

## COLLECT

Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

## FIRST READING Song of Solomon 2.8-13

A reading from the Song of Solomon  
8 The voice of my beloved!  
Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.  
Look, there he stands behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.  
10 My beloved speaks and says to me:  
'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;  
11 for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.  
12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land.  
13 The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.  
This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

## Responsorial Psalm 34:15-22



## R: Through the greatness of your mercy, I will come into your house.

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may rest upon your holy hill? Whoever leads an uncorrupt life and does the thing that is right; **R** Who speaks the truth from the heart and bears no deceit on the tongue; Who does no evil to a friend and pours no scorn on a neighbour; **R** In whose sight the wicked are not esteemed, but who honours those who fear the Lord. Whoever has sworn to a neighbour and never goes back on that word; **R** Who does not lend money in hope of gain, nor takes a bribe against the innocent; Whoever does these things shall never fall. **R**

## SECOND READING James 1.17-end

A reading from the letter of James  
Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. \* 18In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. 19 You must understand this, my beloved: \* let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. 21Therefore

rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves\* in a mirror; 24for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. 26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. 27Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

## Gospel Mark 7.1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

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

7Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, 2they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. 3(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands,\* thus observing the tradition of the elders; 4and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it;\* and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.\*) 5So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do

your disciples not live\* according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' 6He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." 8You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' 14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.\* 21For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, 22adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. 23All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

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

## POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **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](http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org)



**Welcome—as we gather to focus on our faith in Jesus Christ**

**Worship in the Benefice today... 14th after Trinity**

**Christian Meditation Group**

meets on Mondays 2000 in SPR—all welcome!



0930 Sharnbrook Parish Communion  
1100 Felmersham Parish Communion  
1500 Souldrop Parish Communion  
1800 Sharnbrook Benefice Evensong – Rector

**Monday**-Lesser Festival- Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604

**Tuesday**-Commemoration- Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), 650

**Wednesday**—feria

0930 Sharnbrook **Holy Communion 1st Wed BCP**

**Thursday** -Commemoration-Allen Gardiner, founder of the South American Missionary Society, 1851

0930 Felmersham **Holy Communion CW**

1030 Sharnbrook House monthly Holy Communion

**Friday**—feria

1145 Sharnbrook Messy Church

1900 Sharnbrook HOLY HOUR—silent prayer, music & incense

**Saturday**—Lesser festival-The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

0930-1530 LYCIG Day at Focolare Centre Welyn Garden City

All Day Heritage Open Day & Bike 'n Hike

**Next Sunday services— 15th after Trinity**

0830 Souldrop Holy Communion BCP

0930 Sharnbrook All Age Communion

1100 Felmersham Parish Communion (not AAHC)

1800 Sharnbrook Benefice Evensong – Reader Garry

The Rector is leaving the Church of England ministry to join the Scottish Episcopal Church.



Fr Reuben will finish in the Benefice on Sunday 7 October and will be Licensed on All Saints Day to be Rector of St John's Church, Johnstone & St Margaret's Church, Renfrew. Reuben and Stephen & are buying a home in Renfrew They are planning their wedding next September.

## Intercessions

**The sick and in need:** Ruth, Marjorie, Jo, Doreen, Isabela, Pam, David, Keri, Maureen, Matthew, Sally, Conrad & Cynthia

**The Departed:** Richard

**Prayer requests for the week:**

Pray our PCC members

Pray for all those caring for the elderly and vulnerable

Pray for refugees and migrants looking for a home

## Harvest Barn Dance

**Sat 29 Sept in the village hall 7.30pm**

tickets available soon



## Churches Together Harvest Supper



hosted by St Peters in the Methodist building

Tickets £5 from Marion on Wedn 19 Sept 7.30pm

## HOLLYWOOD IN SHARNBROOK

Smash Hit Oscar Winning

**WEST SIDE STORY**

Sharnbrook Village Hall, Sat 15 Sept 2018

Doors open 7pm (film starts 7.30pm) Proceeds to Friends of St Peter's Church Tickets £5 from Ian 781721



**Goodbye events**—we are saying goodbye to Reuben, Stephen & George on:-

**St Peters**—Wed 26 Sept 6pm venue tbc

**St Mary's**—Sat 6 Oct 3-5pm at JaneW's

**All Saints**—tbc

Reuben's final Sunday will be Sun 7 October

**1030 Benefice Communion** at St Peters



## Church Contacts

**The Rector:** Reuben Preston, The Rectory, 81 High Street, Sharnbrook MK44 1PE 01234 782000 07971 895897

rectorofsharnbrook@rjpmmedia.co.uk **Reader: Garry Johnson** 07855

762922 **Lay Leaders of Worship:** Rosemary Drewery 07792926004,

Jane Templeman, Andrea Maffie 07881 046255

**Churchwardens:-**

St Peter's Church: Roland Carpenter 01234 781551

Janet Norman 01234 781997

St Mary's Church: 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 thanksgiving for two happy girls, Gergia & Jade, on their GCSE results**

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)