

COLLECT

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34.11–16, 20–24

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 12 As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. 20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. 23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Responsorial Psalm 95:1-7

Response: Come, let us worship and bow down.

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving and be glad in him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. **R** In his hand are the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land. **R** Come, let us worship and bow down and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For he is our God; we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. **R**

SECOND READING Ephesians 1.15–23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly

places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

GOSPEL Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven. **Luke 19.38**

Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.31–46

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew **GLORY TO YOU O LORD**

Jesus said to his disciples:

31 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." 37 Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" 40 And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." 44 Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" 45 Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the gospel of the Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU O CHRIST**

POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord,

the wills of your faithful people;

that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This Post Communion may be used as the Collect at Morning and Evening Prayer during this week **Amen.**



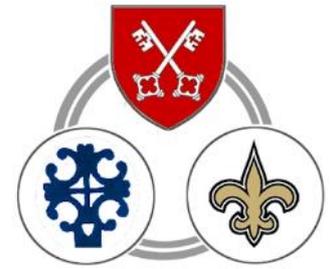
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham and Knotting with Souldrop

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP

All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org



As we celebrate the end of the Church's year—Welcome!

Worship in the Benefice today—**Christ the King**

0830 **Souldrop** Holy Communion BCP
0930 **Sharnbrook** Parish Communion with RnS
1100 **Felmersham** Choral Matins
1800 **Sharnbrook** Benefice Evensong—LLW JaneT

Monday—feris

1145 Sharnbrook Messy Church
2000 Christian Meditation in SPR

Tuesday—feria

1600 LLW Annual Appraisals
1930 Souldrop LYCIG PCC presentation

Wednesday—Day of Thanksgiving for the missionary work of the church

0930 Sharnbrook **Holy Communion 5th Wed BCP**
1030 Felmersham Town Lot Charity
1400 LLW Annual Appraisal
1930 Friends of St Peters Committee meeting

Thursday—Red Letter Day—**St Andrews Day**

0930 Felmersham **Holy Communion** followed by drinks and nibbles to keep the feast
1030 Half year review—Ordinand Andrea
1230 SCP AGM St Andrews Bedford

Friday-feria -Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916

World AIDS Day
1600 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL STARTS in St Peters

Saturday—feria

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL continues in St Peters

Next Sunday—**Advent Sunday**

0930 **Sharnbrook** Litany & Parish Communion & RnS
1100 **Felmersham** Litany & Parish Communion
1500 **St Peters** **Christmas Tree Festival Concert** of Advent & Christmas music with Ouse Valley Singers
NB No Benefice Evensong

The Benefice Diary is online on the websites

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org & www.felmersham.net

Intercessions

The sick and in need: David, Barbara, Sally, Martin, Mary, Linda, Judy, Marjorie, Doreen, Hanne, & James,

The Departed: none

Send the names of people who have asked to be remembered in our parish intercessions to the Rector

Pray for the success of the Christmas Tree Festival at St Peters
Thanksgiving for the opportunity to give to good causes at Christmas
Pray for Souldrop PCC as they look at the LYCIG materials



Christian Meditation Group

meets on Mondays 2000 in SPR—all welcome!



Coming up.....

Starting on **Friday 1 Dec—CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** all weekend ending with **Christmas Tree Festival Concert at 1500hrs in St Peters** with music for Advent & Christmas by Ouse Valley Singers

& **Sunday 10 Dec CHRISTINGLE service at 4pm at St Peters** in aid of Children's Society & bring Christmas Gifts for 'The Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal'



REFORMATIONS—this Sunday is the last day to add your comments and thoughts to the church doors of St Peters. On Sunday evening they will be taken down and turned into a booklet to mark our remembering of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's words. Add your comments and thoughts to get the conversation going.

Announcement—It is announced that Andrea will be curate in Flitwick Benefice after her ordination next summer.

An Advent Quiet Day with John's Gospel

Sat 9 Dec 9am-4pm in St Peters:
a day of reflection for Advent

£15 book with Andrea—including breakfast, lunch, tea with teaching input from Dean Richard Burrige and times of quiet and reflection and liturgical prayer

Church Contacts

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Churchwardens:-

St Peter's Church: Roland Carpenter 01234 781551
St Mary's Church: Jane Wells 01234 782462 & Sue Whitehouse 01234 781300
All Saints Church: Nick Wells 07841 759497

Safeguarding Co-Ord: Rosemary Drewery 07792 926004

Items for inclusion should be sent to sharnbrookbenefice@gmail.com by 0900 on Wednesdays.

To make arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rector

Sponsorship: in memory of those who have died of HIV/AIDS and those living with HIV & AIDS now

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to The Rectory along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)