



Hoxne Benefice Churches

Athelington Denham Horham Hoxne
Redlingfield Syleham Wingfield



December 2020 News

| DEC 2020 | 6th Dec 2nd Advent | 13th Dec 3rd Advent | 20th Dec 4th Advent | Tuesday 22 December | Christmas Eve | Christmas Day |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Athelington | | | | | | |
| Denham | | | | | | 11am EG Holy Communion |
| Horham | | 11.15am JM BCP Holy Communion | | | 11.30pm EG Midnight Mass. Places must be reserved in advance | |
| Hoxne | 9.30am EG BCP Holy Communion | | 9.30am EG Holy Communion | | 3pm Nativity Parade thru Hoxne 4pm Christingle Service JM | 9.30am JM Holy Communion |
| Redl'field | 9.30am RC Holy Communion | | | | | 9.30am RC Family Communion |
| Syleham | | | 4pm ML A Celebration of Christmas | | | 9.30am EG BCP Holy Communion |
| Wingfield | 11am JM Holy Communion 4pm Benefice Messy Christingle EG | | | 4pm EG Benefice Carol Service | | 11am JM Family Communion |

Sunday 13th, Café Church via Zoom with carols, 9.30am

Sunday 27th December, (Christmas 1) Holy Communion, at Denham, 11am

Every Sunday, Morning prayer on facebook.com/WingfieldChurch, 8am

EG - Revd Eleanor Goodison JM - Revd John McCracken

RC - Revd Richard Court ML - Mary Lewis

One kind word can warm three winter months

This Japanese proverb may be very relevant this winter, as in spite of the hope offered by a vaccine, Covid-19 restrictions seem likely to be in force in one way or another throughout the coldest and darkest time of the year.

As we hunker down and turn up the heating, it's more important than ever to remember those who may be isolated, anxious or depressed either about the threat of the virus itself or its economic and other side-effects. We all need to look out for each other at this time, even if we can't meet face to face. There is help available, from our village neighbour schemes, our local churches and from specific funds for anyone who is suffering financial hardship. If you want to talk about anything, or just to talk about nothing in particular, please do get in touch.

Meanwhile, the good news is that public worship resumes this month – see our programme of services in this newsletter. We do not expect to be able to hold traditional carol services, because of the ban on congregational singing, but we will be holding various family friendly services in the run-up to Christmas, including a benefice carol service with singing by a small group at the front, plus a full programme of Communion services at Christmas itself.

I wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas when it comes, and a healthy New Year. Take care and God bless.

Revd Eleanor Goodison

Revd Eleanor and Revd John are away from the benefice from 28th December to 2nd January. Eleanor usually works Friday to Monday and is available for urgent matters on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday is her day off. Messages received Thursday will normally be dealt with on Friday.

If you need help or just want to chat, please contact us:

Revd Eleanor: 07876 143579 eleanor.goodison@gmail.com

Revd John: 07876 507288 vj.mccracken@gmail.com

Revd Richard: rev.richard.court@icloud.com

Returning to church services...

We are out of lockdown again and back to services in church in December (see rota). We will, of course, still be adhering to the strict government guidelines of social distancing, hand sanitising and mask wearing.

Additional outdoor carol services may be arranged if government regulations permit. Check local notices for up to date information.

Advent Study Group

A reminder that Bishop Mike is leading Advent study sessions on Zoom at 7.30pm each Tuesday evening in the run-up to Christmas on the four last things: Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell. To sign up for the sessions go to eventbrite.co.uk and search for 'The Last Things' or just 'Bishop Mike'. We will be holding our own follow-up discussions on Wednesdays at 3pm – get in touch with Revd Eleanor if you would like to join in.



Church contacts

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Athelington: St Peter. | Colin Palmer 01728 628747 |
| Denham: St John the Baptist. | Barbara Irwin 01379 669077, Hilary Castleden 01379 668458 |
| Hoxne: St Peter & St Paul | Guy McGregor 01379 668434, Wilf White 01379 668046 |
| Horham: St Mary. | David Spall 01379 384239, Daphne Harvey 01379 384216 |
| Redlingfield: St Andrew. | Hazel Abbott 01379 678217 |
| Syleham: St Margaret. | Mary Lewis 01379 669258, Sarah Buckley 01379 668480 |
| Wingfield: St Andrew. | Revd Eleanor Goodison 07876 143579 |



Virtual Christmas Market

We can't hold our usual Christmas fundraising events safely this year, so we are holding a virtual Christmas Market. Look out for our catalogue (which we have emailed to those on the benefice news email list) of home-made eatables, crafts and gifts to order and pick up at your convenience. It will all come together with a Zoom event at 11am on Saturday 12th December with festive cheer, a quiz and, who knows, maybe a visit from Father Christmas! If you would like to join us, and you are not yet on our email list, contact Revd Eleanor.

If anyone has anything else to add to our virtual catalogue, donations can still be accepted. We will be sending out an addendum, by email, probably around 7th December. Please email details to Virginia at hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

Prayer for Advent

Christ, come into our world of darkness. Light up our lives with your coming. Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth. Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world and to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings. Amen.

Sr Bridgetta Rooney/CAFOD

Feeling lonely or low?

Many of us find this time of year makes us feel low and Covid-19 restrictions don't help. If you would like to talk, please just get in touch.

Hoxne Church Christmas Tree

Display from Monday 20th December to Christmas Eve, 11am to 3pm.

Lights will be turned off after the Christmas morning service. Donations much appreciated. All Government recommendations of social distancing, mask wearing, hand sanitising etc will apply. We look forward to seeing you.



And please don't forget..... easyfundraising.org.uk

Most of us are ordering much more online at the moment and will be doing so even more this Christmas. This is a wonderful opportunity to raise money for the churches of the Hoxne benefice. It costs you nothing and gives the benefice a percentage of everything you spend. So far we have raised \ approx. £628 for the benefice this way – well worth it! Thank you for signing up!
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hoxnebenefice

Church open for private prayer

Most of our churches are open once a week for private prayer:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Horham | Sunday | 9am - 5pm |
| Redlingfield | Tuesday | 10am - 4pm |
| Denham | Wednesday | 9am - 5pm |
| Hoxne | Wednesday | 9am - 5pm |
| Syleham | Thursday | 10am - 2.30pm |
| Wingfield | Thursday | 2.30pm - 5pm |

Athelington Church is open on request.

Stay in touch:

Check out our [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch) pages: [facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch) or [facebook.com/athelingtonchurch](https://www.facebook.com/athelingtonchurch).

Follow Revd Eleanor on Twitter: @ReverendEleanor (you do not need your own Twitter account to read her tweets; just search for @ReverendEleanor).

Hoxne Benefice News

will be posted on church notice boards and left in churches. Email Virginia on hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com to receive it by email.