

This Week in our Churches

Week beginning 1st February, 2026

Sunday 1st	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
<i>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</i>	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Bradenham	The Revd M Newey
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Beetley	The Revd D Fotherby
	9.30am	Cafe Church	Shipdham	The Revd R Hanmer
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	Scarning	Mrs H Jeckells
	11.15am	Parish Communion	Swanton Morley	Mrs L Crick
	2.00pm	Baptism	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Face Book		The Revd M Newey
				The Revd P Cubitt
Mon 2nd	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham	
	1.00pm	Funeral of Betty Rudling,	Breckland Crem	The Revd L Purnell
	7.30pm	Bible Study	Shipdham Rectory	
Tues 3rd	2.00pm	Funeral of Sandra Newton, Shipdham		The Revd L Purnell
Wed 4th	9-11am	Open church & Pop-Up Pantry, Shipdham		
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.30am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
	7.00pm	Bell ringing practice	Scarning	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham	
Thur 5th	10.00am	Coffee, cake and company, Swanton Morley		
	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Shipdham	
	2.00pm	Funeral of Joan Cole	Dereham	The Revd J Nursey
Fri 6th	1.00pm	Funeral of Pat Dodson	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley	
Sat 7th	10.00	Coffee morning	Scarning	
Sunday 8th	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd Lucy Dallas*
<i>Second Sunday before Lent</i>	9.30am	Cafe Church	Bradenham Village Hall	The Revd M Newey
	9.30am	Parish Communion	East Bilney	Mrs H Jeckells
	9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Hoe	The Revd J Fernando
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.15am	Morning Praise	Swanton Morley	The Revd D Fotherby
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Face Book		The Revd L Purnell
				The Revd M Newey

**The Revd Lucy Dallas is the Diocesan Director of Ordinands*

News for the Pews

Benefice Prayer meeting Tuesday 3rd February.

You are invited to attend the Benefice prayer meeting which will be held at Eckling Grange (NR20 3BB) – in the Gatehouse, starting at 7:15pm Directions to the Gatehouse: from Norwich Road, come into Eckling Grange grounds by the main entrance, straight on past left turn (which leads to the front of the house). Then slightly left towards the Wing on the left and Gatehouse on the right immediately before the closed delivery gate into Mattishall Road. There are parking spaces immediately outside the Gatehouse. All are welcome, whether or not you have previously participated in meetings for prayer. As usual, we will pray for the Churches of Dereham and the villages; our Church leaders, local communities and activities; current events here and around the world; and for healing and peace for individuals who have requested our prayer support. If you are unable to attend in person, but have a request for prayer, for yourself or on behalf of another, please either speak to someone who you know will be attending the meeting, or send an email to prayerrequestc777@gmail.com You need not provide your own name, and please don't name anyone for whom you are requesting prayer, unless they have given you permission. Strict confidentiality is maintained: we refer to first names only during our meetings.

The **Mothers' Union Meeting** on February 11th has been cancelled to allow members to attend the funeral of Keith Otty.

February 13th St Nicholas is hosting a **Candlelight Experience** featuring an acoustic string trio playing music by Coldplay, surrounded by thousands of LED candles. Tickets are on sale now, choose and book on www.lumos-experiences.com

The Pilgrim Course: Turning to Christ

This is a six week course for enquirers or new Christians who want to find out more about the Christian faith. Each session includes reflection on a reading from the Bible and the opportunity for discussion.

It will be held at Mark and Ruth's home beginning on Tuesday 24th February at 7pm. Have a word with Paul Cubitt if you are interested.

Lent is just around the corner. Ash Wednesday is 18th February.

Ash Wednesday Services:

10.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham
10.00am	Holy Communion and ashing	Swanton Morley
11.30am	Holy Communion and ashing	Shipdham
7.30pm	Holy Communion and ashing	Dereham

Sacred Space in St Nicholas Church: Sunday evenings during Lent at 4pm.

These are evenings of quiet reflection (4.00-4.30) followed by Bible Sunday and Worship (4.30-5.15). These evenings are for the whole parish and not just for the congregations. Learning how to pray and praying better will be at the heart of each evening, as the disciples asked, 'Lord, teach us to pray'.

