

# March 2020



## *Newsletter*

SEVEN  
CHURCHES

## March Meditations on Creation

I have heard that when things are beautiful and scarce they become valuable and even precious. I guess that is why gold and diamonds are so expensive. Perhaps that is also why I value silence and the natural world so much. Silence seems far rarer than gold and the natural world is threatened everywhere that I look.

I have found that it is only when I take the time to be silent that I am really me. Without times of silence I seem to take on the values and the reactions of those around me, without thought or question. I have been learning meditation in its different forms for over 30 years now. Over that time I have found that when I am silent inside I am more likely to be kind, loving, forgiving and considerate. Jesus needed to go off and spend time in silence, so why should you or I be any different? In the deep silence within me I begin to find the silence of the Creator; the silence from before the beginning of creation. A gift from Jesus that I know I must cultivate. That is why I clear the first Wednesday of every month to lead a Meditation group at Archbishop Sancroft High School in Harleston. There I help church and non-church people to cultivate their inner silence for their physical, mental and spiritual well being. If you are interested, get in touch with me or just turn up at 7.30pm, it's free.

Now to my other valuable thing. The natural world is threatened, and incredibly precious. So this Lent, instead of giving up chocolate I have signed up for 40 day challenge to care more for this beautiful world. It is part of the 2020 “#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation” programme from the Church of England. I will get a new challenge emailed to me for each of the 40 days of lent. The programme is for adults and children to motivate us to join with lots of people to truly Care for Creation: to care for the natural world. There are lots of other ways to join in too, just go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/livelent>.

#LiveLent is an opportunity for me, you and anyone to rebuild our relationship with our planet and in turn with Jesus who is Lord of everything. During this time, you might engage in prayer, learn more about the remarkable world we have been given and build habits that last beyond lent to protect and honour the earth.

Finally, don't forget our Lent Groups (see separate advert). This year we will be exploring how we receive Jesus Christ, and how we are transformed by the experience. Over 5 sessions, together we will learn about Receiving Christ:

1. As Children of God
2. In the Stranger and the Needy
3. In Holy Communion
4. Through Prayer and Fellowship
5. And finally, as Christ in You, the Hope of Glory

If you are not already part of a study group, contact me and join in!

God bless,

Nigel.



**Midweek Mingle with Tea, Coffee and Toast**  
Every Wednesday (Term time) from 9.15am to  
11.30am

St John's Church, Harleston

Everyone Welcome.

Great opportunity to meet new people .

No booking, just turn up.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 6th March 2020.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is on 6 March in St. John's Church at 7pm  
Everyone is welcome to this interesting and informative service  
Refreshments and time to chat after the service.

## **Choir Festival**

Do you sing in a local choir? If so would your choir enjoy being part of a great community event?

Katherine Fay is organising a Choir Festival to support the music departments of both Harleston Primary School and Archbishop Sancroft High School. Katherine is currently trying to gain an idea of interest, and no date has yet been set.

To find out more please contact Katherine directly at [kevafy@gmail.com](mailto:kevafy@gmail.com).

## **Lent Groups 2020**

Existing house groups for the first 5 weeks of lent to ensure that there are evening and afternoon Lent Groups across the 7 churches. To join in, speak with your house group leader, or contact Nigel (01379 308905 or [rector@7churches.org.uk](mailto:rector@7churches.org.uk)).

‘To all who received him ... he gave power to become children of God.’ (John 1.12.) This raises big questions. Aren’t we all children of God anyway? Just how can we receive Christ? And what does it mean to have ‘a relationship with God’?

Session 1: Receiving Christ: as children of God

Session 2: Receiving Christ: in the stranger and the needy

Session 3: Receiving Christ: in Holy Communion

Session 4: Receiving Christ: through prayer and fellowship

Session 5: ‘Christ in you, the hope of glory’ (Colossians 1.27)

The course booklet includes a good selection of questions at the end of each of the five sessions, designed to stimulate wide-ranging discussion.

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Church Times review

## Retreats

A friend of mine, Revd. Deborah Hamiltion-Grey is piloting retreats at Letton Hall (N. Norfolk) in 2020 as a new resource for people in Norfolk and further afield. The programme of weekday retreats looks impressive and you can find out more from the new website [www.guidedretreats.org.uk](http://www.guidedretreats.org.uk).



