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

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 22nd June 2025

The First Sunday after Trinity (proper 7)

(also the feast day of St Alban, first British martyr)

Services today

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

President & Preacher – Canon Robert Sibson Thorne

Hymns: 765; 494; 766; Anthem + 446; Sheet (t.617)

I I a.m. Sung Eucharist Eynesbury

President & Preacher – The Revd Margaret Marshall

Hymns: 765; 494; 778 (2nd t); 766 Thorne

3 p.m. Concert by St Neots Big Band St Neots Parish Church

Services & Events this week

Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist	Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
•	12.00	Funeral of A. Griffiths	SNPC
Saturday	10.45	Informal Eucharist	SNPC
	11-1	Saturday Social	SN Ch.Rm
	19.30	St Neots Choral Society & Sinfonia	Eaton Socon

Services for next Sunday, 29th June: SS Peter & Paul, Apostles

8 a.m. Eucharist (BCP)

9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

St Neots Parish Church

St Neots Parish Church

II a.m. Sung Eucharist Eynesbury

6 p.m. Choral Evensong 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.



Collect for Trinity I

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 Trinity I

God of truth.

help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Reading from the Old Testament: Isaiah 65.1-9

One I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs and spend the night in secret places; who eat the flesh of pigs, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, "Keep to yourself; do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long.

See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps

Their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

New Testament Reading: Galatians 3.23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there

is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Gospel Reading: Luke 8.26-39

Then they arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As Jesus stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me," for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Further Ahead

The **Mothers' Union Annual Garden Party** takes place in St Neots Church Room and outside (if fine) 2-4 p.m. on **Friday 4**th **July.** Afternoon tea, cakes & scones, raffle for MU funds, and donations for Away From It All (AFIA). All welcome.

Some regular services that would take place early in July will be moved to later dates. Both the Poppyfields Eucharist and the Eucharist with Prayer for Healing will be at their usual I Iam and 7.30pm times, but on Wednesday 16th July.

Times for Henbrook House and Old Vicarage have yet to be arranged.

The **Eynesbury Strawberry Tea** will take place at Eynesbury Church 2-4.30pm on **Saturday 12**th **July.** Let's hope for a bright – but not too hot – afternoon!

A hymn for St Alban (tune 617)

We sing of Holy Alban and his suffering for the Lord, of resounding words of witness for the Christ whom he adored: of his boldness and his daring and his dying by the sword: his faith is marching on.

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, his faith is marching on.

² "I worship and adore the true and living God," he said, as the darkening world of evil raged in torment round his head; in the strength of Christ he trod, as he to martyrdom was led; his words are marching on.

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah...
...his words are marching on.

³ For the Lord himself had died upon a hill of dread and shame; all forsaken on a cross, the King of Glory is his name; here with Alban and the Saints of God his victory we proclaim; his power is marching on.

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah... ...his power is marching on.

⁴ It was there, a British hillside, green and beautiful with flowers, that the martyr made a stand for Christ against those evil powers; so in Christ's name we shall witness and his triumph can be ours, his glory marches on.

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah... ... his glory marches on.

⁵ We celebrate the courage of a martyr true and bold; we remember now his witness for the Lord in days of old; we rededicate ourselves today, his Gospel to be told; the Good News marches on.

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah...
...the Good News marches on.