

Early Summer Newsletter

June - July 2026



Photo of London Zoo by the 2nd St Mary's Rushden Rainbows

**St Mary's, Rushden &
St Peter's, Newton Bromswold**

Who's Who

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Rev Dr Glyn Ackerley

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St Mary's Churchwarden:

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07904 465019

Readers: Tony Smith and James Mellor

Hall Bookings: Pam & Paul Bailey

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St Mary's Church Office

Tues--Thurs: 10.30am-12.30pm:

Samantha Nagel, Pam Bailey, Kathy MacKenzie

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website: www.stmaryschurchrushden.org

facebook: [stmaryschurchrushden](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchrushden)

instagram: [rushdenstmarys](https://www.instagram.com/rushdenstmarys)



Newton Bromswold Churchwardens

Bob Lines, 25 Church Lane, Newton Bromswold, NN10 0SR:

01933 315864

Newton Bromswold website: www.newtonchurch.co.uk

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August/September
Newsletter should be sent
by
Sunday 12 July
to
St Mary's Church Office*

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Celebrating Fifty Years of Faithful Service

Congratulations to Peter Chamberlain who completes half a century of being a sidesman this June. He will now be taking a well-earned retirement from these duties, before his 80th birthday, next April. Peter also served on the Mission Committee for 29 years, 11 of those as chairman.

Many of you will be aware of Peter's final career as a professional crossword compiler. From 1988, his crosswords were published in many national publications including the Daily and Sunday Telegraph, The Yorkshire Post, The Scotsman, and Scotland on Sunday. Peter keeps his puzzling brain active and still compiles about six crosswords per week, for various customers.

Peter initially qualified as a Chartered Accountant and then worked for Reliance Systems in Wellingborough. He spent the next 14 years working for The Milk Marketing Board, before compiling crosswords full time.

Peter, thank you from all at St Mary's for your faithful overseeing of the collection and greeting people with the weekly news sheet, your contribution to overseas mission and the many unseen jobs which are part of church life. We are grateful for your attention to detail and reliable dedication over the decades.

We wish you and Jeannie joy and rest in your new church home at St Mary's, Higham Ferrers, and are glad that you will continue to visit us and keep your links with Rushden.

Melanie Sweeney, Welcome Team Co-ordinator

Belfry Gossip

It has been a busier period for the Rushden ringers and bells with a few notable Peals.

We had a visiting band, with Simon also ringing, for a peal of Cornwall Surprise Major. A ringer from the band reported it was quite good! A ringer listening outside said it was pleasant to listen to.

We joined the Guild Striking competition and Spring Festival in the Rutland branch where we rang Grandsire Doubles and came in second place by only 1 fault. There was a good standard of ringing, and they were not the easiest bells to ring.

On Easter Day, the Sunday service band rang a 1/8th Peal of Grandsire Doubles which went very well.

Simon and some old University friends from Southampton University Guild rang a nice Quarter Peal of Spliced Surprise Major (this was 4 methods - Cambridge, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Superlative Surprise Major). It was nice to hear all 8 bells being Pealed. With help from some friends, we rang a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Minor on St George's day. This was Cat's 100th Quarter Peal.

Cat and Pam rang in a Ladies' Band from the Wellingborough Branch, on International Women's Day, in a Quarter Peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Irthlingborough. This was also significant as it was Pam's 2000th Quarter Peal - a brilliant achievement.

We've supported four Branch practices with opportunities to ring a variety of methods including Allendale Surprise and Combermere Delight which were special methods for the Treble Bobbing practices.

After a few months of travels we're grateful for the return of a ringer from Finedon who is a regular supporter of our practice nights, often making the difference between having a band and not for some of the more difficult methods we like to ring.

We had a visitor and old friend from Milton Keynes who enabled us to ring all 8 bells on a practice night, enjoying some Grandsire Triples (on 7) with a tenor behind.

Did you know that Rushden has a fascinating history of entrepreneurs who didn't just build businesses — they built a community?

Join **Andrew Presland** for a deep-dive into the story of the men and women who shaped our town through generosity, vision, and compassion, looking mainly from the 1850s to the 1920s but also to the 21st Century including boot & shoe manufacturers and those leading Sunday school and youth work.



Also featuring **Kathrina Perry** from the University of Northampton, sharing her research into women's philanthropy in the boot and shoe industry — uncovering the remarkable women who helped shape civic life across Rushden and the surrounding towns. Her talk will highlight the women who shaped civic and community life across Northampton, Rushden, Wellingborough, and the surrounding shoe towns from 1870 to 1950.