Wednesday 1st April 2020 - Friday 3rd April 2020

Wednesday 9.45am - Friday 10.00am

Venue: Letton Hall IP25 7SA

An opportunity for reflection, prayer, quiet, laughter, stillness, good food and fellowship. Spiritual nourishment for the Soul. Join us for the journey to the cross with Jesus.

The retreat is centred around the monastic rhythm of prayer including a lunchtime Eucharist, these worship sessions are for 30 mins. There is a group session of reflection or meditation at the beginning and end of each day.

**Getting To Know You**  
**The Life and Musical choices of a “Castaway” in a Mythical**  
**Tropical Paradise**

**Music and Memories**  
**Of Ian Carstairs**

**Sunday 22nd March**  
**3pm St John’s, Harleston.**  
**Tickets £5**

St John’s Church Office  
(01379) 851148  
Brain 853660

**Even will last about 90 Minuets**  
**Including Tea & Cake**



**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

**STILLNESS, MINDFULNESS, CONTEMPLATION**

**Free & Open to All**

Monthly on a Wednesday - 7.30pm to 8.30pm

***5th Febuary - 4th March***

***1st April - 6th May***

***1st July***

Oasis Prayer Space

Archbishop Sancroft High School, Harleston

Revd Nigel Tuffnell - 01379 308905

rector@7churches.org.uk

### Harleston - St John's

**Tuesday Informal Singing** is every Tuesday from 11.00am to 12 noon. Refreshments available.

**Coffee Morning** with cake and savoury stalls on Saturday 7th March 9.30-11.30am

**Bishop's Lent Appeal Light Lunches** are on Tuesday 17th March at 12noon. Cost is £5 which includes pudding.

**Community Lunches** are on Tuesday 24th March at 12noon. No charge but donations welcome.

**Midweek Mingle** Every Wednesday (TermTime) 9.15am - 11.30am. Open to all. Tea, Coffee, Toast , Biscuits and chat. No booking needed.

### Brockdish - St Peter & St Paul

**Open garden on April 5th 12.00 - 4.00pm Brockdish** The Old Coach House Brockdish in aid of Brockdish church, teas, stalls etc. and a chance to take a circular walk around the woodland down to the River Waveney.

### Scole - St Andrew's

**Coffee Morning** Saturday 7th March 10.00am -12noon when you can come and enjoy homemade sausage rolls, cheese scones and home-baked cake along with coffee, tea, raffle and friendly chat.

**Toddler Group: Scole Church, Wednesday, term time only 9 am to 10.30 (ish!)**



Enjoy - play, song, refreshments and chat. Cost is £1.50.

Please contact Kathy on 01379 423775, [kathy.m.wood.stb@googlemail.com](mailto:kathy.m.wood.stb@googlemail.com) or Sue on 740325; [revsue@7churches.org.uk](mailto:revsue@7churches.org.uk), for more information .



**Lent lunches** in Scole - 12 noon until 1.30 pm on Thursday 26th March soup, bread and cheese, and a drink. Donations are for the Bishop's Lent Appeal.



## **Advance Notice: 2020 Benefice Outing to Rochester Saturday 9th May**

Please add 9th May to your diary and guard it fiercely. That Saturday we will be off together to Rochester. There is Rochester Cathedral (entry free) which was founded in 604 and is the second oldest in England and the magnificent Rochester Castle which was built on the highest part of Rochester's Roman city wall, to defend the crossing of the River Medway, as well as the attractions of the city centre.

The coach will be dropping us off at the cathedral before parking in Chatham. There is also the option for you to visit Chatham instead, with its Historic Dockyard, fully pedestrianised High Street and the Pentagon Shopping Centre.

Cost of the coach will be £17 per head. More details to follow in April.



### **Background information**

In 2020 churches and ministries are working together for an intentional, strategic and Spirit-filled year of mission across the UK called Advance 2020. Through Prayer 2020 we are asking God to work through all that is done in 2020 – personal witness; church outreach plans in villages; towns and cities; stadium events – evangelisation in all its many forms. For more details see

[https://www.hopetogether.org.uk/Groups/327007/Prayer\\_2020.aspx](https://www.hopetogether.org.uk/Groups/327007/Prayer_2020.aspx)

## **Dates and times when the Bishop's Gardens are open during 2020.**



The Bishop's Gardens will be opened again in 2020 for the use of local charities. In 2019, despite the reduced number of days, the gardens helped to raise £18,679 for local charities.

