

Feb 2021	7th Feb 2nd before Lent	14th Feb Sunday before Lent	21st Feb 1st Sunday of Lent	28th Feb 2nd Sunday of Lent	
Athelington	See weekly online services below				
Denham				11am EG CW Holy Communion	
Horham			11.15am EG BCP Holy Communion		
Hoxne			9.30am JM CW Holy Communion	9.30am EG BCP Matins on Zoom	
Redl'field		9.30am RC CW Holy Communion			
Syleham		4pm Messy Church- www.facebook. com/HoxneMC		10am ML Village Service on Zoom	9.30am JM BCP Holy Communion
Wingfield					
Zoom Services	11am EG Holy Communion	9.30am EG Café Church	6pm EG Evensong Not Evening Prayer in church	4pm EG All Age Service	

Saturday 13th February - 2 to 4pm, Quiet afternoon in Athelington Church. (EG)

Wednesday 17th February - Ash Wednesday, 7pm, Holy Communion with ashing at Wingfield. Ashes to be sprinkled without physical contact. (EG)

Online services

Every Saturday and Sunday, Morning Prayer on [facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch), 8am

Messy Church on Sunday 7th on [facebook.com/HoxneMC](https://www.facebook.com/HoxneMC) at 4pm

To join our Zoom services, email Revd Eleanor at eleanor.goodison@gmail.com and she will send you the link.

EG - Revd Eleanor Goodison JM - Revd John McCracken

RC - Revd Richard Court ML - Mary Lewis JS - John Swann

Hoxne Benefice Churches

Athelington Denham Horham
Hoxne Redlingfield
Syleham Wingfield

The
Season
of
Lent



February 2021 News

Spring growth

As I write this, it is clear that in spite of the welcome vaccination programme going ahead now in Suffolk, the threat of the coronavirus is going to be with us for some time to come. People are still getting sick and sadly some are still dying and all of us are suffering to a greater or lesser extent from the restrictions we continue to have to live under.

What does Christianity have to offer in the face of this situation? I can put it quite briefly: the good news that God is with us and has redeemed us through Jesus Christ. God became a human being in order to share and transform our nature and our lives. In Jesus he also shared in our suffering and death, so that as he rose again from the dead, so can we. God is with us as we face all the griefs, anxieties and challenges brought about by the coronavirus and with his help we will come through it.

God's faithfulness never changes. In the darkness of winter we see the first signs of spring and already the days are lengthening and the leaf buds swelling on the trees. Lent, the season of growth (the word actually means spring) begins with Ash Wednesday on 17th February. Can we make Lent this year a time when we grow as human beings, not in spite of Covid-19, but because of the way we respond to it?

Revd Eleanor Goodison

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

Church closed for public worship

At the moment our churches have taken the decision to remain closed for public worship, although each church is open once a week for private prayer. We are keeping the situation under review and will reopen as soon as we feel we can do so safely – government regulations currently allow it and the decision will be a local one. The schedule of services in this issue includes some services in church from the middle of February – check nearer the time on whether these are able to go ahead. Meanwhile we have plenty of services on Facebook and Zoom, or if you prefer we will deliver a printed version of a service each Sunday.

Report on Christmas activities

Many thanks to all who supported the Virtual Christmas Market. We had a great range of items on offer and people were generous with both purchases and donations. Final figures are not yet available, but we estimate the Virtual Market raised at least £750.00 for the churches of the Hoxne Benefice. Thank you also to all who took part in the Nativity parade in the face of plague and flood!

Saturday 13th February We are planning a Quiet Afternoon at Athelington church in preparation for **Lent** (which starts on 17th Feb) - an opportunity to stop and reflect (and we have much to reflect on) before we enter this season of penitence and growth.

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.	Rev'd Eleanor Goodison 07876 143579

Lent Study Group on Zoom We will be holding a Lent Study Group on Monday evenings at 7.30pm on Zoom. The theme will be the Five Marks of Mission and each session will discuss one of the marks of mission in the light of a particular Bible reading.

The programme is:

Monday 22nd February TELL: to proclaim the good news of the Kingdom
Monday 1st March TEACH: to teach, baptise and nurture new believers
Monday 8th March TEND: to respond to human need by loving service
Monday 15th March TRANSFORM: to seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.
Monday 22nd March TREASURE: to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

To join in, just let Revd Eleanor know you would like the Zoom link.



Mary and Joseph (and a wise man?) being refused room at the inn on Christmas Eve.

Hoxne Benefice News

Copies of this newsletter are in churches when we have services. Email Virginia on hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com to receive it by email.



Bishops' Lent appeal for Kagera

2021 Many are suffering hardship because of the pandemic, yet continue to support their communities with love and care. Can we extend that compassion to our partners abroad? Churches in Suffolk are linked to the churches in Kagera, northwest Tanzania. It's a poor forgotten area of a poor country, where the majority of people are subsistence farmers and live on less than £1 a day. 1kg of flour costs 80p, a doctor's appointment £3. Yet the people are trying to raise themselves out of poverty and with a little help are doing just that. Here in our churches we've supported Kagera in many ways, through friendship, prayer and finance. Can you help again? Many enjoyed the Lent Challenge in our last appeal in 2019 – looking around their own homes and villages, comparing them with homes and villages in Kagera and raising money in the process. There's a challenge booklet with lots of ideas and information. To find out more or get your copy of the booklet, visit www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal or contact the Kagera link

And please don't forget.....

easyfundraising.org.uk

It really is easy. If you are finding that you are ordering more goods online at the moment, why not sign up to support the benefice? It costs you nothing and gives the benefice a percentage of everything you spend. So far we have raised £662 for the benefice this way – so it is well worth it! www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hoxnebenefice. Thank you for signing up.

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).

Samaritans - It's alright to ask for help

Tel: 116123

Refuge, against domestic violence

Tel: 0808 2000 247

ChildLine

Tel: 0800 1111

Waveney Foodbank

Tel: 07484 394749