

Hoxne Benefice Newsletter

* Athelington * Denham * Horham
* Hoxne * Redlingfield * Syleham * Wingfield

March 2018

'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' Late on the night of Maundy Thursday this was part of Jesus' prayer before his arrest. Jesus surrenders himself to the will of his heavenly father. He accepts the destiny that has been bestowed upon him. Earlier in St Luke's gospel, we read of how Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem; some versions talk of him being as set firm as flint on this matter. Again, there is the image that he accepts what lies in store for him.

In our first Lent lunch we 'chewed over', destiny, fate, providence; a concept so difficult that we hide it in amongst lots of different words! In particular, I highlighted how the book of Esther was particularly controversial because God is never mentioned but through it all is the idea of God 'working his purposes out'.

How to handle fate is a thorny problem; we often have a grudging admiration of those who are able to calmly, peacefully accept it with great dignity. And yet as Protestants, we are, historically, the most vigorous protesters against the wrongs of the world and not willing to accept things.

As Lent continues through March, my prayer for us all is that we'll be able to take inspiration from the resolve of Jesus to fulfil his destiny, of the great paradox with which he accepted his death to protest, challenge and ultimately change the power of death, that we'll be able to take to heart the prayer of Reinhold Niebuhr, 'God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.'

Reverend Michael

Rev Michael's rest days and days away from the benefice in March:
Thurs 1, Thurs 8, Thurs 15, Fri 16, Thurs 22 and Weds 28 March

St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Diss, IP21 5RB. 01379 388889, hoxnebenefice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Athelington: St Peter. Evelyn Adey 01728 628428

Denham: St John the Baptist. Michael Reeves 01379 668179

Hoxne: St Peter & St Paul. Brian Chester 01379 669157, Guy McGregor 01379 668434

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

Wingfield: St Andrew. John McCracken 01379 384181

MARCH 2018	4 March 3 rd of Lent	11 March Mothering Sunday	18 March 5 th of Lent	25 March Palm Sunday. Clocks go forward	1 April Easter Day
Athel'ton			9.30am* Holy Communion		
Denham				11.15am* Family Service	
Horham		11.15am Mothering Sunday Service		11.15am+ Family Communion	
Hoxne	11.15am* Holy Communion	11.15am+ Mothering Sunday Service	8.30am * BCP Holy Communion	10am Family Service	11.15am* Holy Communion
Redl'field	9.30am * Holy Communion			10am+ Morning Prayer	9.30am+ Holy Communion
Syleham	4pm ~ Messy Church		10am Village Praise	9.30am* BCP Holy Communion	9.30am* BCP Communion 4pm~ Messy Church
Wingfield	10am Morning Prayer	11am + Holy Communion		6.30pm# Evensong	11.15am+ Holy Communion

Tuesday 13th March, 7.30pm* midweek Communion at Barbara Irwin's, Reading Hall, Denham

Key
*with Rev Michael, +with Rev Eleanor, ~ with Rev Michael and Rev Eleanor, # TBA

Complines: 6pm at St Andrew's, Wingfield on Fridays 2, 9, 16 and 23 March

Prayer breakfasts

Monday mornings - breakfast and prayers. We meet at 7.45am for breakfast; prayers start at 8.30am, using a Celtic pattern. We are always finished by 9am. Contact Rev Michael for the venue, as it changes.

Winter coffee mornings in Redlingfield

The next will be on Wednesday 7 March from 10am until noon at the home of David and Jacqueline Love, 1 Abbots Meadow, Redlingfield. It will be the usual mix of tea or coffee, cakes and conversation. Donations will be welcomed.

Coffee morning in Wingfield at Wingfield Barns on Tuesday 20 March, 10am to 12 noon.

Coffee and internet café in the Old School Hall in Horham every Wednesday morning, 10.30am to 12 noon for delicious coffee and cake, good company and computer support.

Friends of Hoxne church coffee morning in the church on 17 March, 10.30am to 12 noon.

At Denham church we are organising a quiz at St Edmunds Hall Hoxne on Saturday 17 March, with the doors opening at 7pm and the quiz beginning at 7.30pm. Teams of six are invited, with nibbles provided but teams should bring their own picnic. £5 per person. To book your table call Sharon Knights on 01379 668060. All proceeds to the church funds.

Visit easyfundraising.org.uk and enter Churches of the Hoxne benefice to help raise money for our churches when you shop online – at no extra cost to you.