The talk will be followed by time for **questions and discussion**.

If you love local history, this event is not to be missed.

- Saturday 4th July, 2pm–4pm
- At Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX
- All welcome, of any age
- Limited parking at the school, but also available at the nearby Grangeway shops.
- FREE admission
- Light refreshments – also free
- People are encouraged to book their place in advance

on www.rushden.life or with Andrew Presland (contact details as below), but this is not essential.

This is part of the Rushden Life programme of events, organised by Rushden and Higham Ferrers churches, taking place in June and July. More details of the full programme of events are on the Rushden Life website (as above) or at 'Rushden Life' on Facebook.

Please contact Andrew at andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com or on 01933 316927 or 07943 307873 if you have any queries.

St Mary's News

Summary of APCM meeting held on Sunday 10 May 2026 in the Church.

Adoption of the Electoral Roll The names of the people who are on the Electoral roll have been on display at the back of the church. We now have 83 members on the Electoral Roll. We found the increase in numbers very encouraging.

Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts 2025. Marion B read out the treasurer's report. Marion explained that the unrestricted funds are used for any expenses. The designated funds allows the PCC to change how the monies can be spent. The Restricted funds have been donated for a specific purpose and this cannot be changed. Marion pointed out that we had a small surplus primarily due to not meeting the full parish share.

Appointment of independent Examiner Marion B proposed to use Angus Balentine to perform the audit of the 2025 Annual Report and Accounts.

Election of sides person. Mel S proposed and read out names of the sides people. All agreed and the sides persons have been accepted.

Reports The following reports were read out : Warden by Dan S,

Safeguarding by Dan S, Deanery Synod by James M, All other reports were in the pack. The Acceptance of the reports was agreed by all.

Election of Parochial Church Council (PCC) Luke L and Tracey C completed the forms and were proposed to join the PCC. This was agreed by all.

The existing members: Martin Co, Peter Co, Rob B, Marion B, Kate W all agreed to remain on the PCC. There was no voting required.

Election of Deanery Synod member Helen S and James M agreed to remain on the Deanery Synod. This was agreed by all and no requirement to vote.

Any other business None

Vice Chairman's Kate W thanked everyone who provided the church reports and for the support provided by the Warden, PCC and Deanery Synod members. Kate W thanked everyone else for their prayers, ideas and the support of St Mary's church.

Congratulations are due to ... Kaylee Stock who turns 18 on 24 July, Love and best wishes from all of us at St Mary's.

Flower Rotas

Behind the Communion Table

June

- 7 Julie West
14 Jude Curtis
21 Dorothy Jones
28 Cathy Calder

July

- 5 Ellen Inwood
(Graham's birthday)
12 Paula Williams
19 Mary Hadley
26 Ellen Inwood
(sister's birthday)

Memorial Chapel

If you would like to give flowers in memory of loved ones please contact Brenda Dixon: 01933 358982

Wildlife Trust

We're hiring! Love wildlife, wetlands, and making a real difference on the ground? We're looking for a Reserves Officer to help manage and protect the incredible Nene Valley nature reserves in Northamptonshire. From habitat management to inspiring visitors, no two days are the same when you're working for wildlife. Closing date: 8th June at 9am. The role is based at the Nene Wetlands Nature Reserve at Rushden Lakes and involves regular

THE REGISTERS

Funerals

Wednesday 1 April

Leonard George Willmott [98]

Friday 22 May

Robert Barnes [78]

Tuesday 9 June

Robin Underwood [85]

Interment of Ashes

Saturday 11 April

David Robinson

Saturday 25 April

Jose Smith

Thursday 30 July

Ann Beal

Weddings

Friday 29 May

David Andrew Philip Loveridge
Chantell Audrey Allen

travel to Summer Leys and Titchmarsh.

Find out more and apply today
<https://www.wildlifebcn.org/.../reserves-officer-nene-valley>



**Wildlife Trust for
Beds, Cambs
& Northants**

News

Recovery House Help us change lives through recovery. We have now launched our 2026 fundraiser to support Recovery House - our safe, structured environment where men can rebuild their lives free from addiction.

Recovery isn't just about stopping using - it is about rebuilding confidence, restoring relationships, and creating a future full of hope. Our programme provides a stable home, therapeutic support, and a real chance at long-term recovery. But we can't do this alone.....

Every donation, no matter how small, helps us continue providing life-changing support to those who need it most.

