

Church of the Good Shepherd, Low Hill

Monthly Calendar for September 2026



Vicar: Rev Dr Ian Poole

Parish Office: 01902 782226

Our Attitude Towards Israel

In the 1970s I was growing up in Bristol and often used to listen to the current affairs Radio 4 news programme at 10pm called 'The World Tonight'. I don't think my pre-world War two radio was very good at picking up Radio 1 or 2. Anyway if there was one news subject that dominated the news night after night it was always the Middle East and Israel. Not much has changed then! Israel remains the epicentre of much world unrest. The reasons of course are well rehearsed and can be traced back over the centuries to the enmity between Ishmael, Abraham's son by another 'wife' and Isaac the miraculous son of promise by his wife Sarah. Ishmael and the Arab nations (some more than others) have always been jealous of Israel and the favour of Yahweh upon them. Jealous of a nation who after the terrible suffering of the holocaust have found themselves protected for many decades by the might of the West and especially USA.

The horrendous massacre of 7th October 2023 led to the present administration in Israel trying to stamp out its enemies once and for all. The results have been mixed, and tragically much innocent life has been lost especially Palestinian life all bearing the image of God. And the response of the Christian church? For some Israel can do no wrong for it is the chosen nation and for others they believe Israel has forgotten mercy in pursuit of justice. What should our response be?

Romans 11:25 refers to Israel as '**a cultivated olive tree**' and any goodness of that tree is derived from God Himself, just like the vine of John Chapter 15 whose life flows from Israel's most famous Son. So let us honour all Jews as we honour all humanity. Let us not excuse their misplaced zeal to restore a land that must now be a new land found in the hearts of those who love Jesus. But let us not forget that in the choice of the Lord they were first His special people.



Sunday 6th September: 11am Holy Communion

Reading 1: Romans 13: 8-14 (Emma)

Reading 2: Matthew 18: 15-20 (Karen)

Theme: Resolving Conflict.

Preacher Bev Dyer

Sunday 20th September: Holy Communion

Reading 1: **Philippians 1: 21- 30 (Nneka)**

Reading 2: Matthew 20: 1-16 (Adrian)

Theme: Living by new priorities.

Preacher Rev Joanne

Sunday School for young people, upstairs.

Sunday 13th September: 11am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Romans 14: 1-12 (Janelle)

Reading 2: Matthew 18: 21-35 (Jada) **Theme:**

Living with Difference.

Preacher Lyn Hyde

Sunday 27rd September: 11am Service of the Word

Reading 1: Matthew 21: 23-32 (Inheanyi)

Reading 2: Philippians 2: 1-13 (Wayne)

Theme: Find his humility and share his greatness.

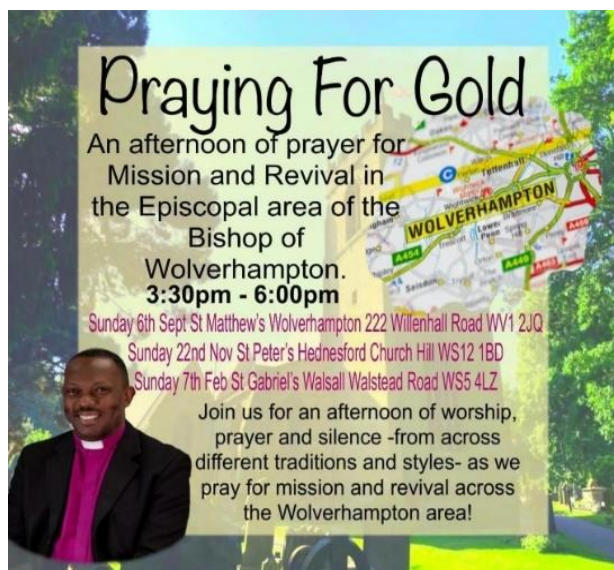
Preacher: Visiting Speaker Rev Ken Horleston from Happy Home Kenya – with an update of the charity and how our regular financial support helps them. <https://www.hhkt.org> (Happy Home)

Notice Board for September

(Things that happen regularly in church unless otherwise stated).

If you want further information, get in touch via the Parish Office or contact details below.

- ♥ **Over 50s**, an easy-going friendship and support group, held on alternate Mondays at 2pm. Dates in September are 14th and 28th.
- ♥ **Toastie Pat's Coffee Morning**; Drop in any Friday morning 10 – 12 for a cuppa, a natter and maybe something toasted. Donations welcomed.
- ♥ **Good Shepherd Life Group**; Every Wednesday at 6.30pm. A welcoming space for prayer, fellowship and studying the bible (currently Revelation)
- ♥ **Bushbury Youth Group** for 11 – 14-year-olds restarts on September 11th meeting weekly on a Friday during term time, 7.15pm in the Parish Hall apart from the last Friday of the month which is at St James Church, Fordhouses.
- ♥ **Waking the Dawn** is every Saturday, 8am – 9am. All are welcome at this powerhouse of prayer and worship.
- ♥ **Ladies Breakfast** held on the first Saturday of the month at 10am. Free event – donations welcome to cover breakfast.
- ♥ **Monthly clean-up on the last Saturday of the month from 10.30am. A plea for all hands-on deck – or at least more hands-on deck! There are so many jobs that need taller, fitter, stronger, bendier, younger people.**



Other news

Sunday September 6th Praying for Gold, 3.30 – 6pm at St Matthews Church, Willenhall Rd, An afternoon of prayer for Mission and Revival.

Tuesday September 8th, 7pm; Freedom in Christ in the Parish Hall. A new 10-week course open to anyone who wants to discover more.

Thursday September 17th City Wide Prayer, 7 - 8 pm at City wide Church, Westbury Street, WV1 1JD

Saturday September 19th Men's Breakfast, 10am in the Parish Hall. Please leave a message with the parish office (01902 782226) for catering purposes.

Saturday September 19th September 'Interchurchity Challenge', 6.30pm at Good Shepherd. Quizzing - Good Shepherd style. Teams of 4 are welcome from across the parish to enjoy a free evening of fun and laughter (although donations welcome). Tea, coffee and soft drinks provided – bring your own snacks if wished.

Advance Notices

Deanery Prayer, Worship and Food. 6 - 8pm Sunday 4th October at St Stephen's Church.

Ladies Breakfast 10am Saturday 3rd Oct, at The Good Shepherd.

Freedom in Christ

Starting Tuesday 8th September, 7pm.



A new 10-week Freedom in Christ course begins on Tuesday 8th September at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall, with an

additional Saturday session (date TBC).

Freedom in Christ helps us understand our identity in Jesus, break free from anything that holds us back, and grow as confident disciples. It's ideal for anyone who has completed Alpha or wants to deepen their walk with God. For more information, please speak to Karen.

Here are our contact details: **Parish Office:** 01902 782226

We can also be found on: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> (enter The Good Shepherd, Low Hill).

<https://bushburyteamministry.co.uk/church-of-the-good-shepherd>

or find us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CHURCH.COGS>