The charities for spring/summer 2020 are:

Sunday 19 April – It's on the Ball

Sunday 3 May – TimeNorfolk

Sunday 17 May – Hebron Trust

Sunday 24 May – Norwich Puppet Theatre

Sunday 31 May – Headway

Sunday 7 June – YMCA Norfolk

Sunday 14 June – King's Lynn Night Shelter

Sunday 5 July – Norwich Foodbank

Sunday 12 July – The Papillon Project

Sunday 26 July – Friends of Horsey Seals

Sunday 2 August – MAP (Mancroft Advice Project)

All events run from 1pm – 4.30pm with last admissions at 4pm. Admission price is £5 per adult and accompanied children under 16 years and wheelchair users are free. Assistance Dogs only. Refreshments are available on each occasion. Private tours can be arranged at mutually convenient times through the Bishop's Chaplain – email: [bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org](mailto:bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org); or telephone: 01603 614172



## **Brother Paolo to visit Norwich**

The Bishop of Norwich invites you to a time of prayer around the cross in the Taizé tradition on Friday 20 March at 7pm. Brother Paolo of Taizé will be in Norwich on 20-21 March and Norwich Cathedral has kindly agreed to host this evening.

Taizé Prayer originates from the Taizé community, a monastic order founded in 1940 in rural France. Prayer and silence are at the heart of the Taizé experience and during our services there is repeated chanting of prayers as well as other phrases from scripture that are sung. The repetition encourages an atmosphere of meditation and prayer. Before our services we have a time of practice, followed by a period of silence and the beginning of the service. The Taizé community has a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation.



## **Join the team of Dippy volunteers!**

Fancy working with a dinosaur this summer? If so, then Norwich Cathedral may have just have the post for you! Norwich Cathedral is preparing

to host the Natural History Museum's Dippy the diplodocus later this year and now the search is on to find an enthusiastic team of volunteers to play a part in this prehistoric adventure.

The famous 26-metre long (85ft) dinosaur cast – which for many years took centre stage in the Natural History Museum's Hinzte Hall before embarking on the current UK tour – will take up residence in Norwich Cathedral's Nave from July 11 until October 31 2020.

Ahead of Dippy's visit, the Cathedral is looking to recruit up to 200 volunteers to join the Dippy team as Visitor Experience Volunteers and Dippy Duty Manager Volunteers to help give a warm welcome to all of the thousands of people who are expected to visit Dippy.

You don't need to have previous experience of volunteering, or be a dinosaur expert to get involved. You just need to enjoy meeting people, have a friendly and helpful attitude and lots of enthusiasm!

The visitor experience volunteers will help to provide a warm welcome to all of the thousands of visitors that are expected to come to the cathedral. They will help visitors engage with the Dippy on Tour exhibition and the cathedral, run activities and assist with special events. All visitor experience volunteers will be required to commit to the equivalent of four hours a week over the 16-week Dippy on Tour exhibition from 11 July to 31 October 2020.

The Dippy duty manager volunteers will lead the visitor experience volunteers, and the managers will be required to commit to volunteering for one day a week or more throughout the Dippy on Tour exhibition.

The volunteer opportunities are open to people aged 18 and over and the deadline to apply to be a visitor experience volunteer and or a Dippy duty manager is midnight on Monday 16 March 2020.

To be eligible to apply for a Dippy volunteer role, you must be able to meet the following criteria:

Be aged 18 or over.

Be willing to ideally commit to giving the equivalent of at least 4 hours a week for each of the 20 weeks that the Dippy exhibition is open (11 July – 31 October). NB. We can be flexible with the volunteers rota as we understand people also have lots of other commitments!

Attend volunteer training and induction in May/June 2020.

Be willing to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Supply the details of two referees.

