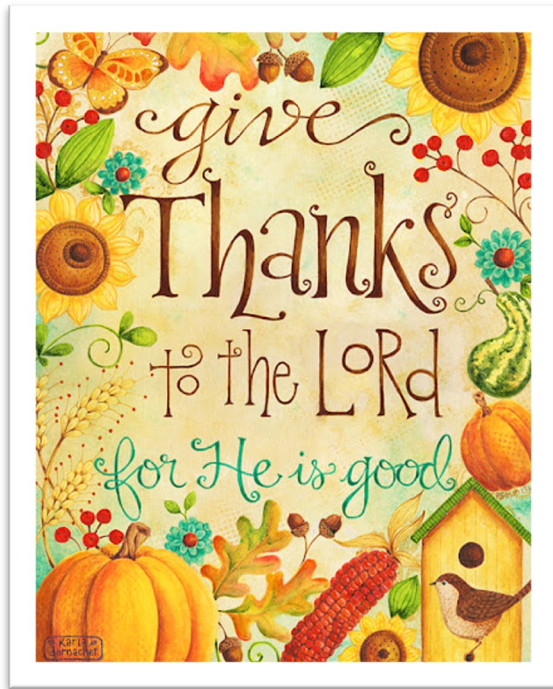


Amelcote Benefice

The Messenger



September-October-November 2026

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From the Rectory

Rites of passage encompass the whole spectrum of emotions from complete sadness and feeling of bereftness to memories of joy and laughter as we recount incidents, many long forgotten, that we shared with our now departed loved ones. In baptism we share the excitement and joy of new parents and we remember baptisms of siblings; we choose carefully (most of the time!) those we particularly want to share in the child's upbringing and development as we decide on godparents and we start the nurturing process of those older people who come to us for baptism. Wedding couples can be excited, nervous, almost overwhelmed to begin with but it is such a joy to work with them in the months leading up to their big day (and for me, it is an even bigger joy when, later, they ask me if I can baptise their children!). Yes, rites of passage cross all generations. They can be exhausting both physically and mentally, but they are definitely a major part of the church's witness in our communities.

And what a role model we have – Jesus. In the gospels we encounter Jesus in rites of passage - mourning the death of his friend, raising a child back to life, encouraging the children to be brought to him for blessing, attending a wedding (and preaching a parable about another one). Jesus, our fully human and fully divine Saviour, knew and knows all about rites of passage and all the emotions surrounding them.

Rites of passage are a natural part of our existence as are the seasons, which in some ways emulate our experiences. In spring we think about new life from seeds etc and at this time of year we think about the completion of the cycle – harvest. Our churches and schools will be celebrating harvest in some way – check the service rota and what's on.

God is SO good; he gives us so much more than we desire, need or actually want; he supports us through each and every stage of our life. Isn't it right that we give him thanks and praise through our rites of passage services and at harvest time?

Revd Marion Reynolds

Services in the Amelcote Benefice

You are invited to come along to any of the services listed below for September, October and November 2026.

Date	Time	Service	Church
6th September	10am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
13th September	10am 3pm	Holy Communion Messy Vintage	Tiffield Pattishall
20 th September	10am	Holy Communion with Baptism	Pattishall
27th Sept ember	10am	Harvest service followed by short Communion	Gayton
4 th October	10am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
11 th October	10am	Holy Communion	Tiffield
18 th October	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
25 th October	10am	Holy Communion	Gayton
1 st November	10am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
8 th November	TBC	Remembrance Services*	TBC
15 th November	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
22 nd November	10am	Holy Communion	Gayton
29 th November	10am	Holy Communion	Pattishall

*Details of the Remembrance services and further Harvest services were not available at the time of going to print. Please see the weekly email, church porch notices or Facebook nearer the time.

We have a weekly Amelcote Benefice news email for information on services and events and a quarterly newsletter, The Messenger. Please email Chris Bulleid on amelcote.info@gmail.com to be added to the mailing lists.

Messy Vintage Service

Balaam's Donkey

Please join us at

Holy Cross, Pattishall

Sunday 13th September

3pm



for an informal Christ-centred service of fun and fellowship, with tea and cake.

Contact Jean Pugh for more details. All welcome.

