St Helen's Church
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Sunday 8th November 2026 **Remembrance**

Remembrance is at the heart of the Christian faith – Jesus told his followers to share bread and wine together in remembrance of him. As part of that act of remembrance, we re-tell the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, and we take our place within that story. It connects us to what has gone before, but also to what lies ahead, the great banquet of heaven.

The Act of Remembrance that is performed up and down the length of the country on Remembrance Sunday and on 11th November is somewhat different. Rather than re-enacting a specific event, we consciously bring to mind those who have given their lives in service to their country, we re-affirm that we honour their sacrifice, and we pledge ourselves to work for peace. Rather than stepping into their story, as we step into the ongoing story of Jesus in the Eucharist, we acknowledge the ways in which their story has shaped the world in which we live; how their story led to our story. And we continue to let their story inform how we shape the world going forward.

Remembering matters. It brings us closer to those who have gone before. It helps us to understand how we got to where we are today, and it inspires us as we move into the future. Past, present, and future are all in God's hands, so as we remember, as we engage with the present world, and as we work to build the future, we are standing on holy ground.

Rev Dr Jen Brown

WELCOME to all joining us this Sunday 8th November at St Helen's.
10.00am *Remembrance Day Civic Service.* This service will **not** be available on zoom.
5.30pm *Sung Eucharist***.** This service can be accessed on Zoom from 5.15pm:
Meeting ID: 865 5159 6523; Passcode: 626891

FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:
10.00am *Remembrance Sunday Service* - **The Revd Dr Jen Brown**
Please see Service Booklet

Hymns
Processional: 605 Through the night of doubt and sorrow
Hymn: 355 I vow to thee my country
Anthem: W. H. Harris, *Holy is the true light*
354 The National Anthem

5.30pm *Sung Eucharist* -**The Revd Dr AKM Adam**
Readings: Amos 5.18-24; 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18; Matthew 25.1-13

Service Setting: Aston
Hymns
Processional: 54 I cannot tell
Gradual: 490 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Offertory: 278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus
Anthem: Haydn, *Agnus Dei* (from the Little Organ Mass)
Post communion: 262 O Lord my God

Collect:
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. **Amen**

Psalm 70
Response: O God make speed to save me; O Lord make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confusion:
let them be turned back and disgraced who wish me evil.
Let those who mock and deride me:
turn back because of their shame. ***Response***

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you:
let those who love your salvation say always 'Great is the Lord!'
You are my help and deliverer:
O Lord, do not delay. ***Response***

For prayer:

- All those serving in the armed services and for military families.
- For those who have died and all who mourn.
- For individuals and organisations working for peace and reconciliation between individuals, communities, and nations.

Please pray for the residents of Gosling Court, Grebe Close, Harding Road, Healey Close.

For health, consolation & wellbeing: Annelise Dennis, Vanessa Madden, Ann and Ron Moss, Anne Smithson, Sarah Stevens, Katie Stuart, Alli

Intercessory prayer requests to clairembolton@googlemail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICES:
10.30am *Sung Eucharist* **The Revd Dr AKM Adam**
Readings: Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30

5.30 PM *Choral Evensong* **The Revd Dr Jen Brown**
Readings: Psalm 98; Daniel 10.19-end; Revelation 4
Canticles: Murrill in E **Responses:** Smith
Anthem: Bullock, *Give us the wings of faith*

Publications
The Window: The **November** edition of the Parish Magazine will be available to download from 8th November: https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_window.php. B & W copies also available in church

CiA News: The **November** issue of CiA News is available to download from: https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_communications.html. Copies also in church. **When submitting pictures / posters, please provide in jpg format, not PDF**

PATHWAYS: Printed copies of the Summer 2026 issue are available in church.

The zoom recordings of previous Faith Forums are online at https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_faith_forum.html

PROGRAMMES & EVENTS: NOVEMBER 2026

Abbey Chamber Concert, Sunday 8th November 3.00pm at St Nicolas' Church. *Mozart and Thuille, Quintets for piano and winds. See https://abbeychamberconcerts.org/event/mozart-andthuille-quintets-for-piano-and-winds/*

St Michael's Christmas Fair, Saturday 14th November 10am-2pm at St Michael's.

PCC Meeting, Wednesday 18th November 7.30pm at St Nicholas' church.

St Helen's@lunch, Thursday 19th November 12.00noon, at Aston Pottery. If you need or can offer a lift, please contact Susan Scott.

Faith Forum, Sunday 22nd November 12.45 – 1.15pm in the Hall with light lunch.

