

This Week in our Churches

Week beginning 22nd February, 2026

Sunday 22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd J Atkins	
	<i>First</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Bradenham	The Revd L Purnell
	<i>Sunday</i>	9.30am	Parish Communion	East Bilney	
	<i>of</i>	9.30am	Parish Communion (BCP)	Hoe	The Revd K Pilgrim
	<i>Lent</i>	11.15am	Parish Communion (BCP)	Scarning	The Ven A Hawes
		11.15am	Parish Communion	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
		11.15am	Morning Prayer	Swanton Morley	The Revd K Pilgrim
	4.00pm	Sacred Space	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.			
Mon 23rd	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham		
	7.30pm	Lent Course	Shipdham Rectory		
Tues 24th	7.00pm	Pilgrim Course		Mark and Ruth Thorpe	
Wed 25th	9-11am	Open church & Pop-Up Pantry, Shipdham			
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	11.30am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby	
	7.00pm	Bell ringing practice	Scarning		
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham		
Thur 26th	10.00am	Coffee, cake and company, Swanton Morley			
	2.00pm	Lent Course	Shipdham		
	2.30pm	Funeral of Maureen Livingstone,	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt	
Fri 27th	12.30pm	Lent Lunch	Church House		
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley		
Sunday 1st	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Beetley	The Revd J Fernando	
	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Bradenham	The Revd L Purnell	
	9.30am	Cafe Church	Shipdham	Mrs H Jeckells & Mr M Purnell	
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt	
	11.15am	Parish Communion	Swanton Morley	The Revd L Purnell	
	3.00pm	Afternoon Service	Eckling Grange	The Revd L Purnell	
	4.00pm	Sacred Space	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt	
	6.00pm	Compline, see via Facebook.			

News for the Pews

Real Easter Eggs Monday 23rd February is your last chance to order any eggs you may want. Please take a look at the website <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk> - all the chocolate is *fairtrade* and palm oil free. Do let me know what you would like to order at kate.baldry@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07786375164. If I can order in bulk then the regular egg will be £5.50 (as opposed to £6.20) and I can avoid delivery charges - but that depends on my receiving enough orders! Thank you.

Notice is hereby given of the intention to renew the **Electoral Roll** for St. Nicholas Church in 2026. This occurs annually, and this year will be between 14-28th March. Any new names may be added between these dates (Application & GDPR Forms available at the rear of the Church next to the PCC Board) and any existing persons who wish their names to be removed may do so in advance of the APCM Meeting scheduled for 19th April. For the latter, please advise me in writing (preferably by e-mail) within the due dates in March, as indicated above. Thank you.

Grenville Smith

Electoral Roll Officer

e-mail: chez.grenville@btinternet.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 this Tuesday at 7pm.

Have a word with Paul Cubitt if you are interested.

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 study 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 1 st March	Prayer and the Senses
Not on the 8 th 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: Sunday 24th May. If you are interested in being Confirmed/exploring the Christian faith, please contact the Rector.

Lent Courses

All are welcome to attend the Lent course running in Shipdham. This will run at The Rectory on Monday evenings with Rev Laura and in a home on Thursday afternoons with Rev Doreen. We shall be doing the Lentwise course by Paula Gooder. The course is described like this...'As we journey through life we face challenges - both big and small. What spiritual essentials will help us survive life's storms? Lentwise is a five session course that helps us deal with the rigours of real life.' Do contact Rev Laura or Rev Doreen for more information. Fliers are in all the churches.

Lent Lunches in Church House 12noon for 12.30pm

Fridays in Lent are February 27th, March 6th, March 13th (with Café Communion, 11.30 for 12noon) and March 20th.

Please get a free ticket (available on Sunday 1st February) from Sue Barker or call Church Office on 01362 693143 to help us with numbers for catering. All proceeds from the lunches will be split between Nelson's Journey and Church Funds.

This year's **World Day of Prayer** has been prepared by the women of Nigeria and will be held in the Trinity Methodist Church at 2pm on Friday March 6th. All are welcome and the service will be followed by refreshments.

Making connections at St Nicholas church. We are holding an **Air and Share** session to consider how we can improve the ways we welcome new people, how we keep in touch with those who can no longer attend regular services, and ways for us all to get to know each other better. Please join us on **Saturday 7th March, 10am in Church House.** Marion, Martin and Sheila.

'Thank you to all our St Nicholas church family for your prayers, cards and calls at this sad time. It has really helped to know you were thinking of me. Thank you also to all who came to Keith's Thanksgiving service to say 'good-bye'. He would have been very touched to see so many of you there. Finally thank you for the beautiful sanctuary flowers. They really cheered me up on a cold and snowy morning. I'm so grateful to you all for your love and support.
Marguerite Otty'

Anti Social Behaviour.

A Public Spaces Protection Order is being proposed for Dereham town centre, which includes St Nicholas churchyard area. Breckland Council are conducting a consultation into the proposal. To have your say go to www.breckland.gov.uk and put the word 'consultation' into the search bar, then follow the links. Paper forms are in the library and town council offices too. The survey closes end of February.

Eco Church During Lent we shall take part in the Climate Stewards Carbon Fast which will give us lots of ideas and help. *Do take a look at the Eco Church board* where there is a QR code linking you to all the details. For Week 1 the theme is re-connecting with nature - why not join the churchyard / Meadow working group? <https://climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast-for-lent>
Please contact me (details in Easter Egg notice) if you have any questions or would like some help. Many thanks, Kate.

Resurfacing Dereham Market Place & Church Street –Monday 2nd March, vehicle access from the High Street will not be possible, temp traffic signals on Withburga Lane.

Recently departed : Maureen Livingstone, Margaret Travis

Upcoming funerals : Maureen Livingstone, 26th Feb 2.30pm, Scarning

Those on the anniversary of their death : Marjorie Burton and David Webster.

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, and Thelma Smith.

Prayers and Collects

Invitation to confession

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and
faith.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the
wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to
your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his
grace. *cf Romans 5.1,2*

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and
living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
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
Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7
Romans 5.12-19
Matthew 4.1-11
Psalm 32

Next week's readings from
Genesis 12.1-4a
Romans 4.1-5,13-17
John 3.1-17
Psalm 121

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**