If you can, please donate here:
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/recovery-house-4>

And if you're not in a position to give, sharing this can make a huge difference.

Together, we can help people move from survival to recovery - and from recovery to a meaningful, fulfilling life.



Monthly event for dads, stepdads, granddads or male carers and their younger children [0-6 yrs] with a range of toys including bouncy castle, sit-on cars and ball pool.

Saturdays

20 June & 18 July

9.30am - 12noon

St Mary's Church Hall

Adults £5: children free

Just turn up!

Do you love to SING?

Why don't you join St Mary's choir. You do not need to read music, a good ear is helpful. Come along to choir practice on Wednesday evenings at 7pm for an hour.

Try us out without obligation.

Meet the friendly bunch of choristers.

All ages from 8yrs are welcome!



Newton News

Village Fete

This year's Village Fete will be held on the 4 July 2026 starting at 2pm. There will be the usual stalls and games. Rushden Mission Band will be playing. Afternoon Tea will be served and also music in the church. If you are able to help, please contact Helen Lines.

Ride and Stride Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Saturday 12th September 2026 between 10am and 6pm a day in the open air ... plan your own route 350+ stunning churches and chapels to visit - many of them open and welcoming.

Barn Dance

Barn Dance is on Saturday 13 June 2026 starting at 7pm. Tickets Adults £12.50 and Children £5. For tickets contact 07703476689.



FLOWERS

June

7 June	Helen Mayes
14 June	Helen Rees-Bidder
21 June	Mrs Dangerfield
28 June	Rosemary Coulson and Abby Stannard

July

5 July	Mrs Sargeant
12 July	Sophie
19 July	Mrs Hollis
26 July	Abigail

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Interested in flower arranging?



Have you noticed the displays regularly produced by our team of volunteers behind the Communion Table?
Would you like to join this special group?
Commitment only once every two months

Interested?

Contact Kathy on 07990 836217 in the first instance.

Beginnings and Endings

As June arrives, perhaps some of us sense a gentle invitation to pause and notice where we are. The weeks ahead carry a particular energy for me, a feeling that something is drawing to a close, even as new possibilities begin to open up. For many households, June marks the end of exams and years of study, bringing a heady mix of relief, tiredness and excitement.

This year, that feels especially close, as my son Noah comes to the end of his GCSEs. Like many families, we've lived with revision timetables, quiet encouragement, lots of snacks and prayers, all held alongside that familiar question: *what comes next?*

Across our communities, others will be marking different endings and beginnings too. The school year begins to wind down, projects reach their conclusion, and routines soften as summer draws closer. Even the natural world joins in. Spring's freshness gives way to the smell of barbecues and freshly cut grass. Days stretch long into the evening, gardens flourish, and light seems to linger as if reluctant to leave.

In every season of life, God remains our constant. While our circumstances shift and change, God's

faithful presence does not. Scripture reminds us that God walks with us through endings and beginnings alike, offering hope when outcomes are still unknown, peace while we wait, and reassurance as new possibilities unfold.

Christian hope is not about having all the answers, but about trusting the One who holds them. As we journey through June, my prayer is that we may notice what is ending, celebrate what is beginning, and step forward with confidence and joy, trusting that God is already there, welcoming us into all that lies ahead.



The Revd Becky Dyball
Bishop's Missioner



Diocese of Peterborough - Magazine Resource - April 2026

Produced by the Diocesan Office, The Palace, Peterborough, PE1 1YB
Tel: 01733 887000 Email: communications@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Mission Matters

Think back to when you were young. Did you ever hear anything about Jesus? I suspect that most of us, particularly those of the older generation, did gain some understanding of who he is. For people growing up in the Czech Republic, where, for years, the Christian faith was deliberately suppressed, things are very different. Today, many Czechs know little or nothing at all about the message of the Gospel.

As well as leading the international Anglican Church in Brno, Lea is involved in student ministry. At Christmas and again at Easter, teams of Christians were reaching out to fellow students in university faculty foyers across the city. New Czech and Slovak students have now joined a Bible Study group and are exploring faith for the first time. Lea and Petra write, “We are thankful to see people growing in faith - those recently baptised, those preparing for baptism and those stepping into new roles and growing in their gifts. Please pray for the continued deepening of our community.”

As the church grows, larger premises are need. Things are moving forward regarding this. Please pray with Lea and Petra that the Lord will open up the way ahead. Building work has already begun on the family’s home, as Olivia and Ted are now teenagers and need their own space.

