

December 2025



Benefice Newsletter

SEVEN
CHURCHES

Welcome to the December edition of our Benefice News Letter. I'm sure it's safe to say that most of us think of Christmas as and when December arrives - and that's where my thoughts took me as I wondered what to say in this letter - and how to communicate my thoughts about this wonderful time of the year.

Then it struck me that that was the issue - communication! We are bombarded with communication every day, in all kinds of ways - perhaps especially through the media and also via our phones, iPads and computers; whatever the nature of that communication - it's there in abundance - led in great part by the Advertising Industry - whose campaigns are usually geared to communicate the benefits of different products - ideas or concepts - and those campaigns owe their success to the enormous power of the word - spoken, heard, written or seen!

But no advertising – no matter how proficient – can do it better than the personal touch. Nothing can take the place of personal contact. To have someone tell you about their own experience of a product – is 100 times better than hearing or seeing it via the media; and as I think of personal communication - however grateful I am for the technology that enables me to see the one I'm speaking to - a visit from a loved one is 1000 times better than any call – even better than Skype or FaceTime – which - through the computer or phone enables me to see who I'm talking to; a visit is soooo much better - because that visit brings us - quite literally - face to face – and we can communicate at a much deeper level - through look – touch and even silence - there is no more barrier!

This coming Christmas time - we celebrate God's idea - God's desire - to tell human kind about Himself and His love for them. He chose the personal touch and wrapped his idea up in a person – in His Son – Jesus - and sent Him to earth. (John 1v's 1 + 14) Jesus really was - and is - God's masterful audio-visual communication of Himself to humankind.

Then - when He wanted to tell the world about His Son's birth, He chose a pretty dynamic method of communication. Again He chose the personal touch – He sent Angels to tell shepherds, who – after hearing the news – and seeing the baby for themselves – immediately began to tell others – who – we are told by Luke – were amazed at what they heard.

This year - as we celebrate Christmas - can we be more aware of **Who** we celebrate - rather than **What** - that is - can we truly communicate to others with whom we celebrate - that **Jesus** is the reason for the season, not all the food, games and gadgets we've been told by the adverts we can't live without! And that He is the One we can't truly live - without.

May the One Whose Coming we celebrate - bless you and your loved ones in a special way this Christmas and throughout the coming new year.

Yours in His Name

Canon Lyndy



Christmas Services



Sunday 14th December

4pm - All Saints, Thorpe Abbots - Christingle/Crib Service

Sunday 21st December

11am - St Thomas More, Harleston - Carol Service

11am - St Andrew's, Scole - Carol Service

3.00pm - St Peter's, Needham - Carol & Christingle Service

4pm - St Leonard's, Billingford - Carol Service by Candlelight

4pm - St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish - Carol Service by Candlelight

Wednesday 24th December

4.30pm - St Andrew's Scole - Crib & Christingle Service

6pm - St Mary's Redenhall - Carols by Candlelight

11.30pm - St Thomas More, Harleston - Midnight Eucharist

Thursday 25th December

9.30am - St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish - Informal Holy Communion

11am - St Thomas More, Harleston - Holy Communion

11am - St Andrew's, Scole - Holy Communion

Harleston

Christmas Coffee Morning

With Craft stalls, Raffle, cake stall

Refreshments served all day

Saturday 13th December

King Georges Hall

9.30am - 3.00pm

Forget-Me-Not Cafe and Church

Thursday 11th December

London Rd Church

10.30am - 12.30pm

Christmas Quiz with Chips:

Saturday 13 December - 6.30 for 7pm start at Scole Church. The

cost of the '*Quiz with chips*' is £7.00 per person. For that you have a supper of chips, sauces and something sweet. Come as individuals or groups and contact Sue Auckland (01379740325) to book or complete the list in the church. Please bring your own glasses, drinks and extra nibbles if you wish. We had to turn people away last time, so book as soon as you can!



St Mary's Redenhall
Presents



Carols by Candlelight
(with Diss Salvation Army Band)

Christmas Eve
6pm



Remember to bring a torch!

**We would like to take this opportunity to wish you
all a very Happy Christmas.**

*May God's blessings - love, joy, wholeness and
peace - be with you and all those whom you love,
this Christmas time."*

Amen

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



THE REGISTERS - 26TH OCTOBER 2025 TO 25TH NOVEMBER 2025

Funerals/interments

28th Oct	Rita Knock - St Mary's, Redenhall
12th Nov	Stanley Faulkner - St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
17th Nov	Mr Price - St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
25th Nov	Russell Brice - St Andrew's, Scole

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Fran Pitt-Pladdy, David Barker, Kathy Wood.

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).

DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES AND READINGS

Sunday 7th Advent 2 (Purple)	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Leonard's, Billingford
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St Thomas More, Harleston
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.00pm	Evening Prayer	St Peter's, Needham
<i>Romans 15.4-13/Matthew 3.1-12</i>			
Sunday 14th Advent 3 (Purple)	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Thomas More, Harleston
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.00pm	Christingle/Crib Service	All Saints, Thorpe Abbots
<i>James 5.7-10/Matthew 11.2-11</i>			
Sunday 21st Advent 4 (Purple)	11.00am	Carol Service	St Thomas More, Harleston
	11.00am	Carol Service	St Andrew's, Scole
	3.00pm	Carol & Christingle Service	St Peter's, Needham
	4.00pm	Carol Service by Candlelight	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	4.00pm	Carol Service by Candlelight	St Leonard's, Billingford
<i>Romans 1.1-7/Matthew 1.18-end</i>			
Wednesday 24th Christmas Eve (Gold)	4.30pm	Crib & Christingle Service	St Andrew's, Scole
	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist	St Thomas More, Harleston
<i>Acts 13.16-26/Luke 1.67-79</i>			
Thursday 25th Christmas Day (Gold)	9.30am	Informal Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Thomas More, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>Titus 2.11-14/Luke 2.1-14 [15-20]</i>			
Sunday 28th Christmas 1 (White)	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Thomas More, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>Hebrews 2.10-end/Matthew 2.13-end</i>			

CONTACT LIST

Ministry Team

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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	Ann Cork	01379 668635
All Saints - Thorpe Abbots	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



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