Sunday 22 nd February	Introducing Prayer
Sunday 1 st March	Prayer and the Senses
Not on the 8th March (Licensing of the new Rector of Mattishall 5pm)	
Sunday 15 th March	Prayer and Music
Sunday 22 nd March	Prayer and Language
Sunday 29 th March	Prayer and Fasting
Sunday 5 th April	Putting it together at Easter

Confirmation. Paul has got a date from Bishop Jane in May for Confirmation. If you are interested in being Confirmed/exploring the Christian faith, please contact the Rector.

Lent Courses

Paul is not able to lead a 'traditional' Lent Course on Tuesday and Friday afternoons (when Church House is available) as they clash with commitments in Schools and Eckling Grange. He is offering 'Sacred Space' on Sunday afternoons in St Nicholas Church 4pm-5.15pm. See earlier notice.

There will be a Lent Course running in Shipdham on Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons, more info to follow. It will be open to the whole benefice, just come along.

Lent Lunches in Church House 12noon for 12.30pm

Fridays in Lent are February 27th, March 6th, March 13th (with Café Communion) and March 20th. Please get a free ticket (available on Sunday 1st February) from Sue Barker to help us with numbers for catering, all proceeds from the lunches will be split between Nelson's Journey and Church Funds.

St Nicholas Church Dereham Fundraising Committee are holding an **Easter Coffee morning** in Church House on Saturday April 4th from 10.00 to 12.30. If you have any items you would like to donate suitable for raffle prizes or Tombola these would be most appreciated. There will be a box at Back of Church on Sundays or speak to Susanne or any member of the Fundraising Committee.

Jenny Taylor wishes to thank you all for the wonderful card received on Sunday, and is delighted to tell you that she is now beginning to feel a little bit better. God bless you all.

Recently departed : Betty Rudling, Sandra Newton, Henry (Hank) Harris, Pat Dodson, Joan Cole and Marjorie Jackson, Keith Otty, Barrie Alcock

Upcoming funerals :

Betty Rudling, Breckland Crem, 2nd Feb 1pm

Sandra Newton, All Saints Shipdham, 3rd Feb 2pm

Joan Cole, St Nicholas Dereham, 5th Feb 2pm - *All are invited by Joan's family to refreshments in Church after the service.*

Pat Dodson, St Nicholas Dereham, 6th Feb 1pm

Hank Harris, All Saints Swanton Morley, 10th Feb 11.30am

Barrie Alcock, St Nicholas Dereham, 10th Feb 2pm

Keith Otty, St Nicholas Dereham, 11th Feb 2pm

Marjorie Jackson, St Nicholas Dereham, 20th Feb 10am

Those on the anniversary of their death : Alex Noel-Tod and Barry Briggs.

For our prayers: Jenny Taylor, Sylvia Blacker, Jean Fairweather, Cheryl Lister, Doug Speed, Pat & Brian Ogden, Peter Hunt, Ann Betts, Chris and Ivy, Val Stebbings, Baby Forrest, Irene & John Farrall, Pam Walker, June Burleigh, Maureen & Peter Hart, Robin & Joan Loveday, Melva Brunning, Margaret Travis.

A vacancy prayer

Dear Lord,

We thank you for your presence in every aspect of our lives and the long history of worship in

Swanton Morley, Hoe, and Beetley with East Bilney.

During this new phase of change we pray for your guidance and direction as we undertake the process of selecting a new Team Vicar. We ask for a smooth transition and for candidates, inspired by your calling, to expand your ministry and grow your church within our villages and benefice. Amen.

Prayers and Collects

Invitation to confession

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:

‘I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness
but shall have the light of life.’

Let us therefore bring our sins into his light
and confess them in penitence and faith.

cf John 8.12

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God.

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God
the dayspring from on high has broken 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

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts beyond
words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes
to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.

Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey
his will; 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 Rev'd Michael Newey

assistantcurate.dereham@gmail.com

tel 07740 824877

*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

Malachi 3.1-5

Hebrews 2.14-18

Luke 2.22-40

Psalm 24.(1-6)7-10

Next week's readings from

Genesis 1.1 - 2.3

Romans 8.18-25

Matthew 6.25-34

Psalm 136.1-9,23-26

Church Office, Church House, Church Street, Dereham, NR19 1DN

Telephone 01362 693143 email: parish.office.dereham@gmail.com

Website: <http://derehamanddistrictteam.org.uk>

Benefice Newsletter items: derehamanddistrictteam@gmail.com

deadline 11am Tuesday