

### **Services for Sunday 7th June**

8.00am – BCP Holy Communion, St Mary's Church, Launton  
9.15am – Morning Worship, St Peter's Church, Bucknell  
10.15am – Children's Church, St Edburg's Church Hall, Bicester  
10.30am – Sung Eucharist, St Edburg's Church, Bicester  
10.30am – Hope Church, Elmsbrook, Bicester  
10.30am – Emmanuel Church, Bure Place, Bicester  
11.00am – Family Communion, St Mary's Church, Launton  
4.00pm – Encounter@Kingsmere, St Edburg's Upper School, Kingsmere

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

6.00pm - Corpus Christi Communion, St Edburg's Church, Bicester

### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Coffee Morning – St Edburg's Church, Bicester 10am – 12noon

### **Visitation and Admission of Church Wardens 2026**

Please come along and show your support for your Church Wardens on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June - 7.30pm at St Edburg's Church.

**Growing in the Christian Faith** Started Wed 13 May book on via the church office or speak to Revd Peter, Revd Sam, Revd Sarah. It's not too late to join! This course is suitable for anyone wishing to deepen their understanding of the Christian faith and will also provide the required preparation for anyone wishing to be baptised or confirmed. The ten sessions will run on Wednesday evenings 7.30pm-9.00pm, and the Confirmation Service will take place at St Edburg's on 20th September. Don't be put off if you think you won't be able to make all the sessions; you'll be able to keep up via the course materials.

**The Bereavement Journey** If you or someone you know has experienced a bereavement, this seven-week course run by a church team could be the right space to process a bereavement in a safe and supported environment, regardless of faith background. Cost £35 (but don't let that be a barrier). Running Thursday evenings from 28 May - 6 July 2026 at the Hummingbird Centre in Launton. We began running this course in 2025 and it has been well-received by those attending. You can find out about it here [thebereavementjourney.org](http://thebereavementjourney.org). Book a place or enquire through the Parish Office [office@stedburgschurch.org](mailto:office@stedburgschurch.org).

**Launton Handbell Ringers** 75th Anniversary Concert on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 4pm, St Mary's Church, Launton. Free Entry. Refreshments. Donations will support St Mary's Church fabric and facilities project.

**Lighthouse Holiday Club** Last year's holiday club was wonderful and our volunteers were superb. We want it to be just as good, if not better this year (10th - 14th August; volunteers needed for any day or, preferably, all week). You can volunteer at: [app.signmeup.org.uk](http://app.signmeup.org.uk) and follow the link via Lighthouse Bicester. Applications for children will open on 1st June. Further information available from Jane Clements or Tina Shaw.

Parish Office: [office@stedburgschurch.org](mailto:office@stedburgschurch.org) – 01869 323458  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am – 3pm

## **Welcome to the Bicester Area Team Ministry 31<sup>st</sup> May 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 - Sue Morrice – Karen - Sarah-Jane Douglas - Malcolm Nixon - Faith  
Janet Campbell - Barbara - John Kightley – Shirley - Daphne Thompson  
Jez Sharp - Naomi Bourton - Rev Philip Ball - Maureen Butcher

#### **Recently passed away:**

Margaret Jackson - Roy Wilcock - Roger Thomas – Beryl Lane – Jenny Frincis

#### **Those getting Married:**

Grace Blackman & Andrew Quinn

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**The World:** In mid-2025, it was estimated that 117.3 million people were forcibly displaced. Many live in special camps. Resources are limited. Lord, we pray for all who have been forced to leave their homes. Their situation is difficult for us to imagine. Please send the immediate help they need. And we pray against the conflicts and natural disasters that lead to this suffering.

**The Local Community:** We give thanks for local spaces to relax as we enjoy warm, dry weather now and in the coming summer. We are very blessed to have fields, ponds, lakes and streams nearby. May these always be places of safety and wholeness.

**The Church:** We pray for a greater consciousness of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the church generally. We rejoice in the presence of the Spirit at Pentecost: may we live and work in the power of Spirit every day of our lives.

**Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?**  
(From Pentecost CofE liturgy)

## Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God,  
 you have given us your servants grace,  
 by the confession of a true faith,  
 to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
 and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:  
 keep us steadfast in this faith,  
 that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;  
 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.

## First Reading

*Isaiah 40.12–17, 27–end*

<sup>12</sup> Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
 and marked off the heavens with a span,  
 enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure,  
 and weighed the mountains in scales  
 and the hills in a balance?

<sup>13</sup> Who has directed the spirit of the Lord,  
 or as his counsellor has instructed him?

<sup>14</sup> Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,  
 and who taught him the path of justice?

Who taught him knowledge,  
 and showed him the way of understanding?

<sup>15</sup> Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket,  
 and are accounted as dust on the scales;  
 see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.

<sup>16</sup> Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,  
 nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.

<sup>17</sup> All the nations are as nothing before him;  
 they are accounted by him as less than nothing and  
 emptiness.

<sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
 and speak, O Israel,

‘My way is hidden from the Lord,  
 and my right is disregarded by my God?’

<sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
 The Lord is the everlasting God,  
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
 his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint,  
 and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths will faint and be weary,  
 and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup> but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their  
 strength,  
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
 they shall run and not be weary,  
 they shall walk and not faint.

## Psalm

8

- 1 O Lord our governor, ♦  
 how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised ♦  
 out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, ♦  
 that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your  
 fingers, ♦  
 the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What is man, that you should be mindful of him; ♦  
 the son of man, that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him little lower than the angels ♦  
 and crown him with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given him dominion over the works of your  
 hands ♦  
 and put all things under his feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen, ♦  
 even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea ♦  
 and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our governor, ♦  
 how glorious is your name in all the world!

## Second Reading

*2 Corinthians 13.11–end*

11 Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order,  
 listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace;

and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup>Greet one  
 another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

<sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and  
 the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

## Gospel

*Matthew 28.16–20*

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the  
 mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they  
 saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And  
 Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on  
 earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make  
 disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the  
 Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching  
 them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And  
 remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’

## Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God,  
 you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
 and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:  
 hold us firm in this faith,  
 that we may know you in all your ways  
 and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,  
 who are three Persons yet one God,  
 now and for ever.

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 America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. [nrsvbibles.org](http://nrsvbibles.org).  
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 Church