

ALL SAINTS'



ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone



A New Rhythm for First Sundays:

Welcoming the Singing Saints Choir.

Dear Friends,

As we move fully into the warmth of July (and hopefully away from the scorching heat of the back end of June), it's a wonderful time to look around our beautiful church and reflect on the journey we are sharing. Through our Seven Stranded Vision, we've committed ourselves to being an inclusive, welcoming hub for the entire community right here in the heart of Hertford.

Part of that journey means looking at how we worship and finding new ways to ensure everyone—from our youngest seekers to those who have been part of our church family for decades—feels a deep sense of belonging.

With that in mind, I want to share an exciting transition regarding our Sunday mornings. Beginning in September, we are introducing a new pattern of worship specifically for the first Sunday of each month.

In recent months, our first Sunday services have become All-Age Communion services to hold together worship that is aimed at all ages of the community with the eucharist to ensure that those who need that as part of their discipleship can be literally fed.

From September 6th, these monthly acts of worship will become non-eucharistic (meaning it will not include Holy Communion). Instead, it will be a service of the Word, tailored to be highly accessible, engaging, and deeply communal.

The heart behind this change is simple: we want to fully incorporate our new Singing Saints youth choir into the fabric of our main Sunday worship and to ensure that our evening congregations have the opportunity to receive the eucharist from time to time and, as appropriate, to reintroduce a bit more regularly than we have, the possibility of a Choral Communion service.

Children bring an incredible vitality, joy, and faith to All Saints. By shaping the first Sunday of the month around a non-eucharistic format, we create a more flexible space where the Singing Saints choir can contribute to our worship and share their musical gifts and actively participate in ways that standard liturgy doesn't always allow.

I know that no one likes change. Holy Communion remains the absolute bedrock of our worshipping life, and our remaining Sundays of the month will continue to feature our Parish Communion at 10:00 am as usual.

For those who highly value receiving the sacrament every week, please remember we also have our regular midweek communion on a Thursday and through keeping of the wonderfully diverse lectionary cycle of lesser festivals and festivals, which will usually be kept with an extra opportunity to worship in Word and Sacrament together.

Worship is a living thing. As we try out this new rhythm, I hope that it opens our doors just a little wider, inviting young families and the wider Hertford community to experience the joy of the All Saints family where all are always welcome.

Thank you for your openness, your prayers, and your ongoing commitment to making our church a place where all can find a home. Come along on the first Sunday of October, bring a neighbour, and let's prepare to be uplifted by the voices of our Singing Saints choir.

Hymns in August

Do you have a favourite hymn you'd like us to sing at a morning service in August? If so, please add it to the list at the back of church by Sunday 19th July and we will do our best to fit it in.

There are 628 hymns in Common Praise, we make regular use of many contemporary writers/publications and have access to an online reference database of over 34,000 hymns from 540 hymn books. We have a 'live' repertoire of over 450, but there's always room for more.

We'd love to add hymns/songs that mean something special to you to this list!

Flowers at All Saints – Help needed

During the past 6 months All Saints Flower Club has reached a 'manpower' crisis which has made us think about how we cope with ongoing flowers at All Saints.

We have so few helpers now that we can only operate as one group of arrangers, and we will have to sort a rota of who can do what whenever. In late April we hit rock bottom which is why I took the decision to just have artificial flowers from then until the recent wedding in June.

There are just seven of us on the flower rota these days which sounds a lot, but not for a building the size of All Saints. I had surgery on my hand, four others were very unwell, and

another was caring for a family member leaving Fiona, and I am sure she will not mind me saying, that she is finding her sight difficult and can no longer drive.

I am not quite sure how we managed Easter, and the wedding took much of planning and working over four days, not just one morning. I had a meeting with Simon, and we talked things through and formed an action plan:

- I spoke to people at Hertford Flower Club asking if anyone would like to join us to do flowers occasionally and/or join us for festivals. I am pleased to say that there has been a positive response so we *may* get some extra help
- I had already arranged to have a Flower demonstration with a Coffee Morning at the end of June. It has been widely advertised so I hope I can do All Saints' justice and hope to get extra help.
- We will have artificial flowers on the Altar and at the pulpit for the foreseeable future but aim to have fresh flowers at the back where they can be seen and on the Memorial Book where possible.
- I am looking at a few other options like speaking to HRC where they do floristry courses, but they are very different to 'flower arranging'!

We welcome anyone who would like to join us – YOU DO NOT NEED ANY FORMAL TRAINING WHATSOEVER! Just an enjoyment of flowers and we will assist where required. Every arrangement is a personal expression and will be welcomed – large or small, there is always a space for them at All Saints.

We normally meet at 9.30 on a Friday morning but there is no reason why it cannot be an afternoon, evening or Saturday when there are no events. We can be adaptable!

