

Benefice of Heyford with Stowe-Nine-Churches  
and Flore with Brockhall

Our Mission Statement

## SERVICES SCHEDULE AND NEWSLETTER MAY 2024



Rector: Revd Stephen P Burrow 01327 344436

### Sunday 5 May - Easter 6

10.00am Holy Communion  
11.00 am United Service

Church Stowe  
Flore Chapel

### Sunday 12 May – Sunday after Ascension

10.00am Benefice Holy Communion  
10.00am Morning Worship

Brockhall Church  
Flore Chapel

### Sunday 19 May – Pentecost

10.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am United Worship  
6.00pm Ante Communion

Heyford Church  
Flore Chapel  
Upper Stowe

### Sunday 26 May – Trinity Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Family Service  
10.00am Morning Worship  
4.00pm Café Church

Flore Church  
Upper Stowe  
Flore Chapel  
Heyford Church

### Midweek services:

#### Fridays

9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom

All welcome

Contact the churchwardens for details of how to connect to this service.

Wednesday morning services are cancelled during the Rector's absence.

Flore Church is temporarily closed for building works, we hope it will reopen mid May. Until then services due to be held in the church will be held in the Chapel or at Brockhall.

Thursday morning worship in Flore Church is cancelled for the duration of the building works.

## LETTER FROM THE LAITY

Dear Friends

### Jesus says:

**“...the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.” (John 15.16)**

A walk around Flore and Nether Heyford reveals our rich farming heritage: fields growing grain; the old mill in Heyford, and numerous houses in Flore called “The Old Bakery”. This part of the Nene valley was very much the bread basket of Northampton, wheat was grown, milled and baked into bread here to feed the burgeoning industrial town.

It is right that we should celebrate and think about our rich agricultural culture, and perhaps we should do so more often than just Harvest Festival. Plough Sunday, which represents the start of the agricultural year in January, is creeping back onto the calendar, and Rogation Sunday is coming up on 5th May.

The idea that God wants us to ask for things in prayer is what lies behind the Christian tradition of Rogation Sunday and the Rogation Days that then follow leading up to Ascension Day on Thursday. Rogation is all about asking: the word comes from the Latin ‘to ask’: we are encouraged to ask God’s blessing, ask for God’s help and goodness for those we live amongst.

Traditionally Rogation walks and Rogation prayers were for God’s blessing on the crops and to ensure a good harvest. The practice goes back to very early in the Christian era, taking over a Roman spring festival of walking through the fields to pray that the crops be spared from mildew and blight.

The core meaning of rogation is about asking, but it is also about generosity, because we are not simply asking for ourselves but for others in our Benefice. Partnership and villages, and for all on whom we depend for our food and wellbeing.

Rogation reminds us that God longs to bless us and to bless the world through us.

Yours in Christ

Paul.

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### PRAISING FOR OUR VILLAGES BY STREET

**The Streets** we shall be praying for during May are Brookside Place, Watery Lane and the playing fields in Heyford, Bricketts Lane and Springfield in Flore, Main Street in Upper Stowe and the Hall apartments in Brockhall.