St Helen's Church Jesse Tree Decorating, Tuesday 24th November from 9.45am. Please let the administrator know if you can help decorate the tree, pastry and coffee for the helpers as always!

Silent Reflections, Tuesday 24th November 7.30pm at St Michael's Church.

Mothers' Union Service, Thursday 26th November 11.00am in the hall.

St Helen's Christmas Market, **Saturday 28th November 10.00am – 1.00pm**... *See also church notice.*

Quiet Garden Day, Saturday 28th November 2026 10am - 4pm at Aston Tirrold Centre for Reflection**,** Spring Lane, Aston Tirrold, OX11 9EJ. Sue Sheppy will lead on the theme *Great Expectations.* Refreshments are provided but please bring a packed lunch. A donation of £10 would be welcome. To attend it would be helpful to email: atquietgardendays@gmail.com in advance. All are welcome.

TAB Christmas Carol Concert, Sunday 29 November 2.00pm at St Michaels Church. An informal Christmas concert for all ages in support of the Abingdon Bridge. Hear and sing beautiful music and then join us for refreshments. Tickets £10 (£2.50 under 16s) from: https://www.ticketsource.com/the-abingdon-bridge

Advent Carol Service, Sunday 29th November 5.30pm at St Helen's church, followed by mulled wine & mince pies. All welcome.
Please bring donations of mulled wine (& non-alcoholic wine) to the servery before or after services or to the office if the church is unattended. Thank you!

DCC Meeting, Monday 30th November 7.30pm in the hall.

PROGRAMMES & EVENTS: DECEMBER 2026

Advent Labyrinth Walks, Tuesday 1st, 8th and 15th December 11.00am -12noon at St Michael and All Angels. The church will be open for an opportunity to walk the labyrinth or simply to enjoy the sacred space. Material for reflection will be available on a different Advent theme each week. A short prayer will be said at the beginning and end of each session, but feel free to come and go as you please. Parking permits are available for use in Park Road.

Mothers' Union Meeting, Tuesday 1st December 10.00am in the hall.

Prayers & Bears, Tuesday 1st December 11.00am at St Michael's, suitable for young children (including babies/toddlers).

"Music at the Unicorn" folk concert, Thursday 3rd December 7.00pm at St Helen's. Further details at https://musicattheunicorn.org.uk/

Moving into Stillness, Thursday 3rd December 9.45–10.45am at St Michael's Church. Circle dancing to Taizé chants with silent interludes followed by **Circle Dance, 11.00am** regular circle dancing session. Elizabeth Mitchell will be the teacher. No prior experience/partner needed. Tea and coffee will be provided. Parking permits are available for use in Park Road.

The Revd Dr A.K.M. Adam's Ordination Anniversary Celebration. Saturday, 5th December 2026, at 1:30 pm at St Helen's church. Fr AKMA will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. Reception to follow.

Cubs & Beavers after morning service coffee, Sunday 6th December in the Hall.

ADMS Christmas Concert, Sunday 6th December 4.00-6.00pm at St Helen's.

St Nicolas Patronal Evensong, Sunday 6th December 5.30pm at St Nicholas' Church.

LAMPS Heavenly Realm Show, Saturday 12th December 2.00pm in St Helen's**.** "We are delighted to warmly welcome nationally acclaimed theatre company LAMPS for their Christmas show "Heavenly Realms" Festive fun for all the family from age 8-800!
Join the OAPs (Old Angel Pensioners) of retirement home Heavenly Realms as they get ready to celebrate Christmas and share memories of the very first one. Hold on to your halo and enjoy a 'holy' new take on the Nativity story, with acting, music, puppetry, and poems!
Tickets: £15 for adults, free for accompanied U16s, available after Sunday services, at The Bookstore, via Ticketsource or on the door. Doors open 1.30pm, show start time 2.00pm. Interval with festive refreshments".

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, Sunday 20th December 5.30pm at St Helen's.

SAVE THE DATEs - at St Helen's!

The Revd Naomi Gardom's Licensing, Wednesday 6th January 2027 7.30pm.

Corporate Confirmation Service, Sunday 31st January 2027 10.30am.

