Prayer List

Those in Residential and Nursing Home Care: Doreen Purnell, Mim Smith and Mrs Pike.

Those at home or being cared for in hospital or at home

From Hullavington we pray for, Jebbie Hewitt, Eileen Fry, Jan Lane and Lis & David Cheshire.

From Luckington we pray for Lynne Simpkins, Kate Vittle and Rachel Simpkins

From Sherston we pray for Shane Housden, Leanne and Ena.

From Stanton St Quintin we pray for Ruth Plowright and Gwen Hale.

We also pray for Indie with heart issues, Bridgette, Jennifer, Paige, Colby and his family.

Those who have died

We pray for Pam Forster, her family and friends and all the families as they mourn.

Baptism and Weddings

We pray for those who are preparing for marriage over the next few months that they will be filled with love and joy. Also, those who are preparing for baptism, their family and friends, parents, God parents.

We pray for all those recently baptised and confirmed.

Please pray for our four schools in the Gauzebrook group

Please contact someone from the Ministry team if you would like to be placed on the prayer list.

News

This week's Sunday Services, 17th May Ascension

9.30 am, **Holy Communion,** Sherston
9.30 am, **Family Service,** Stanton St Quintin
9.30am, **Worship Together,** Foxley
11 am, **Holy Communion,** Hullavington
11am, **Worship Together,** Luckington

Next week's Sunday Services, 24th May Pentecost

9.30 am, **Holy Communion,** Sherston
9.30 am, **Celtic Holy Communion**, Stanton St Quintin
11 am, **Holy Communion,** Norton
11am, **Worship Together,** Hullavington

The Gauzebrook Group of Churches

LOVING GOD, LOVING NEIGHBOUR

17th May 2026



Welcome to this this week's Gazette

Last Thursday was Ascension Day – the day we remember when Jesus went home to his Father in heaven. Jesus took his disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after he had spoken to them about the work he had for them to do, he was taken to heaven. As they watched, a cloud hid him, and when the cloud lifted – he had gone.

Was Jesus lifted up, as if God is in heaven above us in space above the clouds – as if Jesus zoomed up into the sky like a balloon or a space rocket?

Some think it is just picture language – but when we talk about God and difficult things to understand, we sometimes can't help using pictures of things we can understand. To me, this picture is not helpful because we know that God is a spirit. He is everywhere. He is no more 'up' than he is 'down' or 'around'. Heaven is where God is. It was a cloud that came and covered Jesus and afterwards he had gone.

The important thing is that by going back to his father in heaven, Jesus is now able to be active in the lives of all his followers – through the coming of his Holy Spirit. 'Don't try to do things on your own, Jesus said, I will send a helper to each one of you.'

Marjorie Morgan – Lay Minister

Contacts : ***Interim Priest in Charge*** *Rev'd Steve Wilkinson, interim@gauzebrook.org 07786228436.*
Associate Priest *Revd Susan Harvey, susan@gauzebrook.org 01666 840696 (rest day: Tuesday)*
Administrator *Kathryn Talboys, bbbandgb@gmail.com 01666 825019(Monday 9-4, Wednesday 9-4 and Fridays 9-3.30).*

Readings

Acts 1.6–14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'
Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Psalm 68.1–10, 32–35*

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
  let those that hate him flee before him.
As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;
  as wax melts at the fire,
  so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
  let them make merry with gladness.
Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
    exalt him who rides on the clouds.
  The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.
 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,
  God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home
    and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,
  but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.
O God, when you went forth before your people,
  when you marched through the wilderness,
 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
    at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,
  at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
You sent down a gracious rain, O God;
  you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.
Your people came to dwell there;
  in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.
 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;
  make music in praise of the Lord;
He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens
  and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.
 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel,
  whose power is above the clouds.
How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ♦
  the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!
    Blessed be God.

1 Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in

Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

John 17.1–11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said,
'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.
'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Collect

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

What's on this week?

Monday	**7.00pm- 8.30pm**	**Bible Study in SSQ at the home of Ruth Williamson**
	2.00-3.30pm	**Bible Study at the home of Marjorie Morgan, 3 Bouverie Park SSQ**
	7.30pm -9pm	**The Alpha Course, Court House, Hullavington**
Tuesday	**2.00pm-3.30pm**	**Luckington Bible Study, Hullavington Church Room (14/4 to 2/6/26) To join please contact: Helen.m.daviesllm@gmail.com**
	2.00pm-3.30pm	**Sherston Bible Study, starting April 21st in the Vestry; meeting every other Tuesday (May: 5th and 19th. June: 2nd, 16th, 30th. July: 14th) To join please contact: Helen.m.daviesllm@gmail.com**
Thursday	**10am – 12noon**	**Holy Cross Café @ Sherston**
	2pm – 4pm	**Coffee Shop @ Stanton St Quintin**
Friday	**10am – 12noon**	**Coffee Shop @ Hullavington**
	10am – 11am	**Little Lights @ Hullavington, an informal pre-school service in Hullavington church.**