

The Coastal Group of Parishes

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Eccles and Lessingham,
Ridlington, Sea Palling with Waxham, Walcott and Witton

www.coastalgroup.org.uk

News Sheet 527

December 2020 & January 2021



*O, Tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

Words we shall not be singing out-loud this Christmas but thoughts and actions we can share around. I wonder how we are getting on? All in our bubbles, carrying on with life in these strange and for some lonely and anxious times.

I think we are all coping really well because it is not a bundle of fun is it? as we draw the curtains on another day and see the headlines on the television.

Yet, when we meet up (socially distanced of course) there are always smiles, laughter and friendly chatter and an awareness of those around us. People are being supportive and friendly, good neighbours. We are fortunate to live in a good community in such a beautiful place.

In the church calendar December 1st is the first day of Advent. We have four weeks to prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. A time of preparation, looking forward, a time of expectation - of hope. This does not change. But for us the immediate future is uncertain, new rules - regulations, our freedom is limited, planning ahead is difficult.

As we look forward cautiously to these changes I am sure many of us have doubts and we all hope people will remember hands, face and space as they enjoy themselves.

This is a time of looking forward, not just to Christmas but into a new year. A big unknown at the moment. The carol says "Tidings of comfort and joy". This is our unsung message for Christmas and the new year.

Today we heard we are in Tier Two, a bit of a surprise to me, but whichever Tier we know that 25th December marks Jesus' birthday and 1st January is new years day, days we celebrate.

The Christmas message is one of love and hope. The New Year hope again but also a challenge and a vaccine? So as we obey the rules let us celebrate and enjoy the festive season and share comfort and joy as the carol tell us.

With love and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year - and be safe.

Eiler.

Rector: The Rev'd Catherine Dobson, The Rectory, The Hill, Happisburgh, Norwich. NR12 0PW

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Curate: The Rev'd Eiler Mellerup, Channings, The Crescent, Walcott, Norwich. Tel: 01692 651393

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

December 6 th	9am	Hempstead	Holy Communion
	10.30	Bacton	Holy Communion
	10.30	Sea Palling	Holy Communion
	3pm	Ridlington	Carol Service
December 13 th	10.30	Walcott	Holy Communion
December 20 th	9am	Lessingham	Holy Communion
	10.30	Bacton	Christmas Service
	3pm	Happisburgh	United Carol Service
Christmas Eve	7pm	Sea Palling	Christmas Communion
Christmas Day	10.30	Happisburgh	Christmas Day Service
	10.30	Walcott	Christmas Communion
	11.30	Witton	Christmas Day Service
December 27 th	9am	Hempstead	Holy Communion

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

January 3 rd	9am	Hempstead	Holy Communion
	10.30	Bacton	Holy Communion
	10.30	Happisburgh	Family Service
	10.30	Sea Palling	Holy Communion
	3pm	Ridlington	Christingle
January 10 th	10.30	Sea Palling	Morning Prayer
	10.30	Walcott	Holy Communion
January 17 th	9am	Lessingham	Holy Communion
	10.30	Bacton	All Age Worship
	10.30	Happisburgh	Holy Communion
	4.30pm	PHONE	Covenant Service with chapel
January 24 th	10.30	Zoom	United Service
January 31 st	10.30	Happisburgh	United Communion with Bishop Alan

For all parishes

Christmas services

We are delighted that we are able to be back in church for worship during Advent and Christmas.

We have aimed to have one main service in each church over the Christmas period, and we would love to see you there. Services need to be 72 hours apart, and so we regret that there is no midnight service this year.

Congregational singing is not allowed, but there may be carols to listen to.

For the safety of all, and to comply with government regulations, please use the hand sanitiser provided, and wear a face covering. Please only mix with your own household groups and not with anyone else on entering and leaving services.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Catherine Revd Catherine Dobson, Rector 650359

Please note that the Carol Service on Sun 20th December at 3pm will be live streamed on Zoom if you would prefer to watch it at home.

You can join by phone or on line.

