - there are many screenings happening which can be found here: <https://www.nebriefing.org/screening-map>. The film is designed to help communities reflect and act together on the issue of climate change and we hope will encourage positive and hopeful action in our communities.

Climate change has been on our minds during the summer, and the unusually hot and dry weather has had an impact on the church building. Our usual seasonal cracks, which have historically opened in dry weather and closed when it gets wet, have opened to a more significant degree this year. Two of the windows in the chancel have been damaged and we are working quickly to protect the stained glass and the structure. You may notice a couple of props in the windows to help stabilise the arches and we will be removing the glass from two windows for repair and to protect it from further damage. There are a lot of investigations to do to fully understand all the underlying causes and correct it. Please pray for this work as we seek to take care of our building.



CALM CHURCH

Designed to support and welcome children who are neurodivergent or have SEND needs and their families.
A simple service, followed by biscuits and squash.

When?	Where?
25 October 2026, 3pm	Holy Trinity Church,
24 January 2027, 3pm	Leverstock Green,
	HP3 8LJ



Holy Trinity Church

Church Details

Saint Benedict's Church

- ✉ admin@saintbenedicts.church
- 🌐 saintbenedicts.church
- 📘 www.facebook.com/StBenedictsParishChurch
- 📺 www.youtube.com/@SaintBenedictsCHURCH
- 📍 Saint Benedict's Church, Peascroft Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8EP

All Saints Church

- ✉ allsaintskingslangley@outlook.com
- 🌐 beneficeoflangelei.org.uk/allsaints/
- 📘 www.facebook.com/allsaintskingslangley
- 📺 <http://www.youtube.com/@allsaintskl>
- 📍 All Saints Church, Church Lane, Kings Langley, WD4 8JS

St Mary's Church

- ✉ office@stmarysapsley.church
- 🌐 beneficeoflangelei.org.uk/stmarys/
- 📘 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086775018781
- 📍 St Mary's Church, London Road, Apsley End, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 9ST

Holy Trinity Church

- ✉ office@holytrinitylg.church
- 🌐 beneficeoflangelei.org.uk/holytrinity/
- 📘 www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityLeverstockGreen/
- 📺 www.youtube.com/@holytrinitylg99
- 📍 Holy Trinity Church, Bedmond Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8LJ

Next TeamService



Advent

Date: 29th November 26
Theme: Advent Carols Service
Time: 6.30pm
Place: Holy Trinity Church

Next TeamService



Date: 27th December 26
Theme: Team Eucharist Service
Time: 10.30am
Place: All Saints Church

