



# Benefice Newsletter SEVEN CHURCHES

## **Ramblings from the Rectory**

June this year begins with a mystery. A holy mystery no less. June 4<sup>th</sup> is Trinity Sunday, the annual celebration at the heart of the Christian faith; one God in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When I think of the Trinity I think of the Celtic Trinity knot (called a Triquetra):



That image of three interlocking points with no beginning and no end fascinate me. They draw me into a mystery. A mystery of separate things that are inseparable.

The Trinity Knot itself has been used for thousands of years, probably to mean many different things. It is still used by different cultures and belief systems today, not just by Christians like me. However it is used, the Trinity Knot symbolises the interconnected nature of all things.

We are all connected. We are discovering that chopping down forests in one area affects the climate thousands of miles away. A war in one country (Ukraine) affects the economies and stability of nations throughout Europe and beyond. A little vandalism or other antisocial behaviour can have a disproportionate impact on the wellbeing of a community. Moans breed moans.

All of my examples have been of negative. Deliberately so, because we notice the negative far more than the positive and we take it to heart far more easily. I train new ministers and support other ministers in my diocese. One of the key foundations of this work, is to praise at least five times more than criticise. This includes constructive criticism and is based on research that shows that we are affected at least five times as much by criticism than we are by praise.

This 5 to 1 ratio has stuck with me. I try to use it everywhere. There is no harm in praising someone ten times or even more. After all, I have no idea how many times others have criticised them. They may have a deep hole of criticism to be filled. I also try to be very careful about how and when I criticise.

We are all interconnected. If I want a happy and positive town or village, then I need to invest in this place, with praise and support. When things are wrong, I need to pray and think very carefully before tackling it. Otherwise, my well meaning words or actions could just make things worse.

We are all connected. As Jesus reminds me, whatever I do to even the least of people, I do to him (Matthew 25.40). The Trinity Knot reminds me that even the nature of God, is not an individual, but a community in relationship. I am reminded that I cannot stop all that is wrong in the world but I can avoid adding to it. More importantly, I can do all that I can to strengthen everything good and holy, and know that in God, this will make a difference far beyond my imagining. Just think what good we can do together!

God bless,

Nigel.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Bethany, Eden and I, please accept our sincere thanks for a wonderful service on the 30th of April, and for all your kind wishes, cards and words. This Benefice has been a fantastic place to live and minister, and we leave to my next role with the fondest of memories of our time here! I must also thank you for the incredible generosity you showed in your kind gifts and in the spirit of wanting to have something to remember you all, and this step of my journey, I have purchased a Communion Chalice with your gifts, which I will carry with me through my ministry in the future as a reminder of this Benefice! We hope to physically move at some point in the next month, but until then there is plenty of gardening keeping me busy, and, of course, by the time this goes to print we may well have another mouth to feed in the house - watch this space!! With every thanks and best wishes to you all,

Josh

## St John's, Harleston

## **Restarting for 2023!**

Meditation: Wednesday 7th June, 7.30pm in St. John's

Men's Group: Tuesday 27th June, 7pm in St. John's (Theme: Leadership and Mission)

## **Coffee and Cake Morning**

St John's Harleston Saturday 3rd June 9.30am till 12noon

## **Forget-Me-Not Cafe and Church** Supported by a generous donation

Thursday 8th June 10.30am - 12.30pm

## **Chatty Church**

Saturday 24th June 11.00am to 1.00pm

## **Every Tuesday**

Informal singing group - 10.45am -11.45am Foodbank - 1.30pm to 3pm Community Cafe - 2.00pm - 3.30pm

## **Midweek Mingle**

Every Wednesday 9.15am to 11.30am All welcome

## <u>Praise and Worship</u> Saturday 10th June St John's , Harleston 6pm

Do you love to sing God's praises? Then come and join us for this informal time of openness to the Spirit

> See you there Nigel and Dianna

## St Andrew's - Scole

## **Coffee Morning**

Saturday 3rd June 10.00am - 12noon

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

## Scole Church Quiz and Hot Supper

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm for 7.00pm

We're looking forward to seeing you at our summer quiz this year. Refreshments will include jacket potatoes with a choice of toppings (tuna mayonnaise, beef chilli, baked beans and / or cheese) and something sweet to follow. The cost of the ticket is £7.50 which can be booked, in advance, on the list in church or directly from Sue on 740325 or revsue@7churches.co.uk. Booking is now open and I would be grateful to know **numbers by Saturday 10 June please.** When you book, please order your choice of topping and remember to bring your own glasses and drinks and any other snacks. If you want to come without refreshments, the cost of the quiz is £4 but still needs to be booked in advance please.

#### 7churches Benefice Services



Compline

Thursday 22nd June, 6.30pm All Saints, Thorpe Abbotts

**Celebration Service** Sunday 25th June, 4.30pm St Andrew's , Scole,.

## **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 Abbotts





THE REGISTERS - 26TH APRIL 2023 TO 25TH MAY 2023 Funerals and Interments

2nd May	Montague Norman - St John's, Harleston
3rd May	Joan Walsh - St Mary's Redenhall
5th May	Audrey Pearson - St John's, Harleston
19th May	Jacqueline Disney - St Andrew's, Scole
19th May	Patricia Gilbert - St John's, Harleston
24th May	Margaret Beaumont - St John's, Harleston

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Fran Pitt-Pladdy, Mel Veness, Kathy Wood, Andrew Heap, Brian Wright, 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).

## JUNE SUNDAY SERVICES AND READINGS

Sunday	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish	
4th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Leonard's, Billingford	
Trinity	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Redenhall	
Sunday	11.00am	Informal Worship	St John's, Harleston	
(White)	11.00am	Informal worship	St Andrew's, Scole	
	4.00pm	Evening Prayer	St John's, Harleston	
	2	Corinthians 13.11-13/Matthew 2	28.16-20	
Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish	
11th	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Thorpe Abbotts	
St Barnabas	11.00am	Holy Communion	St John's, Harleston	
(Red)	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Scole	
		Acts 11.19-30/John 15.12-1	7	
Sunday	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Leonard's, Billingford	
18th	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish	
2nd after	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter's, Needham	
Trinity	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St John's, Harleston	
(Green)	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole	
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer (CW)	St Mary's , Redenhall	
		 omans 5.1-8/Matthew 9.35 - 10.	8 [9-23]	
SUNDAY	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish	
25TH	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's, Redenhall	
John the	11.00am	Holy Communion(Patronal)	St John's, Harleston	
Baptist	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole	
(White)	4.30pm	Celebration Service	St Andrew's, Scole	
Galatians 3.23-29/Luke 1.57-66,80				
		Calatiane 2 22 20/1 uka 1 57 6	C 00	

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## **CONTACT LIST**

#### **Ministry Team**

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#### 7churches Administrator - Helen Orford

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#### **Churches - Contacts**

St John's - Harleston	Maureen Youngman Stephanie Woollam	01379 853605 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
<u>Schools</u>		
Harleston Sancroft Academy		01379 852561
Scole CEVC Primary		01379 740654

www.7churches.org.uk



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