REGULAR SERVICES AND THE COMING WEEK AT ST HELEN'S

ON WEEKDAYS	**9.10am Morning Prayer**
ON MONDAY	9.30-11.00am *Baby and Toddler Group* in the hall 12pm Funeral in St Helen's church
ON TUESDAY	2.00pm *Desiring Life* in the lounge 3.00pm *Lighting Meeting* in the hall 5.00-8.30pm *Private Booking (Yellow Submarine)* in the hall
ON WEDNESDAY	**10.30am Holy Communion** 2.30pm *Mothers' Union Committee Meeting* in the hall 5.15-8.00pm *Beavers & Cubs* in the hall
ON THURSDAY	6.15-8.00pm *Private Booking (Life Drawing)* in the hall
ON FRIDAY	4.00-6.00pm *Young Bell Ringers Practice* in the tower 5.30-6.00pm *Quest choir practice* in the church 6.00-7.00pm *Adult choir practice* in the church
ON SATURDAY	All day *Private Booking (OLHT) in the hall & lounge* 2.00pm *Flower Guild Meeting* in the church
ON SUNDAY	**10.30am Sung Eucharist** ~~5.30pm Taizé (2nd Sunday)~~ *No service in November* **5.30pm Choral Evensong (3rd Sunday)** 5.30pm Service for Healing & Wholeness (4th Sunday) 3.00 Baptism in St Helen's church 4.00-6.00pm *Private Booking (party)* in the hall 7.00-8.00pm *Private Booking (Support Group)* in the hall 7.30-9.00pm *Private Booking (Handbells)* in the lounge

The 8am Sunday Holy Communion (1662) service is held at ***St Nicholas' Church***

ST HELEN'S CHURCH NOTICES

We give thanks for the life of Steve Thomas. Jeanette and family welcome all to Steve's funeral on **Wednesday 18th November at 11:30am** at St Helen's Church.

The Revd Dr A.K.M. Adam's Ordination Anniversary Celebration
Please come to a celebration of the 40th Anniversary of AKMA's Ordination to the Priesthood. **Saturday 5th December 2026 at 1:30 pm**, on the Feast of Clement of Alexandria, Teacher and Church Father, at St Helen's Church, Abingdon. The preacher will be the Revd Damian Feeney. Clergy invited to vest in choir dress, white stoles. Reception to follow. Any questions, contact Margaret at margaretbadam@gmail.com

St Nicolas Day Lunch, Sunday 6th December at The Cosener's House. All are invited to join the annual St Nicolas Day Lunch. The menu and booking slip for this is now out. Cost is £37 for three courses (plus welcome drink, coffee, and mince pie) or £30 for two courses. Please return your booking slip to Jenny Smith (treasurer@stnicolasabingdon.org.uk) or Eluned (contact@stnicolasabingdon.org.uk) by 22 November. The menu and booking slip is online: https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StN/downloads/2026ChristmasMenu.pdf. Hard copies of the booking slip also available in church.

St Helen's 2027 calendar: Available from Mary Anderson after every 10.30 service for £9.75. Please support your church by buying one for friends & family!

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal: Please purchase your poppy from the box on the welcome desk. Payment can be made by cash or by card using our donation station at the back of church.

CHRISTMAS MARKET 2026 – Saturday 28th November
We need: new goods, pre-loved goods, home baking, books, jigsaws, jewellery, tombola prizes, raffle prizes, preserves, Christmas decorations, bags & scarves - anything that will sell please! Donations gratefully received:
Thursday 26th November 10.00am-12.00noon at **St Helen's Church**
Friday 27th November 10.00am-12.00noon at the **Parish Centre Hall**
Friday 27th November AFTER 3.00pm at **St Helen's Church or**
Saturday 28th November 9.00am for home baking
Alternatively, see Pat or Jeanette to make other arrangements.

Please can you volunteer to help with setting up the Christmas Market on Friday 27th November from 3.00pm? There will be a break while the choir practice when we will enjoy soup and sandwiches together, then continue to finish. If you are willing to help, please let us know. Thank you!

HOSPITALITY & EVENTS STEWARDING

If you can help at any of the events listed in the calendar, please do let the Administrator know or speak to one of the wardens.
A sign-up sheet is now on the church noticeboard.

CONTACT US

Team Rector	The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown rector@abingdonparish.org.uk
Team Vicar	(To join the parish after Christmas)
Associate Priest	The Revd Dr A. K. M. Adam (AKMA) akma@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk
Wardens	Ms Margaret Horton and Mr David Pope
Director of Music	Dr Peter Foster
Assistant Organist	Mr Andrew Shouler
Parish Administrator	Mrs Kate Burland
Caretaker	Mr Robin Day
Parish Safeguarding	Mrs Pat Hudson safeguarding@abingdonparish.org.uk
St Helen's Safeguarding	Mr Emmanuel Chukwuma

The **Parish Office** is open Monday – Thursday, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm (closed on Fridays).
Phone: 01235 520144. Checked on Fridays.
E-mail: administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk; Website abingdonparish.org.uk/StH

A copy of this Newsletter is posted on our website.