

**THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ASHWELL,  
HINXWORTH AND EDWORTH WITH NEWNHAM AND CALDECOTE**  
**Sunday 31st December 2006 - 1st Sunday of Christmas**

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**9:15 am Parish Eucharist - Hinxworth**  
Hymns: 49,51,54,MS

**10:45 am Parish Eucharist - Ashwell**  
Hymns: 477,75,248,251,481

No Evening Services

**Next Sunday - 1st Sunday of Christmas**

8:00am Holy Communion - BCP (St Mary's)  
9:15am Parish Eucharist (St Nicholas)  
10:45am Service of the Word (St Mary's)  
6:30pm Choral Eucharist (St Mary's)

**For your Prayers:**

Please pray for those who are sick including:

**Lesley Goodman-Smith,  
Melanie Smith, Jacqueline Clais**

And the friends and relatives of those who have recently died:

**Keith Bennett, Ray Towing.**

Please pray for these people during the week.



Keith Bennett's will take place this Friday  
at noon in St. Mary's.

**THIS WEEK'S DIARY:**

**Monday 1st**

9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)

**Tuesday 2nd**

9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)

**Wednesday 3rd**

9:30am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
10:00am MidWeek Communion (St Mary's)  
Noon - 1.30pm Soup Lunch (Parish Room - Ashwell)  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)  
8:00pm Home Group (TBA)  
8:00pm St Mary's Churchwardens meeting (Rectory)

**Thursday 4th**

9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)  
8:00pm Bellringing Practice (St Mary's)

**Friday 5th**

9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
Noon Funeral of Keith Bennett  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)  
7:00pm Junior Choir Practice (St Mary's)  
8:00pm Senior Choir Practice (St Mary's)

**Saturday 6th**

9:00am Morning Prayer (St Mary's)  
5:00pm Evening Prayer (St Mary's)

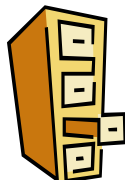
Please take this sheet home with you, and use it in your prayers during the week.



He said to them,  
'Why were you  
searching for me?  
Did you not know  
that I must be in my  
Father's house?'

But they did not understand what  
he said to them.

Luke 2.41-52



**Filing cabinet.**

The Church has a locking filing cabinet that it would like to dispose of to a good home. If you are interested contact Roger Cooke or Stephen Fleming.

**Can't get to church each week?  
Or... Can never find your pew sheet?  
So your missing out on notices?**

Then get this sheet emailed to you:  
Send a request to: [simon@simonchambers.com](mailto:simon@simonchambers.com)

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God,  
 whose blessed Son was circumcised  
 in obedience to the law for our sake  
 and given the Name that is above  
 every name:  
 give us grace faithfully to bear his  
 Name, to worship him in the freedom  
 of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as  
 the Saviour of the world; who is  
 alive and reigns with you, in the unity  
 of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
 for ever.

**First Reading****1 Samuel 2.18-20,26**

Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod. Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD.” Then they would go home. And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favour with the LORD and with men.

**Psalm 148, 7-end**

- 7 Praise the Lord / from  
 the / earth:  
 you sea / monsters and / all /  
 deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, / snow and / mist:  
 tempestuous / wind, ful / filling,  
 his / word;
- 9 Mountains and / all / hills:  
 fruit / trees and / all / cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and / all / cattle:  
 creeping / things and / birds • on  
 the / wing;
- 11 Kings of the earth and / all /  
 peoples:  
 princes and all / rulers / of the /  
 world;
- 12 Young men and women,  
 old and / young to / gether:  
 let them / praise the / name • of  
 the / Lord.

13 For his name only / is ex / alted:  
 his splendour a / bove / earth  
 and / heaven.

14 He has raised up the horn of his  
 people, and praise for all  
 his / faithful / servants:  
 the children of Israel, a people  
 who are / near him /  
 Alle / luia.

**Second Reading  
Colossians 3.12-17**

As God's chosen people, holy and  
 dearly loved, clothe yourselves with  
 compassion, kindness, humility,  
 gentleness and patience. Bear with  
 each other and forgive whatever  
 grievances you may have against  
 one another. Forgive as the Lord  
 forgave you. And over all these  
 virtues put on love, which binds  
 them all together in perfect unity. Let  
 the peace of Christ rule in your  
 hearts, since as members of one  
 body you were called to peace. And  
 be thankful. Let the word of Christ  
 dwell in you richly as you teach and  
 admonish one another with all  
 wisdom, and as you sing psalms,  
 hymns and spiritual songs with  
 gratitude in your hearts to God. And  
 whatever you do, whether in word or  
 deed, do it all in the name of the  
 Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the  
 Father through him.

**Gospel  
Luke 2.41-52**

Every year the parents of Jesus  
 went to Jerusalem for the festival of  
 the Passover. And when he was  
 twelve years old, they went up as  
 usual for the festival. When the  
 festival was ended and they started  
 to return, the boy Jesus stayed  
 behind in Jerusalem, but his parents  
 did not know it. Assuming that he  
 was in the group of travellers, they  
 went a day's journey. Then they  
 started to look for him among their  
 relatives and friends. When they did  
 not find him, they returned to  
 Jerusalem to search for him. After  
 three days they found him in the  
 temple, sitting among the teachers,  
 listening to them and asking them

questions. And all who heard him  
 were amazed at his understanding  
 and his answers. When his parents  
 saw him they were astonished; and  
 his mother said to him, ‘Child, why  
 have you treated us like this? Look,  
 your father and I have been  
 searching for you in great anxiety.’  
 He said to them, ‘Why were you  
 searching for me? Did you not know  
 that I must be in my Father's  
 house?’ But they did not understand  
 what he said to them. Then he went  
 down with them and came to  
 Nazareth, and was obedient to them.  
 His mother treasured all these things  
 in her heart. And Jesus increased in  
 wisdom and in years, and in divine  
 and human favour.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father  
 whose blessed Son shared at  
 Nazareth the life on an earthy home:  
 grant to thy Church grace to live as  
 one family  
 united in love and obedience  
 and at the last bring us all to our  
 home in heaven;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.