

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 4th October 2026

The 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis



8 a.m. Eucharist (BCP) St Neots Parish Church

9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist St Neots Parish Church

President – Revd Margaret Marshall; Preacher – The Rector **Thorne**

Hymns: 298 (2nd t); 725; 532; Anthem + 747; 300 (t.147)

We also welcome David Wells to his new ministry as a Licensed Lay Minister

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist Eynesbury

President & Preacher – The Rector

Thorne

Hymns: 298 (2nd t); 725; 532; 300 (t.147)

Services & Events this week

Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
	11.00	Eucharist at Poppyfields	
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist	Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
	10.30	Communion at Henbrook House	
	12.00	Wedding (Hambley-Szymanska)	SNPC
	14.00	Communion at Old Vicarage	

Services for next Sunday, 11th October 2026 (Trinity 19):

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (<i>Preacher: David Wells</i>)	St Neots Parish Church
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
3.30 p.m.	'All Aboard'	St Neots Parish Church

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 Canticle of the Sun (the hymn of St Francis)

The canticle upon which 'All Creatures of our God and King' is based:

it will be led by two alternating voices – all join in with bold text.

¹ Most High, all powerful, good Lord,

to you be praise, glory, honour and all blessing.

² Only to you, Most High, do they belong

and no one is worthy to call upon your name.

³ May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially brother sun,

through whom you lighten the day for us.

⁴ He is beautiful and radiant with great splendour;

he signifies you, O Most High.

⁵ Be praised, my Lord, for sister moon and the stars:

clear and precious and lovely, they are formed in heaven.

⁶ Be praised, my Lord, for brother wind;

for air and clouds, clear skies and all weathers,

by which you give sustenance to your creatures.

⁷ Be praised, my Lord, for sister water,

who is very useful and humble and precious and pure.

⁸ Be praised, my Lord, for brother fire, by whom the night is illumined for us:

he is beautiful and cheerful, full of power and strength.

⁹ Be praised, my Lord, for our sister, mother earth, who sustains and governs us

and produces diverse fruits and coloured flowers and grass.

¹⁰ Be praised, my Lord, by all those who forgive for love of you

and who bear weakness and tribulation.

¹¹ Blessed are those who bear them in peace:

for you, Most High, they will be crowned.

¹² Be praised, my Lord, for our sister, the death of the body,

from which no one living is able to flee;

woe to those who are dying in mortal sin.

¹³ Blessed are those who are found doing your most holy will,

for the second death will do them no harm.

¹⁴ Praise and bless my Lord and give him thanks

and serve him with great humility.

Collect for St Francis

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself to the childlike and lowly of heart:

grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis,

we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness

and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures: Micah 6.6-8

‘With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?’

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

New Testament Reading: Galatians 6.14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. ¹⁸May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 12.22-34

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³²‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.’

Proper Preface

And now we give you thanks because you raised up Blessed Francis to burn as a shining light in your church;
that, inflamed with love for God and all creation
and bearing in his body the marks of your Son's passion,
he might bring to glory many sons and daughters;
therefore with angels...

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord God, you made your church rich through the poverty of Blessed Francis: help us like him not to trust in earthly things but to seek your heavenly gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A prayer of St Francis

May the power of your love, O Lord, fiery and sweet as honey,
so absorb our hearts as to withdraw them from all that is under heaven.
Grant that we may be ready to die for love of your love
as you died for love of our love.

Looking ahead

If anyone would like to order MU Christmas Cards, please speak to Liz Elson after the 9.30 service, or contact her via elsonj046@gmail.com

Dates for further ahead in the diary

Sunday 18th October is St Luke's Day. Sunday 1st November is All Saints' Day
On Sunday 18th October at 3pm, we are holding an event in the SN Church Room – Afternoon Tea with Roger – a 'Desert Island Discs' style event where Roger will be in conversation with the Rector. Angie Robertson is collecting names of those wanting to come.

On Saturday 31st October, the Rotary Club of St Neots are holding a charity concert given by **Upwood Ukeleles** in aid of MAGPAS (air ambulance), Dementia UK, and Home-Start UK) at SNPC at 7 p.m. Tickets are £15 and available from Bruce Elam (07951 959577) or via www.ticketsource.com/impact-rotary-st-neots/T-NJDVQMQ

Remembrance Sunday will be on November 8th. As usual, the St Neots Town Service (not a eucharist) will be at 10am; the Eucharist at Eynesbury will be preceded by the Act of Remembrance outside, starting around 1050-1055. The Act of Remembrance at the Polish War Graves (not organised by us) is likely to be at midday.

SNPC will be hosting the Cambs-Beds-Herts Road Victims Trust Annual Service at 3pm on Sunday 15th November. The organisers have asked if we can help with welcome (perhaps up to 100 people) and with refreshments (not necessarily for all) afterwards. Please speak to Jacky Isaac or Helen Bloxham if you are willing to be part of this.

Also in November: VAMPS will be performing 'Beauty and the Beast' at SNPC 25th-28th November. All midweek services take place that week at Eynesbury.