

# August 2023



*Benefice  
Newsletter*

—  
**SEVEN**  
—  
**CHURCHES**  
—

## Ramblings from the Rectory – August 2023

This month my article is a little different. I write this following a very busy time with funerals. It is always a privilege to be with a family following a funeral and to conduct the funeral of their loved one. This reminded me of a story that I heard not long after moving to Harleston. It was a little story that was sent to me:

*A minister had been to see a sick man. As he was leaving, the sick man turned and said to him, 'I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side..'*

*Very quietly, the minister said, 'I don't know..'*

*'You don't know? You're a Christian minister, and don't know what's on the other side?'*

*The minister was holding the handle of the door; on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with joy.*

*Turning to the man, the minister said, 'Did you notice my dog? He's been waiting outside. He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there and that is enough.'*

That story made me think of all of those families. I know that I will see my Master. I know where I am going but for most people that I talk to death is the final enemy of life, at least that is how it appears from here. Talking about the sheepfold Jesus says, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10.10) If Jesus has come to give us life to the full, then life is indeed precious, a gift to be treasured, and the only life that we are sure of is this one.

We only know this earthly life, so the natural reaction to death is to be afraid. It is mine and the thief wants to steal it away. Will there be anything on the other side? If there is something on the other side, will it be good? How will I know? How can I be really sure?

Like that little story I don't find descriptions of heaven all that helpful. What helps me is what I learn here and now. I try and spend my time getting to know my Master better. The Holy Spirit makes that job a bit easier. I keep finding that there is more to learn and to love. But what I have mostly learned so far is that I'm loved, and loved, and loved some more. I can completely trust Jesus to have a place for me, wherever that may be.

I know that to be true. I pray that I will always have such faith, whatever the future may hold.

God bless,  
Nigel.

## **Pilgrims Walk**

**The next Pilgrims walk, led by Revd James Shelton, is taking place on Saturday 19th August, 9.45am - 3.00pm.**

Departing from Ringsfield Hall Woodland Activity & Retreat Centre (NR34 8JR), it will be a circular walk in the region of 5-8 miles, with themed content for reflection and discussion on the principle of 'simplicity'. The day will also incorporate a woodland Holy Communion service.

Parking available at Ringsfield Hall. Please bring a packed lunch and dress for the anticipated weather.

**If you're planning on coming, please sign up by visiting [earshambenefice.org.uk/pilgrims](http://earshambenefice.org.uk/pilgrims)**

**St John's, Harleston**

**Coffee and Cake Morning**

St John's Harleston  
Saturday 5th August  
9.30am till 12noon

**Forget-Me-Not Cafe and Church**

**Supported by a generous donation**

Thursday 10th August  
10.30am - 12.30pm

**Every Tuesday**

Informal singing group - 10.45am -11.45am  
Foodbank - 1.30pm to 3pm

**Midweek Mingle**

Every Wednesday  
9.15am to 11.30am  
All welcome

**St Andrew's - Scole**

**Coffee Morning**

Saturday 5th August  
10.00am - 12noon

come and enjoy homemade sausage rolls, cheese scones and home-baked cake along with coffee, tea, and friendly chat.

OVER 600 CHURCHES AND CHAPELS OPEN TO VISIT NEAR YOU!

Sponsored by

savills



WIN  
£1,000  
FOR YOUR  
CHURCH\*

# BIKE, WALK, DRIVE... IN THE NORFOLK COUNTRYSIDE

A fun day out for all, stopping off at as many Churches and Chapels as you can!



Saturday 9th September 2023  
9.00 am - 5.00 pm

OVER 600 CHURCHES AND CHAPELS OPEN TO VISIT NEAR YOU!



Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. **\*PLUS** you can join with others in your parish to win £1,000 for your church by becoming the parish with the most improved amount of money raised. **Simply get sponsored for each building you visit or make a donation** - find out more at [norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride](http://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride)

## Donations to our churches

If you would like to donate to any of the listed churches please use the QR codes below linked to the church you would like to donate to.

