

## This week's services



### Sunday 2nd August

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leaffield**

### Friday 7th August

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

### Sunday 9th August

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Ramsden**

6.00pm, Evening Prayer, **Leaffield**



## These Bible readings are designated for each day

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Acts 1: 1-14   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Acts 1: 15-end |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Acts 2: 1-21   |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 1 John 3: 1-3  |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Acts 2: 37-end |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Acts 3: 1-10   |

### Please pray for the following throughout the week

**Monday** *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*

**Tuesday** *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*

**Wednesday** *The King and other leaders in this country.*

**Thursday** *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*

**Friday** *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*

**Saturday** *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

**Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.**



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

**The Rev'd Paul Mansell** – 01993 868687  
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## PEW SHEET



**2nd August 2026**  
9th Sunday after Trinity

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Please take this pew sheet with you  
when you leave.

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Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

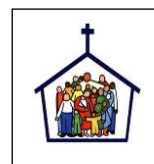
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## The Collect



Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

## First Reading Isaiah 55: 1-5

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and

nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

### **Second Reading** **Romans 9: 1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

### **Gospel Reading** **Matthew 14: 13-21**

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh in 1819. He is now perhaps best remembered for having invented the telephone. He died in Canada on this day in 1922. When he was aged 11, his friend's father saw Alexander and his own son playing around his water mill where farmers went to grind their corn. They were a distraction, and he asked if they could find something useful to do. He handed them some wheat and asked them to take the husks off the head of wheat. They set to experimenting and, later in life, Bell would look back on this moment as the time when he began to be creative and invent. Alexander's two brothers died of tuberculosis (T.B.). His parents, anxious not to lose their remaining son, sent him to Canada, away from the dampness of Scotland. A year later his health improved and he moved south to the United States, teaching in the Boston School for the Deaf. He was particularly keen to invent something that might change the sound of a person talking into something that somehow could be seen by deaf people. As it happened, his experimenting led him to invent the telephone. Alexander worked with people who had problems with speech and hearing, as also did his father and grandfather. His mother was almost completely deaf. He grew up with a sensitivity towards people with difficulties, and he knew that people tended to take their senses for granted until they were lost. He wrote these words: "We are all too much inclined, I think, to walk through life with our eyes closed. There are things around us and right at our very feet that we have never seen because we have never really looked."

Lord our God,  
open us up to your Spirit living within us,  
that we may live fully each day of our lives.  
Touch us, that we may become more aware  
of all that is around us,  
growing in a sense of wonder and awe,  
and in appreciation for all that we see and hear  
and touch and taste and smell.  
May we live in such a way  
that we never take anything for granted,  
but always be appreciative and express our  
thanks to those who are part of our lives  
Amen

### **We publish the banns of marriage (1) between:**

Chloe Bennett and Zebb Guy  
to be married on 2nd October 2026  
at St John the Baptist Church, Elmore.