Harvest and Remembrance Services

There will be a Harvest service at St Mary, Gayton on 27th September at 10am.

For details of further Harvest and all Remembrance Services in the Benefice please keep an eye on the Weekly email bulletins where they will be posted when confirmed.

Contact Chris Bulleid on amelcote.info@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

Service times are also posted in the Church Porches .

SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE, STRIDE & DRIVE

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 12th September 2026

between 10am and 6pm

Do something different – walk, cycle or drive
round Northamptonshire's beautiful churches
and raise money for NHCT and your own church



50% of initial sponsorship money received will be returned to
the church or chapel chosen by you

**Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are
available from your local organiser: -**

Pattishall—Alison & Crofton Brierley 01327 830770/ 07966 641511

Tiffield—Rachel Holloway 01327 353172

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632 For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk

Alison is looking for volunteers to be a Welcomer for Ride, Stride and Drive, at Holy Cross for an hour or two on 12th September? Please email albrierley53@icloud.com or let Ali know at church, if you are able to help.

Save the Date — 26 September —

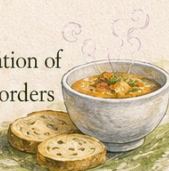


Join us for an Open Day at **St Mary's Church, Gayton**
between **10:00 and 14:00** on **Saturday 26th September 2026.**

Meet us for a chat, enjoy tours of the church and bell tower,
hear from historical and nature experts, listen to organ recitals
and enjoy tea, coffee and cake.

There will also be toys, games and a children's treasure hunt
for the younger ones, as well as activities organised
by Gayton Primary school.

The day will conclude at **14:00** with a special presentation of
the "Gayton Record" by the Arts Society Church Recorders
to our Vicar Marion Reynolds.



St Mary's Church, Gayton



Northampton Concert Band

present

A CLASSICAL CELEBRATION

Conducted by Graham Tear

Join this award winning Concert Band for an
evening of great music from renowned
composers

Tickets:

Adult: £15

Wendy: 07906 077055 / Jean: 07711 329664

www.ticketsource.co.uk/Northampton-Concert-Band

Saturday 3rd October 2026

7:00pm

(Doors at 6:30pm)

Raffle & Refreshments

Holy Cross Church

3 Church Street, Pattishall, NN12

8NB



We would welcome donations of prizes for the raffle. Please let
Wendy, Jean or Ali know if you have something to donate.



Advent Candlelight Concert

Holy Cross, Pattishall
Sunday 29th November
4.30pm

Singers and a chamber group from Fiori Musicali
will perform seasonal and religious music
suitable for Advent.

Tickets from [Book Tickets - Fiori Musicali](#) £25
or £15 restricted view (pillar), £10 under 12
Mulled Wine, tea/coffee, seasonal refreshments

*“Hauntingly beautiful, reflective music for the
season before Christmas”*



Fiori Musicali

Holy Cross, Pattishall



Teas on Sunday

6th September

3.00 - 4.30 pm

**Tea, coffee, cakes
and a friendly natter.**

Please come!

Winter Warmer Lunches



Holy Cross Church

12 - 2 pm

4th Oct, 1st Nov, 6th Dec

Well Group

Well Group is a group for women, with a speaker on a Christian theme, which meets monthly, to share food and fellowship.



Thursday 10th September 12-2 pm : Bring a Poem

Thursday 1st October 12-2 pm: Tove Benefice Ukraine Aid

Thursday 5th November 12-2 pm : tbc

All women are welcome to join us - please get in touch with Ali on 01327 830770 or albrierley@btinternet.com or Ann on 01327 830907 ann.atkin51@btinternet.com



Holy Cross church is open

Come and spend a little time in the peace and tranquillity of Pattishall's beautiful parish church.

Open every day during daylight hours

Edith's Show Jumping success!

Edith Pringeur and parents have been at Hickstead during the holidays representing the Forest Federation (Tiffield school) at the National school show jumping championships and they won! They were against a lot of Independent schools as well as other state primaries. Edith came 2nd out of over 100 youngsters.

Congratulations and well done to Edith.

Revd Marion



We collect food for Towcester Foodbank, in the porch at Holy Cross and at Holmeview, 8 Greenway, Eastcote.