Meeting ID 729 970 4803 Passcode 016926

Ring 0131 460 1196 and key in the numbers using your telephone key pad. If you would like the link by email, please let Revd Catherine know.

Support your church this Christmas!

Sadly this year has seen a fall in income received in weekly collections and fundraising events for our Coastal Group churches. You can support support your local church by

Online giving

making a donation towards their Parish Share (the cost of clergy and support from the Diocese) at www.dioceseofnorwich.org/donate and choosing the parish from the drop down menu e.g Hempstead and Lessingham with Eccles, Walcott etc.

If you are a tax payer, the Gift Aid can also be claimed.

Standing order

setting up a regular standing order through your bank. For more details please contact the Churchwardens for details of each PCC Treasurer

Cheque

sending a cheque made payable to Name of village PCC e.g Bacton PCC, Hempstead & Lessingham PCC to The Rectory, The Hill, Happisburgh NR12 0PW.

Your support is much appreciated.

Zoom Service Sun 24th January 10.30am

All are welcome to join together from the comfort and warmth of your own home on Sunday 24th Jan at 10.30am.

Join by phone or on line.

Meeting ID 729 970 4803

Passcode 016926

Ring 0131 460 1196 and key in the numbers using your telephone key pad.

Celtic Morning Prayer

takes place every Wednesday at 9am as we join together to pray for our villages and all in need.

In the event of further lockdown, this service will be available on Zoom with the usual codes.

December

2nd Zoom (due to lockdown) 9th Sea Palling
16th Hempstead 23rd Lessingham 30th Happisburgh

January

6th Walcott 13th Ridlington 20th Witton 27th Bacton

Funerals

4th November	Peggy Stratton	Walcott
5th November	Alun Jones	Happisburgh
27th November	Ann Siely	Happisburgh

Burial of Ashes

24th October	Gareth Rudd	Happisburgh
28th November	Stephen Warby	Walcott

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are grieving at this time.

Attendance at Funerals

Under government regulations funerals are limited to a maximum of 30 people, and in some of our smaller churches, the number is further reduced.

In order to ensure there is sufficient room for immediate family, we respectfully ask that you do not come to these services unless invited.

Keep in touch!

For the latest news and updates from the Coastal Group, please sign up to the weekly updates by email (which are blind copied). It is a great way to keep up-to-date.

If you would like to be added to the list, please email revcdobson@live.com and add Subscribe in the subject field.

Bishop Alan comes to the Coastal Group!

We are delighted to welcome back Bishop Alan Winton, Bishop of Thetford to a united Communion Service on Sunday 31st January 10.30am at Happisburgh church.

Everyone is very welcome.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

DAILY HOPE PHONE LINE

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

LESSINGHAM & HEMPSTEAD

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Covenant Service - Sunday 17th January 4.45pm

All are invited to join together with our friends at Lessingham chapel for a joint service to mark the week of prayer for Christian Unity.

This service will take place by telephone. Those wishing to join the telephone worship should dial in on their ordinary phones. Lines will be open from 4.30pm.

The numbers are: 0330 606 0403. When the American lady asks for the code it is: 838189#. If any other response happens, please disconnect and try again. Please place your phone on loudspeaker, away from your face to prevent feedback. We hope you enjoy our shared Covenant Service, even though it will be strange in these difficult times.

The PCC wishes everyone a happy Christmas and New Year. At the time of writing we are in lockdown but we hope by the new year we may be able to meet again.

Lessingham & Hempstead with Eccles Village Hall.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions it is impossible for the upcoming AGM meeting to go ahead. It will be postponed for now and will take place at a later date when circumstances allow.

A snippet of parish history

Close to the south wall of the nave of Lessingham Church is a railed grave and a raised brick grave. These are graves of members of the Worts family. There is a baptism entry in the Lessingham register in 1752 of a Mary Worts, daughter of Thomas and Mary.

The best known of the Worts family was Thomas born October 1827 died at Sutton August 1915. He and his wife Hannah are in one of the brick graves. He was a successful farmer reputed in 1881 to farm a thousand acres in North East Norfolk, a large area in the nineteenth century.

