

**COLLECT**

Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Proverbs 22.1-2, 8, 9, 22, 23

A reading from the book of Proverbs

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,  
and favour is better than silver or gold.

2 The rich and the poor have this in common:  
the Lord is the maker of them all.

8 Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,  
and the rod of anger will fail.

9 Those who are generous are blessed,  
for they share their bread with the poor.

22 Do not rob the poor because they are poor,  
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

23 for the Lord pleads their cause  
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

**Responsorial Psalm** 146

The Lord shall reign for ev - er.

**R: The Lord shall reign for ever.**

Alleluia. Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live will I praise the Lord; as long as I have any being, I will sing praises to my God. Put not your trust in princes, nor in any human power, for there is no help in them. When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; on that day all their thoughts perish. **R** Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God; Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever; Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger. **R** The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous; **R** The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down. The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia. **R**

**SECOND READING** James 2.1-10, 14-17

A reading from the letter of James

My brothers and sisters,\* do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? \* 2For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, 3and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat

here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', \* 4have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? 5Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. \* Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? 6But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? 7Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? 8 You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' 9But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. 14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, \* if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

**Gospel** Mark 7.24-end

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

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre.\* He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, 25but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. 26Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' 28But she answered him, 'Sir,\* even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' 29Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' 30So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. 31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. 34Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' 35And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. 36Then Jesus\* ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. 37They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

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

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through 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—what have you come to give thanks for today?**

## Worship in the Benefice today... **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

**Monday-feria**

**Tuesday-feria**

1930 Souldrop PCC at Nick's

**Wednesday—feria**

0930 Sharnbrook **Holy Communion 2nd Wed CW**

**Thursday** –Lesser Festival-John Chrysostom, Bp of Constantino-  
ple, Teacher of the Faith, 407

0930 Felmersham **Holy Communion CW**

**Friday**—Festival-Holy Cross Day

1145 Sharnbrook Messy Church

1900 Sharnbrook HOLY HOUR—silent prayer, music & incense

**Saturday**—Lesser festival-Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258

## Next Sunday services— **16th after Trinity**

0930 Sharnbrook Parish Communion & RnS—Bp Richard  
1100 Felmersham Parish Communion—Bp Richard  
1300 Sharnbrook Baptisms—Rector  
1500 Souldrop Harvestide Praise—Lay Reader Garry  
1800 Sharnbrook Benefice Evensong – LLW Rosemary



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

Fr Reuben finishes on Sun 7 October. He will become Rector of St John's Church, Johnstone & St Margaret's Church, Renfrew. Reuben and Stephen are planning their wedding next September. Reuben's Licensing is on Thurs 1 Nov at 7pm at St Margaret's Church Renfrew. You are invited to attend— please let Reuben know if you can come for seating numbers. The local congregations are offering accom to any staying visitors—please ask.

### Intercessions

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

**The Departed:** David Witherick

### **Prayer requests for the week:**

Pray our Ivan and Veronica, married on Saturday in Rimini  
Pray for the Messy Church at the start of this new term  
Pray for Holy Spirit to stir the hearts of prospective new priests

### Christian Meditation Group

meets on Mondays 2000 in SPR—all welcome!



## Harvest Barn Dance

Sat 29 Sept in the village hall 7.30pm

tickets available from Colin & Roland £12



### Churches Together Harvest Supper

hosted by St Peters

in the Methodist building on Wedn 19 Sept 7.00pm

Tickets £5 from Marion

### HOLLYWOOD IN SHARNBROOK

Smash Hit Oscar Winning

### **WEST SIDE STORY**

Sharnbrook Village Hall, Sat 15 Sept 2018

Doors open 7pm (film starts 7.30pm) Pro-

ceeds to Friends of St Peter's Church Tickets £5 from Ian



## Goodbye events—we are saying goodbye to

Reuben, Stephen & George on:-

**St Peters**—Wed 26 Sept 6pm venue Sports and Social Club -Bring and Share finger buffet for church folk until 73pm then wider village from 7.30pm onwards

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

**All Saints**—Sun 16 after the 3pm Harvest Praise

Reuben's final Sunday will be Sun 7 October

**1030 Benefice Communion** at St Peters &

**1800 Benefice Evensong** 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

### **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 the 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Mac & Hanne

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)