There are paper copies of this newsletter in each church. Please email hoxnebeneficeoffice@gmail.com to be added to the email list.



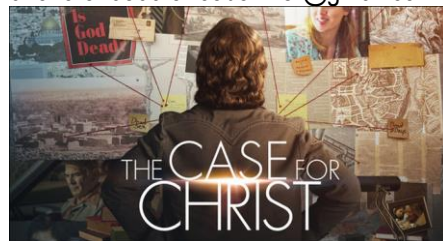
Call my Bluff (Wine) - Saturday 10 March, 7.15pm for 7.30pm - a truly hilarious evening. You don't need to know anything about wine (though it might help!): just be prepared to pit your wits against some very clever liars! Ticket price of £15 per person includes an excellent hot supper and all wines. To be held at the village hall in Syleham with proceeds to church funds but all enquiries/bookings to Colin Campbell, darrsville@aol.com, 01379 668306.

Messy church for the benefice

Sunday 4 March at Syleham village hall, 4pm. Come and join our growing group for lots of fun and a scrummy tea.

Film night

The Case for Christ. Award-winning investigator reporter and absolute atheist Lee Strobel struggles to understand and accept his wife Lesley's new found and growing faith in Christ. Utilising his journalistic and legal training, Lee decides to try and disprove the claims of Christianity. Starring Mike Vogel, Erika Christensen, Faye Dunaway and Robert Forster. Friday 16 March, 7.30pm, Reading Hall, Denham. If you would like to come, please contact Barbara Irwin on 01379 870500 or cobowner@gmail.com



Easter Morning Meditation and

Breakfast 7.45am at the home of Sarah Buckley, Gate House Farm, Syleham Road Hoxne, Eye, IP21 5BZ.

Sarah's house is on the boundary of Syleham and Hoxne, so what better place to reflect on the boundary between life and death and night and day?

At the end of the meditation, breakfast will be served with sparkling drinks and the toast will be, as always, 'Alleluia! Christ is risen: he is risen indeed. Alleluia!'

Food for Thought is back

Lent Lunches continue to look at themes in Babette's Feast...

Tues 6 March- Spirituality

Tues 13 March- A special meal

Tues 20 March - Sacrifice

All 12.30pm onwards in Syleham village hall. No need to have seen the film or read the book as a summary is given. Also, each session stands alone so don't worry if you can't come to them all.

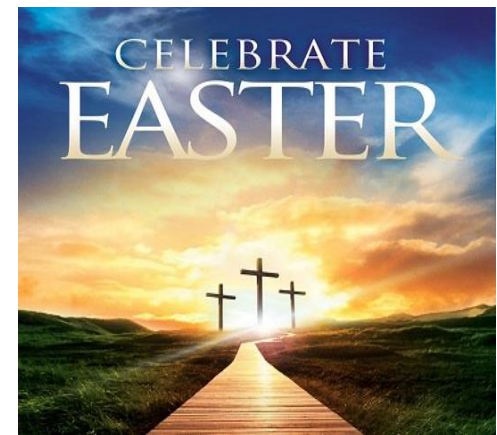
No charge but donations welcome, please let Rev Michael know if you hope to come so we don't waste food.

Ideally you will need a copy of Babette's Feast (and other stories). It can be picked up very cheaply on the internet, (originally published as the collection Anecdotes of Destiny). The course costs nothing, though donations to cover costs and top up benefice funds will be very welcome on the day. Mary Womack would be pleased to hear from anyone who can help with the catering.

Hoxne benefice Mothers' Union

The next meeting is Monday 19 March, 2.30pm at Time House, Low Street, Hoxne.

Wingfield Complines in Lent this year will be at 6pm on Fridays 2, 9, 16 and 23 March. Please come and join us for these simple services of evening prayers.



Maundy Thursday

Wingfield, 7.30pm Foot washing and Holy Communion

Good Friday

Hoxne, 9.30am Meditation
Wingfield, 12 noon Hymns and meditations
Horham, from 7pm Passion accounts and silent prayer

Easter Eve (Sat 31)

Denham, 7.30pm Service of Light

Easter Day

Gate House Farm, Syleham, 7.45am Meditation / breakfast
Redlingfield, 9.30am Holy Communion
Syleham, 9.30am BCP Communion
Hoxne, 11.15am Holy Communion
Wingfield, 11.15am Holy Communion
Syleham village hall, 4pm, Messy Church

