

St Neots Parish Church (St Mary) & Eynesbury St Mary

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 8th March 2026

The Third Sunday of Lent



8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist <i>President & Preacher – The Rector</i>	St Neots Parish Church Thorne
Hymns:	641 (1stt); 744 (1stt); 669; Anthem + 772; 813 (t.499)	
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
Hymns:	641 (1stt); 744 (1stt); 669; 813 (t.499)	Thorne
3.30 p.m.	“All Aboard” – Jonah’s Journey	St Neots Parish Church

Services & Events this week

Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
		Mothers’ Union Quiet Afternoon	Eynesbury
	19.30	Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	Eynesbury
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist	Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
	10.30	Communion at Henbrook House	
	14.00	Communion at Old Vicarage	
	20.45	Sung Compline (following choir practice)	SNPC

Services for next Sunday, 15th March 2026 (Mothering/Lent 4):

“Beware the Ides of March”, as a Shakespearean soothsayer once said to Julius Caesar!

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St Neots Parish Church
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury

Giving for the work of the Church

We do not pass a collection plate around the congregation during the service, but we always welcome donations from those who attend worship, either in cash or by using the card reader near the door at SNPC before or after the service.

Please Gift Aid that donation if you can do so (envelopes are available).

We also encourage regular givers to become members of the Parish Giving Scheme (which is how many Church members make their donations).

Please ask at the door, or via the Office, if you want more information about this.

The Parish of St Neots with Eynesbury, Reg Charity No 1195248, in the Church of England Diocese of Ely.

Rector: The Revd Canon Paul Hutchinson, The Rectory, Church Street, 01480 471297

Office: Church Street, 01480 370312; office@stneots.org - www.stneots.org Weekly Sheet 20260308

Collect for Lent 3

Almighty God,

whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Alternative Collect for Lent 3

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (first in service): Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Gospel Reading: John 4.5-42

⁵So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'

¹³Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' ¹⁵The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' ¹⁷The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' ¹⁹The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.

²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'

²⁵The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' ²⁶Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' ³²But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' ³³So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' ³⁴Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

New Testament Reading (not used): Romans 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Post-Communion Prayer for Lent 3

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION.

In preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 19th April 2026, the revision of the Electoral Roll will take place 15th – 29th March.

This means that new names can be added to the roll up to and including 29th March.

After that date no new names may be added to the roll until after the APCM.

If you are new to our churches of St Neots and Eynesbury and would like to be included on the Roll, please speak to me or contact me at:

elizabethsibson@stneots.org and I will see that you receive a form to complete.

Alternatively, please speak to Christine Miles (churchwarden) at Eynesbury.

Elizabeth Sibson (Electoral Roll Officer)

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter is fast approaching and our flower arranging team is preparing to put on a fantastic display. Thank you again to all those who contributed to the wonderful display at Christmas.

Donations would be greatly appreciated to help towards the cost of flowers.

Please give anything you can to Sylvia Masters, Rosemary Darrington or Bev Rawlings.

With many thanks, Bev.

Further Ahead

Sunday 22nd March,

St Neots Parish Church - Concert by St Neots Concert Band, 3pm.

Kimbolton School - School Choir & Kimbolton Singers perform Handel, 7.30pm