St John the Baptist, Aldenham

Sunday 25th October 2026

The Last Sunday after Trinity

10:30am Holy Communion (CW) — 6:30pm Evensong

Collect

Merciful God,
you show your goodness to all,
and your compassion is over all that you have made:
help us to take our stand against poverty and injustice,
and to share your love with our neighbours throughout the world,
that people everywhere may experience life in all its fullness,
and know the dignity of being your children;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

10:30am HOLY COMMUNION (COMMON WORSHIP)

Also to be live-streamed and available for catch-up with on this link:
https://youtube.com/live/O7Qh1O_kcVw?feature=share

Please use the red Holy Communion books to follow and join in the liturgy.

Opening Hymn: 467	**Sermon** *by Rev Suchitra Behera*
Through all the changing scenes of life	*"Loving your neighbour"*
First Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18	**Offertory Hymn: 408**
read by: Valerie Turner	*Love divine, all loves excelling (1st tune)*
Gradual hymn: 370	**Communion Hymn: 376**
Help us, O Lord, to learn (t.449)	*I heard the voice of Jesus say*
Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46	**Closing Hymn: 420**
read by: Rev John Castle	*O Jesus, I have promised*

You are invited to remain in the Church for coffee after the service.

PRAYER LIST *Please pray for: the family and friends of Tony Arens and Christopher Smith; Fiona McGuiness, Isla Hart, Natalia, Rostislav Myslov, Lucy Haslar, and John Chapman; Arthur Holland-Hibbert, Parker Bowman and Bonnie Coates and Isla McIvor, who are all to be baptised in November. (Do let us know if there is someone to remember here – with their permission)*

Bible Readings for the Morning Service

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18 (NRSV)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

2 Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall
be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy...

15 You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor
or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. 16 You shall
not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the
blood of your neighbour: I am the LORD.

17 You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your
neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. 18 You shall not take vengeance or
bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as
yourself: I am the LORD.

Matthew 22:34-46 (NRSV)

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered
together, 35 and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
36 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' 37 He said to him,
'"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your mind." 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a
second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." 40 On these two
commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this
question: 42 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to
him, 'The son of David.' 43 He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the
Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

44 "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet'"?

45 If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' 46 No one was able to give
him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more
questions.

6:30pm EVENSONG

Opening Hymn: 485 *Thy hand, O God, has guided* **Psalm: 16** *(p360)* **OT Lesson:** *Isaiah 55: 1 - 11* *read by George Castle* **Magnificat** *(p19)* **NT Lesson:** *Luke 4:14-30* *read by Martin Jeens*	**Nunc Dimittis** *(p21)* **Address:** *Rev John Castle* *"Jesus' manifesto"* **Second Hymn: 418** *O happy band of pilgrims* **Closing Hymn: 244** *Glory to thee, my God, this night*

NOTICES

***Next Sunday**: 10:30am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) with baptism of Arthur Holland-Hibbert and **Children's Church** 6.30 pm Evensong*

Tearfund is a Christian international development and humanitarian organisation with more than 50 years' experience. They work in over 50 countries worldwide, in partnership with communities, churches and local organisations, with the goal of ending extreme poverty.

Tearfund works alongside communities over the long term, building lasting partnerships with local churches and community organisations.

Every Tearfund intervention is led by the people it serves, who have local knowledge and the best understanding of the causes of poverty and its solutions.

Tearfund's work includes:

- Responding to disasters and emergencies.
- Equipping the church to work with the local community, identifying needs and mobilising resources to bring about restoration and transformation.
- Advocacy and influencing: to influence the global church and governments to bring about fair and just policies and structures at a local, national and global level.

You can find out more about Tearfund and their work at: www.tearfund.org

If you don't already support a charity doing similar work at a global level, please consider making a one-off gift or becoming a regular donor.
Visit https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/harvest-appeal

Shoe Box Appeal

We will once again be collecting shoe boxes for **Operation Christmas Child** in November. This scheme sends Christmas boxes to underprivileged children across the world. The filled boxes can contain stationery, socks, hair slides, combs, small toys, sweets (not chocolate) and toiletries such as toothbrush and soap. I will be taking them for sending off during the week of 10th November, so if you want to support, please have your completed boxes to the back of the church by Nov 9th. Leaflets are available at the back of the church with instructions and shoe box labels. Or you can go online here for more instructions and details https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child. Despite fears about rising costs, the suggested donation remains at £5. Many thanks. Morwen Harris 07889 472322.

1st November (All Saints): **Our 10.30 am** in our BCP Communion Service will include the baptism of Arthur Holland-Hibbert.

This year the main focus for remembering the departed will be at a special **Memorial Service at 6.30 pm,** which will include well-known hymns, poems and music from the choir. All are welcome, and we will particularly be inviting those who have been bereaved in the past year.

There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one, and for names to be read during the prayers.

If you would like to invite someone, please take a card from the back of church.

If you would like the name of someone who has died to be included in the prayers in the morning *or* evening service, please write their name legibly on the relevant sheet at the back of the church.

Saturday 7th November: Concert with the North London Military Wives' Choir

10.30 tea/coffee and cake, 11.30 concert. Free entry, donations requested! This concert will also be live-streamed (link in next week's pew sheet).

Sunday 8th November**:** Instead of our usual morning service we will be holding a service of Remembrance at the War Memorial at Letchmore Heath at 10.30 am.

Pastoral Care: *If you require support or assistance at any time, please contact Sue Barnard or Jackie Wilson 07949 587828 or via the website contact box.*

The vicar, ***Rev John Castle*** *will be pleased to visit anyone by request at a mutually convenient time. His usual working days are Sunday, Monday and Wednesday. Tel: 01923 723864 Email: vicar@aldenhamchurch.com*