And space does not permit a complete account here of Lea and Petra’s news! To read more about Lea becoming a Czech citizen and Petra’s developing ministry to Ukrainian refugees please do find their latest letter on line at Lea and Petra Williams churchmissionsociety.org

They send their love and gratitude for our prayerful support.

Sue Eagles



Other News and Events

Rushden life Mission 2026: All the events are advertised online <https://www.rushden.life/>

Jun 27 Doug Horley's Bubble Party 3-4.30pm at Park Road Baptist Church.

Jun 27 John Archer Magician 7.30-9.30pm at Highfield Road Baptist Church.

Jun 28 Rushden All Star Band Concert 6.30-8pm at Park Road Baptist.

Jun 30 How Can We Make Sense Of Suffering? - With Andy Bannister
7.30-9pm at Rushden Mission Church.

Jul 1 'Have You Ever Wondered? The Clues to the Spiritual Meaning of Life Hidden in Plain Sight' with speaker Andy Bannister and Curry Night 7.30-9pm at Park Road Baptist Church.

Jul 2 Seniors' Tea Party 1-3pm at The Wesleyan Church.

Jul 3 Illuminate Youth Night 7.30pm at Park Road Baptist Church.

Jul 4 Men's Breakfast With Tough Talk 9-11am at Park Road Baptist Church.

Jul 4 Eden Wellbeing Shed - Open house 10-12noon at Eden Shed.

Jul 4 Entrepreneurs Who Changed Rushden 2-4pm at Whitefriars Primary School.

Jul 4 Catherine Porter Harp Concert 7.30-9pm at St Mary's Church, Rushden.

Jul 5 Community BBQ 10.45-11.45am at Rushden Mission Church.

Jul 5 "I Am Mark" Theatrical Performance by Stefan Smart 7-8.30pm at Park Road Baptist Church.

Jul 7 Playfest Toddlers' Party! 11am-2pm at Hall Park Walled Garden.

Jul 8 Beauty, Brokenness, Joy & Hope: A Musical Journey Through the Gospel Story 4.30-5.30pm at St Peter's Church, Newton Bromswold.

Jul 9 God, The Bible And Everything (In 60 Minutes) With James Cary
7.30-9pm at St Mary's Church, Rushden.

We would like to thank God for what has done so far

- The Local MP and some councillors joined us for a couple of patrols and were able to show and enable them to see the work we do
- For those who have stepped up to be the trustees for street pastors
- We had good interactions on the patrols that we had the last number of months and the Rushden artisan market
- For the churches who are covering us in prayer
- We are thankful for the support from other local Street pastors who have been supporting us: helping with training and uniforms.

Luke McGrath - Rushden Street Pastor's Prayer coordinator
prayer.rushden@streetpastors.org.uk





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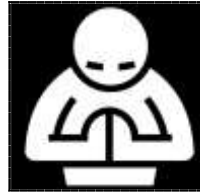
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BELLRINGING

Are you interested in learning to ring?

Or

Did you ring before and would like to return.

If so please contact

Brenda Dixon: Tel. 01933 358982

Or come along on Friday evening

Practice night 7.30-9pm

To see what its all about

Neighbourhood Watch

GOOD NEWS! Tougher measures targeting anti-social behaviour become law

New Respect Orders will place restrictions on those who wreak havoc in communities

Police also given tougher powers to seize nuisance vehicles linked to anti-social behaviour

Government's flagship Crime and Policing Act receives Royal Assent



People who wreak havoc on local communities face tough new restrictions under new laws that have received Royal Assent. The measures bring sweeping powers to clamp down on anti-social behaviour.

Under the **Crime and Policing Act**, new Respect Orders will let police and councils crack down on persistent adult offenders. Officers will, for example, be able to ban them from town centres or stop them drinking in public hotspots like high streets and local parks. Offenders can also be ordered to tackle the root causes of their behaviour – from drug or alcohol treatment to anger management courses – instead of simply being allowed to return to the streets and start the cycle again. Breaching a Respect Order will be a criminal, with police able to arrest anyone who ignores the rules. Those who flout the orders could face prison sentences of up to two years. Courts will also be able to hand out unlimited fines and tough community punishments – including unpaid work and curfews – to stop the worst offenders before their behaviour escalates.

The new powers will partially replace existing Civil Injunction powers for adults, bringing a wider range of penalties because breaches will be dealt with in the criminal courts. Police are also being handed tougher powers to seize vehicles linked to anti-social behaviour and crucially, officers will no longer have to issue warning before taking nuisance vehicles off the road.

