Services for Sunday 15th November
9.15am – Morning Worship, St Peter's Church, Bucknell
10.30am – Sung Eucharist, St Edburg's Church, Bicester
10.30am – Children's Church, St Edburg's Church Hall, Bicester
10.30am – Emmanuel Church, Bure Place, Bicester
10.30am – Hope Church, Elmsbrook, Bicester
11.00am – Holy Communion, St Mary's Church, Launton
4.00pm – Encounter@Kingsmere, St Edburg's Upper School, Kingsmere

Compass - Are you new to exploring faith or church? Do you have lots of questions about God, faith or the Church you'd like to explore? Compass is our new 4 session introduction to what Christians believe led by Rev'd Peter Wright and Andrew Anderson-Gear. The first session is next Thursday 22 October between 7.30-9.00 and to register your interest email Julie in the parish office. If you're interested, but can't make the dates, please still let us know. Other dates are 29 October, 5 & 12 November. See the flyer in church.

Volunteer Choir Trainer Required - St Edburg's PCC seeks a musician to train the choir during weekly practices. For a copy of the Job specification and for further information, please contact the Parish Office 01869 323458 office@stedburgschurch.org

Volunteering for this year's Christmas Tree Festival - Christmas is coming and so is the Tree Festival. Over the festival (12,13,14 December), we will need people for general stewarding and to help with refreshments. It would be helpful to know if you need a seated position or if you have any physical limitations so we can tailor a position for you. Please think about how you would like to help so you can include that information when you reply. We want as many as people as possible to volunteer - it's a joyful thing to do!

It's that time again! - The Christmas Tree Festival is nearly upon us, and we are asking for items to go into the Christmas hampers. We would be grateful for donations of money too then we can shop for the items ourselves. Items needed are anything you would like to receive in a hamper yourself. We would also appreciate any empty hamper baskets you may have. Please see Janette or call 07713635979 or leave your donations at the back of church. Thank you.

Sunday 5th December – 4pm – St Mary's Church, Launton - A festive concert for all the family presented by Launton Community Choir. Come and join as we celebrate with songs, music, readings and sing-along carols. Refreshments including mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets £10 for adults, accompanied children free available from Costcutters and The Bull Inn (cash only). All proceeds raised will support St Mary's Church.

Sunday 13th December – Sankta Lucia Service - There is to be a special Sankta Lucia service at Woodstock Parish Church on Sunday 13th December at 5.00pm. This is part of our celebration of our diocesan link with the Diocese of Växjö. The Bishop of Dorchester will be in attendance. For singers, there is a scratch choir meeting at 3.00pm. Those who would like to sing are asked to email Woodstock direct on stmmwoodstock@gmail.com – *Gareth Miller, Rector of the Akeman Benefice.*

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday and Friday
9am – 3pm Office@stedburgschurch.org 01869 323458

Welcome to the Bicester Area Team Ministry 8th November 2026

We welcome you to our churches today
Please take this leaflet home with you

Prayer List

For those with long term health problems:
Maria & Anthony Ratsey - Amelia Woodgate - Joyce Rothera - Alan Howling
Colin Duckworth - Joan Brown - Scarlotte Roberts - Hannah Cormack - Wilson Oluoch
Fr John Hudson - Luke Simonds - Karen - Lucy - Lizzie - Sarah-Jane Douglas
Malcolm Nixon - Faith - Janet Campbell - Barbara - Daphne Thompson - Jez Sharp
Naomi Bourton - Rev Philip Ball - Maureen Butcher - Carol Hill
Phillip Robbins – Elizabeth Watt – Honor Hollis

A year's mind:
Wilfred Hunt – Cedrick Solomon

Those who have recently passed away:
John Savin – Joan Robinson – Richard Edwards – Carole Hoyland - Ann Haddock

****

The World: Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers". As we remember all those who have died in the service of their country, we pray that those who work for peace in your name will have the victory. May those in positions of political and military power seek to find peaceful ways to resolve their differences.

The Church: We pray for the local charity BeSpace, who help Christians to create contemplative spaces and activities for school children. We also thank God for all the people in our churches who work with children and young people; ignite and inspire them with your love, to help them connect and grow faith together.

The Local Community: We give thanks for Cherwell District Council's new plan to tackle homelessness, and we pray that it will be successful in saving people from having to sleep on the streets and provide stability and support for those who are struggling to maintain a roof over their head.



8th November 2026

Remembrance Sunday

Collect of the Day

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Wisdom of Solomon 6.12–16

12 Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
13 She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
14 One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
15 To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
16 because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

Psalm

Psalm 70

O God, make speed to save me; ♦
O Lord, make haste to help me.
2 Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion; ♦
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.
3 Let those who mock and deride me ♦
turn back because of their shame.
4 But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; ♦
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'
5 As for me, I am poor and needy; ♦
come to me quickly, O God.
6 You are my help and my deliverer; ♦
O Lord, do not delay.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4.13–18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.15For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.16For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. 18Therefore encourage one another with these words

Gospel

Matthew 25.1–13

25Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." 9But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." 10And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." 12But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." 13Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

Post Communion Prayer

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. nrsvbibles.org. The Common Worship psalter is © The Archbishops' Council of the Church .