

Future Events:

Tue 1 st July	3:30 pm	'All Saints Alive' – after-school club at Great Witchingham School
Fri 4 th	5:30 pm	Servers' practice at Weston Longville
	6:30 pm	Wedding rehearsal at Swannington
Sat 5 th	12 – 2:00 pm	Great Witchingham School Summer Fayre

Sunday 6th July: Trinity 7

9:00 am	The Eucharist (Common Worship) at Ringland
10:00 am	Lay Service at Swannington
10:15 am	The Eucharist with Baptism anniversaries at Weston Longville; also young servers operating for the first time
1:00 pm	Baptism at Weston Longville

Many thanks to David and Caroline Prior for hosting a wonderful evening at **Swannington Manor** last Friday. Despite the bad weather a large number of people were able to enjoy the strawberries, wine, competitions and good conversation – and as a result **£600** has been raised for Swannington church funds.

Bishop James of Lynn has been tentatively booked to come to Weston Longville for a **Confirmation** service on the evening of **Sunday 23rd November**. Anyone from any of our churches seriously thinking about being confirmed, please have a word with Selwyn as soon as possible – some kind of pre-Confirmation group will get started as soon as possible in September.



Sunday 22 June 2008
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
(Alderford Patronal festival)

Collect:

Almighty God,
by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour,
by preaching of repentance:
make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life,
that we may truly repent according to his preaching
and, after his example,
constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice
and patiently suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will

stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

New Testament Reading: Acts 13.14b-26

On the sabbath day Paul and his companions went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, 'Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.' So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: 'You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet." My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.'

Gospel: Luke 1.57-66,80

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his

father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.



All weekday services this week will be at their usual times.

All this week we pray particularly for those who live and work along **Wood Lane** and in **Woodforde Close** in Weston Longville.

Please continue to pray for the sick & those in need:

Alan Beardsmore; Alic, Anthony & Ben Bowen; Dionne & Scott; Margot Hannington; Jo & her baby; Pam, Karen & Tony; Shirley Starling; George Williams

Saint this week

Mon Etheldreda, abbess of Ely, founder of Ely cathedral (died 678)

Events this week

Fri 4:00 pm Servers' practice at Weston Longville

Sat 6:30 for 7:00 pm **Family Quiz'n'Chips in Ringland Reading Room** – get together in teams of up to 6 players and test yourself on TV, sport, current affairs and all the usual categories (some rounds specifically with children in mind). Tickets £7:50 (children £4) from Dian (868979) or Elaine (860026) including supper – BYO drinks.

Next Sunday: ST PETER

10:00 am *Joint benefice Eucharist at Ringland*, celebrating St Peter's church's Patronal Festival. There is a warm invitation to everyone to attend and celebrate him together.

1:00 pm Baptism rehearsal at Weston Longville