Thank you to everyone who assists us, and for ongoing financial support. I just pray that we can resolve this issue to keep flowers at All Saints.

Dorothy Toyn - Flower Club Leader

Churches Count On Nature 2026

During June, All Saints took part in Churches Count on Nature, a national initiative encouraging churches to record and celebrate the wildlife found in their churchyards.



Over the course of the week, a number of local specialists generously gave their time to help us survey different aspects of the churchyard, including birds, bats, butterflies, moths, trees, plants, small mammals and reptiles. Volunteers, members of the congregation and local residents joined in, learning from experts and sharing in the discoveries.

Some of the highlights included evening bat walks, where several of us stayed out until after 11pm using bat detectors and learning about the species flying overhead. The moth survey was equally memorable, with traps being checked and species identified in the early hours of the morning, with the experts still helping with identifications at 2.30am!

One particularly exciting find was a peregrine feather, adding to the excitement surrounding the peregrines seen around the church. Many of us were surprised by both the variety of wildlife present and the amount there was still to learn.

The discoveries extended beyond the churchyard itself. In the vicarage garden, Alex recorded regular visits from foxes and fox cubs, as well as hedgehogs, squirrels, robins, wrens, pied wagtails, blackbirds and wood pigeons, adding to the growing picture of the rich variety of wildlife living in the heart of Hertford.

What became clear very quickly was that there is far more life in the churchyard than many of us realised. The surveys gave us an opportunity to look more closely at a place we pass through regularly and discover things we had never noticed before. Many of us thought we knew the churchyard already; the week showed us there is always more to discover when we take the time to pay attention.

The project has provided valuable information for our Eco Church work. The Town Council has requested copies of the survey results so that the information can contribute to the development of its next five-year churchyard management plan, due to begin in 2027.

We are extremely grateful to all the specialists, volunteers and community members who gave their time, expertise and enthusiasm to make the week such a success.

Survey results are still being collated, and a fuller report will follow in due course.

Open Garden

Open Garden

**Bishop of St Albans' hidden
two acre city centre oasis**

Sunday 28 June
Sunday 4 July
Sunday 12 July
Sunday 19 July

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Abbey Gate House : Abbey Mill Lane : AL3 4HD
What3words: ///sings.fade.daily

Entrance £5 per adult - dogs on leads - no toilet facilities

 Bishop of St Albans Open Garden



Bishop Andrew has graciously agreed to the Bishop's Garden being open to the public for four Sundays prior to him and his family moving into Abbey Gate House later in the year.

To date we have raised nearly £25,000 for the Beds and Herts Historic Churches and it would be great if the total could be nearer to £30,000 before Bishop Andrew arrives.

Water Resources Management in the Short and Long Term By Dr Ilias Karapanos

Dr Ilias Karapanos is a water resources specialist with over 18 years' experience in the field of hydrogeology and water resources management.

On his current role as the Head of Water Resources Management Planning team at Affinity Water, he is responsible for the delivery of the Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP), which is the long-term strategic plan for water resources looking into the supply-demand balance up to 2075.

This talk expands on Affinity's water resources management plan, describing the actions taken to reduce demand, increase connectivity and seek new supply options to ensure we have enough water in the short and the long term for both people and the environment, whilst maintaining and enhancing resilience.

Green Watch Activity Day July 18th

Our Fun-Packed Activity Day will give children and parents the opportunity to get close to nature and take ideas home for summer holiday activities.

There will be activity stations all around the churchyard where you will be able to see how to build a Bug Hotel.

If you like to see birds in your garden, you can find out how to make creative Bird Feeders. If you are interested in gardening projects you will find out how to plant up a window box or bring it indoors by learning how to plant a garden on a plate or make Newspaper Flower Pots to save on using plastic planters.

You can also find out how to make a Seed Bomb or a Seed Snail.

Kate Sheard of the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust will be on hand to show you how to create a Mini Pond and also show you how to go Bug Hunting.

There will be lots more inside the church for you to explore including Learning Stations with experts to explain and show you live specimens of Amphibians and Reptile and Bees and lots of information on Bats, Hedgehogs, Swifts, Chalk Streams and Gardening for Wildlife.

There will also be Fun Stations where you can enjoy games and challenges. The event will run from 10am to 2pm, and light lunches and refreshments will be available.

Green watch 15th August

World of Honeybees and their Cousins'.

By Simon Rice 'The Beekeeper'

Simon has kept and managed honey bees for over fifty years, starting back in the seventies with his dad, when keeping bees was considered a little odd.

