

NEWS UPDATE—starting 18th October
Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER

10:00 -12:00

Coffee Morning in Wem Church Hall

MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

19:00 — ALL SOULS SERVICE

In the next two weeks before All Souls service on November 2nd 7pm there will be a 'Memory Tree' set up for those wishing to write a message for their loved one on a leaf and hung on the tree. The Tree will be blessed at this service.

There will also be a separate list for those wanting to have their loved one's name read out and the opportunity to light a candle for them.

Shirley Horton RIP

Janet Horton has written to Rev John to let us know that her mother-in-law Shirley Horton, who was a Wem resident until 5 years ago, has passed away on 24th September aged 91. Please include her in your prayers as there may still be members of the congregation who remember her. She lived in Wem for 30 years and did a lot with the WI. The funeral is 22nd October at Old Church, Smethwick.

ROTAS

I will shortly be preparing the November/December rota of people to read lessons, lead intercessions, welcome people to our 09:45 service and to serve coffee after that service. If you can help with any of these tasks, please speak to Sybil or let her know your availability by returning a completed availability form (from the back of church) by 25th October

HARVEST COLLECTION

The plate collection from the 8:00am & 9:45am services came to £325.50 which will be split between the Nepal Floods Appeal and Wem Store Cupboard.

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 18th October—TRINITY 20

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Tuesday 20th October—Funeral Service

WEM	11:00	Anthony Milburn RIP
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Thursday 22nd October

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
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Sunday 25th October—TRINITY 21

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Morning Prayer

Thursday 29th October

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
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Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



Sybil

Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wem

Contributions to the **November Benefice magazine** should be sent to Phoebe42.lee@gmail.com as soon as possible.

To view our October Services & Events please go to our website: <https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem

THE 20th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday 18th October 2026

THE COLLECT

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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.

1st READING: ISAIAH 45:1-7

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped

to subdue nations before him

and strip kings of their robes,

to open doors before him—

and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you

and level the mountains,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze

and cut through the bars of iron,

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness

and riches hidden in secret places,

so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,

the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob,

and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name,

I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other;

besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me;

I am the Lord, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,

I make weal and create woe;

I the Lord do all these things.

2nd READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you

turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’

¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?

¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’

²¹They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 18th October 2026 20th SUNDAY after TRINITY

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with wordless groans. Romans 8:26

Today

Pray trusting that the Holy Spirit will intercede for us according to the will of God

Monday—19th October

Pray for the Church to grow in the practice of praying together. Pray that we may grow deeper in love and unity as we pray together.

Tuesday—20th October

Pray for God’s protection over the schools from all infections and illness, for teachers and students alike.

Wednesday—21st October

Pray for the many young people seeking employment with too few jobs to go around. Pray that they may not be disheartened but find fruitful ways to spend the time and grow in experience.

Thursday—22nd October

Pray for the Lord’s blessing on our rector, John, in his ministry in St. Peter’s School. Pray for that the children will desire to know more about Jesus.

Friday—23rd October

Pray for those who are lonely and isolated that they may be identified and befriended by Church members.

Saturday—24th October

Pray for opportunities to speak about your faith in conversations with others. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that you may speak clearly.