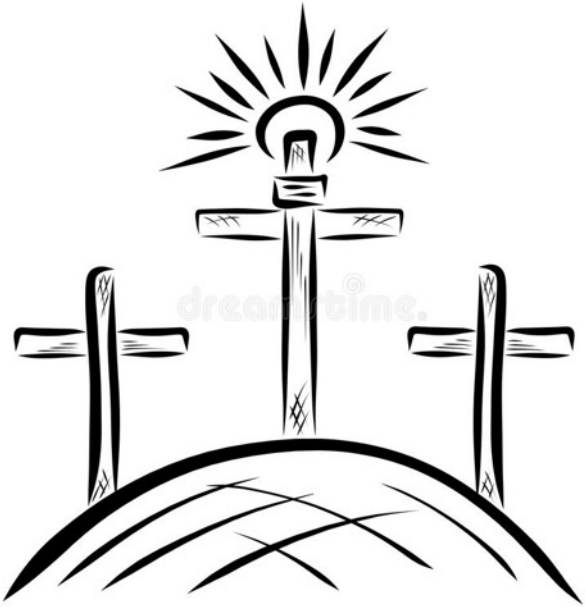
April 2026



Benefice Newsletter

SEVEN
CHURCHES

An Easter Greeting

Dear Friends

Happy Easter! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

After the quiet reflection of Good Friday and the stillness of Easter Saturday, Easter morning greets us like the sunrise itself—full of colour, hope, and life. The stone was rolled away. The grave was empty. Death was defeated. And because of that, everything changed.

Easter isn't just a date on the calendar. It's the heartbeat of our faith.

Without the resurrection, we'd simply have a story of a good teacher who met a tragic end. But because Jesus rose from the grave, we have victory, forgiveness and new life. We have a hope that reaches beyond our circumstances, beyond our struggles, and even beyond the grave itself.

I wonder if you've ever tried to imagine how the women and the disciples felt on that first Easter morning—perhaps confused, fearful and full of disbelief. But all that turned slowly into overwhelming joy. The women ran from the tomb. The disciples stared in wonder. And eventually, their sorrow gave way to courage. The resurrection changed them from fearful followers into bold witnesses.

And it still does that for us today..
Easter reminds us that no situation is too far gone for God. The relationship we're praying for or the habit we're trying to break or the grief we're carrying? Resurrection power speaks into all of it. What looked sealed and hopeless on Friday was gloriously redeemed by Sunday.

We all have ‘Good Friday’ times in our lives—moments of loss, uncertainty, or waiting. Easter gently reminds us that the joy of Sunday is coming. God is always at work, even when the stone seems immovable.

One of wonderful truths of Easter is that the resurrection wasn’t just something that happened to Jesus—it’s also something that happens in us. When we trust Him, we step into new life. We are forgiven. Restored. Made new. The old is gone, and the new has come!

That’s worth celebrating with chocolate eggs and Easter bonnets but also with grateful hearts, bold faith, and renewed commitment.

So how do we live as “Easter people”?
We forgive because we’ve been forgiven.
We love because He first loved us.
We stand firm in hope because the tomb is empty.
We share good news because it’s too wonderful to keep to ourselves.

This Easter, may your home be filled with joy. May your heart be strengthened with hope. May you feel the deep assurance that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is still alive and active today.

Happy Easter to you all!

He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Rev Sue

All Saints Thorpe Abbotts

STATION 366

Station 366 will be entertaining us with
songs from the 1940's

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL
at
THORPE ABBOTTS VILLAGE HALL

7 for 7.30pm
Tickets £10
Available from Chris MacDonald – 01379 669116
and Mary Alderton – 01379 668537

Harleston

Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th April
King Georges Hall
9.30am - 12noon

Forget-Me-Not Cafe and Church

Thursday 9th April
London Rd Church
10.30am - 12.30pm

Chatty Church

Saturday 25th April
King Georges Hall
11.00am-1.00pm

Holy Week

Holy Wednesday 1st April
All Saints, Thorpe Abbotts - Evening Devotions - 6.30pm

Maundy Thursday 2nd April April
St Peter's, Needham - Holy Communion - 10.30am
St Andrew's, Scole - Holy Communion - 6.30pm

Good Friday 3rd April
Walk of Witness Outside St John's, Harleston - 10.00am
St Mary's, Redenhall - Devotional Half Hour - 11.30am
St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish - Devotional Half Hour - 12.30pm
All Saints, Thorpe Abbotts - Devotional Half Hour - 1.30pm
St Leonard's, Billingford - Devotional Half Hour - 2.30pm
St Andrew's, Scole - Devotional Half Hour - 3.30pm
St Thomas More, Harleston - Devotional Half Hour - 4.30pm

St Andrew's - Scole

Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th April
10.00am - 12 noon
Come and enjoy homemade sausage rolls, cheese scones and home-baked cake along with coffee, tea, and friendly chat
All welcome.

Annual Meetings

These are open to all parishioners.
Thursday, 30 April, 2.30pm at St Leonard's Church, Billingfrod
Wednesday 15 April, 7.00 pm at St Andrew's Church, 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 Febuary 2026 to 25th March 2026

Weddings

28th Feb Sophie Long & Lee Curry - St Peter's Needham

Funerals and Interments

10th March Ray Constance - St Andrew's, Scole.

19th March Russell Wythe - St Peter's, Needham.

7churches Benefice Services

Compline

Thursday 23rd April, 6.30pm

St Leonard's, Billingford

Celebration Service

Sunday 26th April 4.30pm

St Andrew's , Scole.

Please Pray For

Nick Crane, 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).*

April Sunday Services and Readings

Sunday 5th Easter Day (Gold)	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish
Acts 10.34-43/John 20.1-18 or Matthew 28.1-10			
Sunday 12th 2nd of Easter (White)	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Prayer	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish St Mary's, Redenhall All Saints, Thorpe Abbotts St Thomas More, Harleston St Andrew's, Scole
1 Peter 1.3-9/John 20.19-end			
Sunday 19th 3rd of Easter (White)	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Informal Worship Holy Communion	St Leonard's, Billingford St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish St Thomas More, Harleston St Andrew's, Scole
1 Peter 1.17-23/Luke 24.13-35			
Sunday 26th 4th of Easter (White)	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 4.30pm	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer Morning Worship Morning Prayer Celebration Service	St Peter & St Paul, Brockdish St Peter's, Needham St Thomas More, Harleston St Andrew's, Scole St Andrew's, Scole
1 Peter 2.19-end/John 10.1-10			

CONTACT LIST

Ministry Team

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John Taylor	01379 676573	or	jctaylor@gavelkind.org.uk

7churches Administrator - Helen Orford

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Office Hrs: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

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 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