

Words of Light and Hope from Tony Foottit.

Grass of Parnassus - 1st November – All Saints.

Grass of Parnassus grows in damp places, often in mountainous areas. Hardly a grass you might say, but it bears its delightful white flowers on stems like grass. Parnassus is a sacred mountain in Greece where they thought the gods and goddesses dwelt. What more natural then for this flower to be symbol for us of all the saints who are, clothed in white raiment? Hero worship is a natural part of our human nature. The modern media have carried hero worship to great lengths in the cult of celebrities: stars of screen, radio, sport and fashion. Not every celebrity is a good role-model. Popular celebrities rely on PR, image, rebranding and self-advertisement. What better role-models than the saints, the true celebrities of God? They shine with the light of Christ and his life of love and obedience and live this life where they are, rather than seek it always somewhere else.....

Cult figures can manipulate and ruin other people. The more we cultivate celebrities, the more we are likely to forget or ignore the ordinary people on whom we constantly rely. A list of unsung heroes might include refuse collectors, the night staff and all those who watch and wait and care for the sick and dying. Jesus gave us the example of washing his disciples' feet. A church should reflect the hospitality of heaven and give space for art, drama, dance and music..... *A Calendar of Wild Flowers (part).*

Almighty and everlasting God, who enkindled the flame of your love in the hearts of the saints, grant to our minds the same faith and power of love, that as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may profit by their examples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the Gothic Missal.



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
TEAM CHURCHES

Pew Notes

8th November: 10am—12 noon, Coffee Morning, St Margaret's, Swannington.

14th November: 6pm, Peace & Quiet, St Margaret's, Swannington.

16th November: 3pm, Sentiments of Christmas, Swannington

For more information on any events please see our website or Facebook page or contact Joy to be on our weekly newsletter.

Services for next week: Sunday 9th November 2025

9am Matins, St Andrew's, Thurning

10:30am Remembrance Service, St Mary's Reepham

10:30am Remembrance Service, Gt Witchingham Village Hall

Email parishofficerwv@gmail.com to submit articles or join the mailing list.

FACEBOOK: Reepham & Wensum Valley Events

WEBSITE: www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk

To contact the administrator Joy, please either email or call 07770672329.

Pew Notes are available to download from the RWV website and the E-newsletter

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Officer. Details in the church porch or on the RWV website: <https://www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk/>

Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; 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.

Isaiah 56:3-8

³ Let no foreigner who is bound to the LORD say, "The LORD will surely exclude me from his people." And let no eunuch complain, "I am only a dry tree." ⁴ For this is what the LORD says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant— ⁵ to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will endure forever. ⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant— ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." ⁸ The Sovereign LORD declares— he who gathers the exiles of Israel: "I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

Psalms 33:1-5

¹ Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. ² Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. ³ Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. ⁴ For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. ⁵ The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Hebrews 12:18-24

¹⁸ You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹ to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰ because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death."^[a] ²¹ The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. The Beatitudes He said: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Post Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.