In Lessingham he owned Manor Farm and Beach Farm in Hempstead. The latter was gifted to his daughter Hannah whose descendants still own the farm today.

A benevolent man, Thomas left a sum of money to provide at Christmas some bread and coal for needy widows. Margaret and Bob Henderson

RIDLINGTON St. Peter's Church

In the New year there will be our Christingle on the 3rd January at 3pm, please this time would you make and bring your own Christingle oranges, I'm sure instructions can be found on the internet. Wishing everyone a happy christmas with hope for a much better new year.

Ray Allcoat 651609

Deadline for February's news sheet

Please send your contributions to sandrews487@gmail.com by January 14th.

SEA PALLING & WAXHAM

Church services as on page 2 - all subject to Government restrictions! the Library is closed during November and will open - re Covid restrictions but further plans are in progress! as below;

Community Seeds

It will soon be time to sow seeds for our gardens next year. In an effort to help everyone obtain and sow the seeds they like whether it be veg/herbs. or flowers, we are asking those who have bought seeds and have some left over to donate them to the new Community Seeds project based at the library- as soon as possible please, To those who would like to make use of such a facility we invite you to come along to the Library (Nissen Hut) any Saturday morning from early January where you can browse the seeds available and take away what you want for the cost of a small donation. Seed swaps will also be welcomed. More information - contact Eileen, Rhena or Pam

After a difficult year there is hope of brighter times. We at Sea Palling will be decorating our church in anticipation of the Light of the World - Jesus Christ. Our good wishes to all in the benefice as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. **The Sea Palling & Waxham Allotments** have 2 plots vacant. - starting from now.. Please contact Sue Dickinson 598524 for further details. t you want for the cost of a small donation. Seed swaps will also be welcomed. More information - contact Eileen, Rhena or Pam.

WALCOTT

Children's Society Boxes.

The total content of the 2020 box collection totalled the excellent sum of £260.00 and as always my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed and also for all the help given to me this year.

Many thanks, Rosalind Larter"

WITTON St. Margaret's Church

£140 has now been forwarded to the Norfolk Churches Trust for the cycle ride. Thank you to all who cycled, sat in Church or sponsored the event. Half of this amount will be returned to St Margaret's.

The Remembrance Sunday 2 minute silence was observed by local Air Cadet H. Bailey, the bell was tolled and names of the fallen from Witton read at the Memorial.

At the time of writing it is hoped to have a short Service on Christmas Day at 11.30am, depending on current Covid guidelines. All are most welcome to celebrate the season. Any alterations to future services will be displayed on the roadside notice board.

Let's hope in 2021, when the country is free of restrictions, we will be able to hold some sort of celebration, any ideas as to the form will be most gratefully received! Happy Christmas, stay safe and do please observe the Covid 19 guidelines. Charles and Gillian Owles 01692 650223

BACTON

If Lock down is lifted on the 3rd of December there will be services at St Andrews 6th and 20th of December a Christmas service (masks to be worn in church) all service up dates will be on the notice board by the church gate we wish you all a Very happy Christmas and keep safe and well.

HAPPISBURGH

St Mary's Church will be open for private prayer and viewing of stars from 2.00pm on Sunday 20th December prior to our Carol service at 3.00pm.

Happisburgh craft and cuppa club are looking to meet again at Wenn Evans, on Monday 25th January 1-3pm all being well. If you are interested in joining us please contact Janet on 01692 651179 hope to see you there.

CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

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|-------------|----------|
| Bells | Ornament |
| Bethlehem | Peace |
| Candy | Reindeer |
| Carol | Santa |
| Christmas | Sleigh |
| Elves | Snowman |
| Gifts | Star |
| Gingerbread | Stocking |
| Holly | Toys |
| Jesus | Tree |
| Manger | Wisemen |
| Merry | Yuletide |



G L E T W C R S T O C K I N G
 Y I P I D A E R B R E G N I G
 A C O V T R P Y A E C E F F U
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