ALLSAINTS HERTFORD

The Amazing World of Honeybees and their Cousins'

GREEN WATCH

A Series of **FREE** Talks on Environmental Themes

Bees

By Simon Rice 'The Beekeeper'

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 2026 at 1.00pm

Coffee from 11.30am. Light Lunches from 12noon

Background Piano Music by Mary and Martin Penny • Fiona's Produce Stall

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

He became a master beekeeper in 2022, following ten years of examinations and practical assessments and is now spending his retirement managing his colonies of bees and supporting novice beekeepers with their steep learning curve. Swarm collecting during the summer months has taught him there is a big knowledge gap amongst the public about honey bees and other pollinators, but also the impact climate change and globalisation is having on these vital insects.

This has been a driving factor in preparing this talk.

Creationtide Activity Day

Living Water

The theme for the Season of Creation 2026 is living water, based on Ezekiel 47:1-12. God's life-giving water flows from the temple of God, growing deeper, restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems.

The vision invites human responsibility: recognising ecological damage, embracing interconnectedness, we are called to immerse ourselves in the water, and actively safeguarding and working for the renewal of

creation so that environmental healing and human well-being may flourish together.

Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

AN INVITATION TO CHILDREN OF ALL AGES AND THEIR PARENTS TO GET CREATIVE!

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2026
Between 2.00pm and 4.00pm

Explore creating artworks and models that Celebrate Living Water. Children can help create a Mural which will be displayed in the church or they can take their own creations home.

SCAVENGER HUNT ~ 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Refreshments Available • Free Admission
Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

STREET FOOD HEROES 4.00pm to 9.00pm

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www.allsaintshertford.org

We invite children of all ages and their parents to drop into church on Thursday 28 August between 2pm and 5pm to make items to be used in a mural in church to be displayed during Creation-tide, and also to take home. Street Food heroes will also be in the churchyard from 4pm - 9pm on that day.

Children will draw, paint, colour, make origami models to exemplify Peace with Creation in the following categories: Butterflies/insects, Flowers/Plants, Animals, Birds, Fish, Planets. We will supply the materials and there will be people to help, as well as tea, coffee, juice and biscuits.

On the same day, there will be a scavenger hunt for children between 2pm and 5pm. They will be given a list of things to find in the Churchyard and be given a treat once the list is complete.

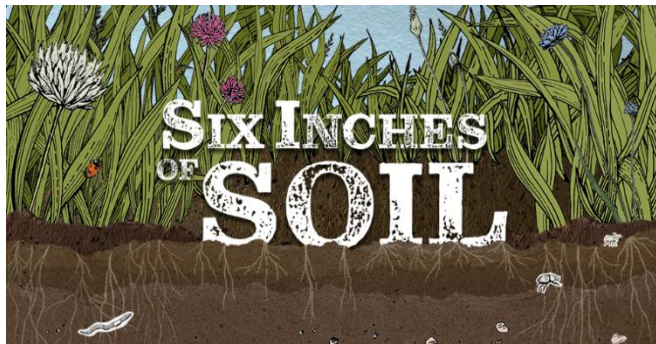
2026 Environment Day

12th September 2026.

The annual All Saints Environment Day will be held on Saturday, September 12, the same day as the Historic Churches Bike 'n Hike which we always support.

This year the Environment Day will incorporate a Film Festival, showing two films - 'Six Inches of Soil' and 'Wilding'. In addition to the films, there will also be a variety of stalls which visitors can investigate to find out more about

what is happening locally in terms of our environment and what we can all do to mitigate the dangers we face and also where we can find hope in our precious environment.



'Six Inches of Soil' is the inspiring story of British farmers standing up against the industrial food system and transforming the way they produce food - to heal the soil, benefit our health and provide for local communities. This will be followed by a panel discussion with regenerative farmers, John Cherry and David White and also Andrei Lussmann who has an excellent understanding of the wider food system. They will discuss the themes of the film and answer questions.



The day will close with a showing of the film 'Wilding'. This is the story of Isabella Tree and her husband, Charlie Burrell who strive to breathe new life into the ailing Knepp estate. They reintroduce native ponies, deer, pigs and other wildlife, allowing nature to thrive. They battle entrenched tradition and dare to place the fate of their farm in the hands of nature. Ripping down the fences, they set the land back to the wild and entrust its recovery to a motley mix of animals both tame and wild. It is the beginning of a grand experiment that will become one of the most significant rewilding experiments in Europe.

Through the day, light lunches and refreshments will be available.



12 September 2026

We are nearly at that time of year again when we dust down our bikes or walking boots and start getting ready for the annual Bike & Hike in September. This event raises money for the 'Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust' and is an event that covers many counties across the country.

Half of the money raised goes to a church of your choice – hopefully All Saints! Over the last 3 years we raised over £3000. All you need to do is gather sponsors, work out your route and set off on Saturday 12th September! You can visit 9 churches in Hertford alone but always a good excuse to visit other places. You can even be sponsored to stay in church and sign people in!