Please ensure that all food is non-perishable and well within sell-by date.

If you need to receive food from the foodbank or would like to know which items are currently most needed you can find out at

www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk

Gayton Open Gardens and Teddy Bear Trail, Sunday 7th June 2026

The Spring Bank Holiday weekend had been unseasonably hot, however, during the week prior to the Gayton Open Gardens we had heavy rain



and gardeners were worried that they wouldn't be able to get their gardens looking their best before the opening on Sunday. Although rain was forecast for the afternoon, we were lucky to have a dry but windy day.

It was very nice to see familiar faces return to visit the gardens, we also had new visitors and an increased number of families with younger children very keen to take part in the Teddy Trail. Eleven correct names on the answer sheet was rewarded with a prize of a small Gayton teddy bear.

Eight gardens were open, as well as the Gayton Allotments, Gayton Millennium Spinney and new for this year, Gayton School Garden. There were two new gardens for visitors to enjoy, both of which had been developed with new planting, including trees and flowerbeds.

One garden, with an emphasis on accessibility and low maintenance, the other has been redesigned with new hard landscaping which will provide a garden with future proofed safety and ease of maintenance on a sloping site. The Millennium Spinney provided a resting place in the shady glade seating area and a chance to linger and enjoy being close to nature.

Once again, a welcome addition to the day was the free shuttle minibus service around the village. Afternoon teas were served in the church with a great selection of homemade cakes and scones. There was also a well- stocked plant stall which sold locally grown ornamental and vegetable plants. No air miles here!

This was the 11th year of Gayton Open Gardens, it has developed into a community event which many residents get involved in. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who made this event so successful.

The money raised for the church on the day will go some way to pay for the urgent repairs to the church roof following the severe weather over the winter months.



Carol Coppock

Festival of Creation in Christ

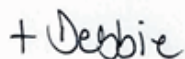
September brings with it a rich opportunity to celebrate God's gift of creation. This year, many churches across the Church of England will be exploring the new Festival of Creation in Christ resources, which invite us to see the whole created world through the lens of Christ. They remind us that creation is not simply a backdrop to God's saving work, but is gathered up in Christ, through whom all things were made and in whom all things hold together.

This season also coincides with our many different Harvest celebrations. Harvest is a time to give thanks for the abundance of God's provision and for all those whose work enables food to reach our tables. It is also an opportunity to reflect on our responsibility to care for the earth and to ensure that its gifts are shared justly. As we thank God for the fruits of the earth, we are invited to consider how we can play our part in cherishing creation and supporting those who lack life's basic necessities.

I encourage churches and individuals throughout the

Diocese to make use of the Festival of Creation in Christ resources this autumn, which you can find on the Church of England website. Whether through worship, preaching, study groups or community events, they offer fresh ways of celebrating God's creation and deepening our understanding of our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. My prayer is that, through this season, we may grow in wonder, thanksgiving and hope as we seek to follow Christ, the one in whom all creation finds its purpose and fulfilment.

With every blessing



The Rt Revd Debbie Sellin
Bishop of Peterborough

O God and Father of all that was, is
and ever shall be,
help us to be thankful for all that is
made
at the hands of your Son
and through the wisdom of your
Spirit,
that we may care in heart and
indeed for the life of our world,
to the praise and glory of your holy
name.

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www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk



Click the link for the latest updates from the Diocese

[News from the Diocese](#)

Pastoral Matters

If you are in need of someone to talk to, or would like to pray with someone, please contact Jean Pugh, Pastoral Minister on 01327 830909 or mobile 07711329664

Many thanks to those who have contributed to this issue.

Please send items, from all around the Benefice, for the
Dec/Jan/Feb issue
to amelcote.messenger@gmail.com by November 15th.

Margaret Bulleid

Who's Who in the Amelcote Benefice

Rector

Reverend Marion Reynolds
01327 624203

Lay Pastoral Minister

Jean Pugh
07711 329664

Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Contact Rector	01327 624203
Gayton	David Coppock	01604 859645
Pattishall	Alison Brierley	01327 830770
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350077
	Rachel Holloway	01327 353172

The Amelcote Benefice

St Luke, Cold Higham: St Mary, Gayton
Holy Cross, Pattishall: St John the Baptist, Tiffield