St John's, Harleston. St Leonard's, Billingford. All Saints, Thorpe Abbots



	<b>7churches Benefice Services</b>	
	<b>Compline</b>	
	Thursday 24th August, 6.30pm All Saints, Thorpe Abbots	
	<b>Celebration Service</b>	
	Sunday 27th August 4.30pm St Andrew's , Scole,.	

## **THE REGISTERS - 26TH JUNE 2023 TO 25TH JULY 2023**

### **Funerals and Interments**

28th June      June Martin - St John's, Harleston  
11th July      John Hines - St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish  
25th July      Michael George Pearson - St John's, Harleston

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Fran Pitt-Pladdy, Mel Veness, Kathy Wood, Marjorie Heap,  
Peter Edwards .

If you have a loved one who is very ill and would like them to be on our prayer list then please get in touch with one of our ministers.  
*(details on the back).*

# AUGUST SUNDAY SERVICES AND READINGS

<b>Sunday 6th The Transfiguration (White)</b>	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Leonard's, Billingford
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.00pm	Evening Prayer	St John's, Harleston
<i>2 Peter 1.16-19/Luke 9.28-36</i>			
<b>Sunday 13th 10th after Trinity (Green)</b>	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Thorpe Abbots
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>Romans 10.5-15/Matthew 14.22-33</i>			
<b>Sunday 20th The Blessed Virgin Mary (White)</b>	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Leonard's, Billingford
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter's, Needham
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Scole
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP) (Patronal)	St Mary's, Redenhall
<i>Galatians 4.4-7/Luke 1.46-55</i>			
<b>SUNDAY 27TH 7th after Trinity (Green)</b>	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.30pm	Celebration Service	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>Romans 12.1-8/Matthew 16.13-20</i>			

## CONTACT LIST

### Ministry Team

**Rector:** Revd. Nigel Tuffnell 01379 308905 or [rector@7churches.org.uk](mailto:rector@7churches.org.uk)

Revd Sue Auckland 01379 740325 or [revsue@7churches.org.uk](mailto:revsue@7churches.org.uk)  
Revd Lyndy Domoney 01379 650445 or [l.domoney@btinternet.com](mailto:l.domoney@btinternet.com)  
Revd James Shelton 07949979717 or [revdjshelton@outlook.com](mailto:revdjshelton@outlook.com)  
Lynda Mansfield 01379 740401 or [lyndamscole@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lyndamscole@hotmail.co.uk)  
Jamie Worthington [jamie@7churches.org.uk](mailto:jamie@7churches.org.uk)  
John Taylor 01379 676573 or [jctaylor@gavelkind.org.uk](mailto:jctaylor@gavelkind.org.uk)

### 7churches Administrator - Helen Orford

**Office:** St John's Church, Broad Street, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9AZ

**Email:** [admin@7churches.org.uk](mailto:admin@7churches.org.uk) Tel: 01379 851148/07563495581

### Churches - Contacts

St John's - Harleston	Maureen Youngman	01379 853605
	Stephanie Woollam	07598937623
St Mary's - Redenhall	Michael Clark	07427 586806
St Peter's - Needham	Dan Cornish	07803180861
St Peter & St Paul - Brockdish	Jan Croxson	01379 668630
	Ann Cork	01379 668635
All Saints - Thorpe Abbotts	Christine McDonald	01379 669116
St Leonard's - Billingford	Georgina King-Fisher	01379 740759
	Sue Redgrave	01379 854129
St Andrew's - Scole	Lynda Mansfield	01379 740401
	Helen Gilbee	01379 740339

### Schools

Harleston Sancroft Academy 01379 852561  
Scole CEVC Primary 01379 740654

[www.7churches.org.uk](http://www.7churches.org.uk)



[www.facebook.com/7churches.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/7churches.org.uk)



[twitter.com/RedScale](https://twitter.com/RedScale)