For more information about the volunteer roles, email [dippyvolunteering@cathedral.org.uk](mailto:dippyvolunteering@cathedral.org.uk)

## Holy Week Services

### **Holy Monday 6th April**

Congregation Reading      6.30pm      St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish

### **Holy Tuesday 7th April**

Evening Devotions      6.30pm      All Saints, Thorpe Abbots

### **Holy Wednesday 8th April**

Evening Devotions      6.30pm      St Peter's, Needham

### **Maundy Thursday 9th April**

Chrism Eucharist      11.00am      Norwich cathedral

Said BCP Communion      4pm      St Andrew's, Scole

Informal Communion      6pm      St John's, Harleston

### **Good Friday 10th April**

Walk of Witness      10.00am      St John's Harleston

Devotional Half hour      11.00am      St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish

Devotional Half hour      12noon      St Peter's, Needham

Devotional Half hour      1.00pm      St Andrews, Scole

Devotional Half hour      2.00pm      All Saints Thorpe Abbots

Devotional Half hour      3.00pm      St Leonard's, Billingford

Devotional Service      4.00pm      St Mary's, Redenhall

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**7CHURCHES BENEFICE SERVICES**

**Benefice Evensong**

**St Andrews Scole**

Sunday, 1st March 6pm

**Benefice Prayers**

**St Peter's Needham**

Sunday, 8th March 4.30pm

**Celebration Service**

**St Andrew's Scole**

Sunday 22nd March 4.30pm

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Jane Debenham, Ken Deighton, Fran Pitt-Pladdy, Jean Roper, Lyn Veness, Frances Cormack, Paul With and Paul Cooke, Marian Courtney. 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).*

**THE REGISTERS - 13TH JANUARY TO 12TH FEBUARY 2019**

**Funerals and Interments**

4th Feb Eva Barrett at St Andrew's Scole.

10th Feb Maurice Cormak Memorial service, St Andrews Scole.

**WEEKDAY SERVICES AND PRAYERS**

Tuesdays 9.30am Short Prayer Time - St John's, Harleston.

Tuesday 7.30pm Prayers for Harleston - Oasis Prayer Space,  
17th March Archbishop Sancroft High School, Harleston.

Thursdays 9.15am Short Worship & Prayer - St Andrew's, Scole.  
10.00am Said Holy Communion - St John's, Harleston.

## MARCH SERVICES AND READINGS

<b>Sunday 1st March</b> Lent 1 (Purple)	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Leonard's, Billingford
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>Romans 5.12-19/ Matthew 4.1-11</i>			
<b>Sunday 8th March</b> Lent 2 (Purple)	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Thorpe Abbots
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter's, Needham
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Holly Communion	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Scole
	6.00pm	Joining with Wortwell Chapel	St Mary's, Redenhall
<i>Romans 4.1-5,13-17 / John 3.1-17</i>			
<b>Sunday 15th March</b> Lent 3 (Purple)	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Informal Worship	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.00pm	Compline	St Mary's, Redenhall
<i>Romans 5.1-11 / John 4.5-42</i>			
<b>Sunday 22ND March</b> LENT (PURPLE)	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Leonard's Billingford
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Needham
	11.00am	Morning Worship	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Mary's, Redenhall
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
	4.30pm	Celebration Service	St Andrew's, Scole
<i>2 Corinthians 1.3-7 / John 19.25-27</i>			
<b>Sunday 29TH March</b> LENT 5 (PURPLE)	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St John's, Harleston
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Scole
	6pm	Joining with Wortwell Chapel	St Mary's, Redenhall
<i>Romans 8.6-11 / John 11.1-45</i>			

## CONTACT LIST

### Ministry Team

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### 7churches Administrator - Helen Orford

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

**Email:** admin@7churches.org.uk Tel: 01379 851148

### Churches - Contacts

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	Stephanie Woollam	01379 851148
St Mary's - Redenhall	Michael Clark	07427 586806
St Peter's - Needham	Gill Powell	0754 539 6695
St Peter & St Paul - Brockdish	Jan Croxson	01379 668630
	Ann Cork	01379 668635
All Saints - Thorpe Abbots	Christine McDonald	01379 669116
St Leonard's - Billingford	Pauline Greenard	01379 740730
	Sue Redgrave	01379 740837
St Andrew's - Scole	Lynda Mansfield	01379 740401

### Schools

Archbishop Sancroft High School (CofE Academy)

Mr R Connelly 01379 852561

Harleston CE Primary Academy Mrs L Blofield

01379 853211

Scole CEVC Primary Mrs C Vosper

01379 740654

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