It is a lovely day out, whether you walk, or cycle and is a great way to raise money for a good cause. I have visited over 40 churches in the past but will set my challenge lower this year. Any sponsorship for anyone who is doing the event would be gratefully received.

Sponsor forms are available to download, and a list of churches you can visit wherever you choose to go at <https://bedshertshct.org.uk/bike-n-hike/>

You can also set up a Just Giving page if you wish, or use the form and collect money the traditional way and give it to me when all collected in.

We look forward to you joining us.
Dorothy Toyn

Parish Diary July/August 2026

Wed 1st

8.00 am Morning Prayer
2.00 pm Home Communion
3.30 pm - 5.00 pm Organ
Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 2nd

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 3rd

3.30 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 4th

9.30 am Morning Prayer
9.30 am-6.00 pm
Somewhere2sing rehearsals

Sunday 5th Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am All-age Eucharist
2.00 pm Bishop's Open
Garden
6.30 pm Taizé Service

Monday 6th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Service at Bentley
House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 7th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 8th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.15 am Wheatcroft
Assembly
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm Organ
Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 9th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 10th

3.30 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 11th Benedict

9.30 am Holy Communion
Greenwatch 11.30 Coffee
Morning
12.00 noon Lunches
1.00 pm Talk Water
Resources Dr Ilias
Karapanos

Sunday 12th Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
2.00 pm Bishop's Open
Garden
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Monday 13th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley
House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 14th John Keble

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 15th Swithun

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
3.30 pm - 5.00 pm Organ
Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 16th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Saturday 18th

9.00 am Work Party
9.30 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am onwards Green
Watch Activity day
7.30 pm Concert Classical
Chorus

Sunday 19th Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
2.00 pm Bishop's Open
Garden
6.30 pm Choral Compline

Monday 20th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley
House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 21st

8.00 am Morning Prayer
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 22nd Mary Magdalene

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm Organ
Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 23rd

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Saturday 25th James the Apostle

9.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Evensong (Said)

Monday 27th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley
House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 28th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 29th Mary Matha & Laurus

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.30 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 30th

8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
4.00-9.00 pm Street Food
Heroes
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

AUGUST Saturday 1st

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 2nd Ninth Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am All-age Eucharist

6.30 pm Evensong (said)

Monday 3rd

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Service at Bentley House

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 4th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 5th Oswald

8.00 am Morning Prayer

9.00 am Holy Communion

2.00 pm Home Communion

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 6th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

11.00 am Holy Communion

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 8th

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 9th Tenth Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Evensong (said)

Monday 10th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Service at Bentley House

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 11th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 12th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10-11.30 am Singing Saints

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 13th

11.00 am Morning Prayer

Saturday 15th

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Greenwatch 11.30 Coffee Morning

12.00 noon Lunches

1.00 pm Talk Bees

Simon Rice

Sunday 16th Eleventh Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am Morning Prayer on Sunday

6.30 pm Compline (Said)

Monday 17th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Service at Bentley House

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 18th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 19th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 20th

11.00 am Morning Prayer

Saturday 22nd

9.00 am Work Party

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 23rd Twelfth Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Evensong (said)

Monday 24th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Service at Bentley House

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 25th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 26th

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10-11.30 am Singing Saints

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 27th Monica

8.00 am Morning Prayer

11.00 am Holy Communion

2.00-4.00 pm Creationtide Activity Afternoon

4.00-9.00 pm Street Food Heroes

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

7.30 pm All Saints Art

Saturday 29th Beheading of John the Baptist

9.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 30th Thirteenth Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Evensong (said)

Monday 31st

8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.30 am Service at Bentley House

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

SEPT Tuesday 1st

8.00 am Morning Prayer

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 2nd

8.00 am Morning Prayer

2.00 pm Home Communion

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 3rd

8.00 am Morning Prayer

9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday

11.00 am Holy Communion

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 4th

3.30 pm Singing Saints

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 5th

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 6th Fourteenth Sunday after**Trinity**

10.00 am All Age Service of the Word

6.30 pm Parish Communion (said)

Contact informationwww.allsaintshertford.org

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Full list of contactswww.allsaintshertford.org/contacts.php

CLASSICAL CHORUS 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

**WRITTEN
* IN THE STARS**

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF HARMONY

7.30PM SATURDAY 18TH JULY 2026
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HERTFORD, SG13 8AY

RAISING FUNDS FOR HEARTS FOR HERTS

CLASSICAL CHORUS
ABIGAIL HARRIS MUSICAL DIRECTOR
VICTORIA LEWIS PIANO
MARTIN PENNY ORGAN

SUGGESTED CASH DONATION £15 IN SUPPORT OF HEARTS FOR HERTS
RAFFLE DRAW ON THE NIGHT

CLASSICAL Chorus  