

Dereham, Scarning,  
East Bilney, Hoe,



Swanton Morley, Beetley with  
Shipdham and Bradenham

# This Week in our Churches

Week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2025

<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b> Third Sunday of Advent	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Parish Communion (BCP), Bradenham		The Revd M Newey
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	East Bilney	The Revd L Purnell
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Scarning	Mrs L Crick
				The Revd P Cubitt
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd M Newey
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	Swanton Morley	The Revd L Purnell
	5.00pm	Christmas Carols & Readings <i>with the Mid Norfolk Singers</i> , Dereham		Mrs L Crick
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook		The Revd P Cubitt
<b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup></b>	7.00pm	Lessons and Carols	Hoe	The Revd M Newey
	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham	
	1.30pm	DCINA rehearsal	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Advent Course	Shipdham Rectory, The Revd L Purnell	
<b>Tue 16<sup>th</sup></b>	1.30pm	DCINA rehearsal	Dereham	
	2.30pm	Advent Bible study	Church House	Mr T Cross
	7.00pm	Alpha Course		Mark & Ruth Thorpe
<b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30-11am	Pop up Pantry	Shipdham	
	9.45am	Scarning KS1 Christmas	Scarning	The Revd L Purnell
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.30am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby
	2.00pm	DCINA Christmas	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	2.00pm	Thomas Bullock Christmas,	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
	7.00pm	Carol Service	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham	
<b>Thur 18<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Coffee, cake & company	Swanton Morley	
	11.00am	Carol Service	Lincoln House	The Revd P Cubitt
	2.00pm	SM School Christmas	Swanton Morley	The Revd P Cubitt
	2.00pm	Advent Course	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby
	5.15pm	DCINA Christmas	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Beetley Pre-school nativity, Beetley		The Revd P Cubitt
	1.00pm	Funeral of Mick Secker	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight with Ketts Consort Bradenham		The Revd L Purnell
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley	

<b>Sat 20<sup>th</sup></b>	5.00pm	Candlelit Carols	Swanton Morley	The Revd P Cubitt The Revd M Newey
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Ven A Hawes
Fourth	9.30am	Parish Communion	Beetley	The Revd P Cubitt
Sunday				Mr T Cross
of	11.15am	Morning Praise	Shipdham	Mr M Purnell
Advent	11.15am	Parish Communion	Swanton Morley	The Revd J Fernando
	3.30pm	Candlelit Lessons and Carols, E Bilney		The Revd C Prouse
			The Revd M Newey & Mrs L Crick	
	4.00pm	Christingle	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Informal Carol Service	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Carols by candlelight & Community Choir,	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby
				The Revd L Purnell

## **News for the Pews**

**Christingle making at St Nicholas.** Please come along to church on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 10am** to help make up the Christingles. Scissors are useful. All welcome. If you can put sweets or raisins onto sticks at home in advance, please contact Marion who has the supplies 01362 696221 morgan\_marion@hotmail.com

### **New Year's Day Lunch**

I am hosting a fund raising curry buffet lunch and drinks party on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 12-3 pm at home, (Sheddick Court). Numbers limited to 20 persons. Your kind donation of a minimum of £20 per person will go towards St Nicholas Church funds, a deposit of £10.00 will secure your place. All welcome, David Song.  
Contact David on 07497 629459 by 25<sup>th</sup> December. Together we can do it.

With a **very varied line up over the coming weeks**, pick up a leaflet in your church which will have details of services and events, or keep an eye on the church website <http://derehamanddistrictteam.org.uk>, or you can stay up to date with your church's facebook page. In the St Nicholas page you can see the missADVENTures of Brith and Belle, and where they keep popping up! It's guaranteed to keep us smiling.

### **St. Nicholas Christmas Tree Festival results**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our festival this year. Those of you who stewarded, gave or sold raffle tickets, served refreshments, made cakes and scones, washed up, provided the musical accompaniment, counted money, tidied up the church and cleaned everywhere at the end. Thank you also if you donated in cash or on the Sum Up.

We had 39 Christmas Trees this year, ten more than in 2024 and had five stalls at the weekend. We held a preview event for the participants attended by the Dereham Mayor.

We advertised on Radio Norfolk, in the EDP and Dereham Times, on About Dereham, Facebook, and on Posters round the area.

1781 visitors were counted in.

20 bottles of Mulled Wine were consumed.

We raised over £7500 to be split between Dereham Meeting Point and our Toilet project.

Special thanks must go to Susanne and David Warner, Val McRoberts, Anne Eccleshall, Martin and Carol Hajee and Sarah Dutt, who counted the money each day for us. Brilliant teamwork!! Thank you, Lynn.

Did you know there is a **Norfolk Home Library Service**? They can deliver books and other media to your home completely free of charge to anyone housebound of any age. To access this service, contact Norfolk Library on 01603 774777 (Option 1) or email

[libraries@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@norfolk.gov.uk)

Breckland Council is distributing free '**Warm Packs**' to local residents to help them stay warm and well this winter. Residents will not need to register or meet any eligibility criteria to receive comforting items, such as blankets, insulated cups, slipper socks and soups (while stocks last), to help them during the colder months. Packs can be collected from Green Pastures, Wellspring, Dereham Cancer Care and Meeting Point.

**Recently departed** : Mick Secker, Alf Webdale and Carol Brooks.

**Those on the anniversary of their death** : Eric Barrett.

**For our prayers:** Jenny Taylor, Sylvia Blacker, Jean Fairweather, Keith Otty, Cheryl Lister, Pat Dodson, Doug Speed, Ong Song, Pat & Brian Ogden, Peter Hunt, Val Stebbings, Ann Betts, Baby Forrest, Irene & John Farrall, June Burleigh, Barbara Beckett, Maureen & Peter Hart, Robin & Joan Loveday, Tommy Barnes, Sandra Newton, Melva Brunning, Pam Walker and Margaret Travis.

# **Prayers and Collects**

## **Invitation to Confession**

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in  
darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

## **Collect**

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your  
Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Introductory sentence for the Peace**

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
*cf Luke 1.78,79*

## **Post Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

## **Blessing**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in  
glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

## **Our Clergy**

Team Rector  
The Rev'd Canon Paul Cubitt  
tel 694107  
teamrector.dereham@gmail.com  
*rest day Monday*

Team Vicar  
The Rev'd Laura Purnell  
revlaurapurnell@gmail.com  
tel 821249  
*rest day Friday*

Assistant Curate (Part time)  
The Revd Michael Newey  
[assistantcurate.dereham@gmail.com](mailto:assistantcurate.dereham@gmail.com)  
07955 703596

*The Revd Michael will continue to  
work full time, but will be in the  
Benefice on Sundays.*

The Rev'd Doreen Fotherby  
tel 01362 821481

The Rev'd Carole Prouse  
tel 01362 423408

This week's readings – two from  
Isaiah 35.1-10  
James 5.7-10  
Matthew 11.2-11

Next week's readings from  
Isaiah 7.10-16  
Romans 1.1-7  
Matthew 1.18-25  
*Psalms 80. 1-8, 18-20*