That means faster action against the scourge of off-road bikes tearing through public parks, dangerous e-scooters on pavements and street racing. It will also help tackle so-called car meets, where hundreds of vehicles can descend on public spaces with ear-splitting revving and unwelcome music.

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01933 412235 or stmaryschurchoffice@btinternet.com
Prices start at only £25 per year

Church Diary - June 2026

- 1 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club**
We start in the church hall, where the children and parents can take part in craft activities or play. We then have a short Bible story, and some fun songs. £1.50 per family. We also serve beans on toast afterwards 11.30am-12.30pm.
- 2 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Crafts & Coffee/Tea** in the Church Hall - Flower making, Contact for the group is Helen Allan 07814 226614.
- 3 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 4 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 5 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 8 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
- 10 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - Ladies Group** - For ladies of all ages – meet in the Church Hall on the second Wednesday of the month for fun and fellowship. For more information please contact Tracey on 07805 566991.
Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice in Church
- 11 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 12 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 13 **Saturday: 7pm onwards - Summer Barn Dance at Newton Bromswold**
for tickets email friendsofNB@yahoo.com or contact June 07703 476689
- 15 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
Monday: 7pm - PCC Meeting in the Lower Hall
- 17 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 18 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 19 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 20 **Saturday: 9.30am-12noon - Who Let The Dads Out?** - Monthly event for dads, stepdads, grandads, male carers and their younger children [0-6yrs]. Adults £5: children free.
- 22 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
- 24 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 25 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 26 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 29 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall

Church Diary - July 2026

- 1 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 2 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 3 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 4 **Saturday: 2pm - Newton Bromswold Village Fete**
Saturday: 7.30pm - Catherine Porter Harpist in the Church
- 6 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
We start in the church hall, where the children and parents can take part in craft activities or play. We then have a short Bible story, and some fun songs. £1.50 per family. We also serve beans on toast afterwards
11.30am-12.30pm
- 7 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Crafts & Coffee/Tea** in the Church Hall -
Scissor Cases, Contact for the group is Helen Allan 07814 226614
Tuesday: 11am - Toddler Fest in the **Walled Garden, Hall Park**
- 8 **Wednesday: 2.15pm - Ladies Group** - For ladies of all ages – meet in the Church Hall on the second Wednesday of the month for fun and fellowship. For more information please contact Tracey on 07805 566991.
Wednesday: 4.30pm - The Gospel Story in Music at **St Peter's, Newton Bromswold**
Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice in Church
- 9 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
Thursday: 7.30pm - James Carey Comedian in the Church
- 10 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 11 **Saturday: 12-5pm - Party in the Park** at **Hall Park**
- 13 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
- 15 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 16 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 17 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 18 **Saturday: 9.30am-12noon - Who Let The Dads Out?** - for male carers and their younger children 0-6yrs Adults £5: children free.
- 20 **Monday: 10am-12.30pm - Bumps and Babes and Beans Club** in the Hall
- 22 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 23 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
- 24 **Friday: 7.30pm-9pm - Bellringing Practice**
- 29 **Wednesday: 7-8pm - Choir Practice** in Church
- 30 **Thursday: 10-12noon - Tea and Coffee** in the Hall
Followed by the **Interment of Ashes of Ann Beal**
- 31 **Friday: 7.30-9pm - Bellringing Practice**

Services for June 2026

St Mary's
Rushden

St Peter's
Newton Bromswold

Sunday 7 June - First Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Service

Sunday 14 June - Second Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Family Service

Sunday 21 June - Third Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 28 June - Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Service

Midweek Services in St Mary's Church

Thursdays - June 4, 11, 18 and 25

at 10.30am - Holy Communion [BCP]

For those receiving their copy of the Newsletter by post there will be a small charge of £5 per year: if this applies to you, a note will be included with this edition

Non-subscription copies of this Newsletter are routinely made available at the back of church. If you would like to contribute towards their printing costs please put whatever seems appropriate into the old Grapevine slot by the Hymn Books in St Mary's Church.

Services for July 2026

St Mary's
Rushden

St Peter's
Newton Bromswold

Sunday 5 July - Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Service

Sunday 12 July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Family Service

Sunday 19 July - Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Family Service

9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 26 July - Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Morning Worship

9.30am Family Service

Midweek Services in St Mary's Church
Thursdays 10.30am on July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30
- Holy Communion [BCP]

Live-Streaming

St Mary's Sunday Services at 10.30am will continue to be live-streamed
and can also be found later on YouTube:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/stmarysrushden>.