

SERVICES IN APRIL

Arrangements correct at time of going to press but please check the Benefice website.

SUNDAY 2 APRIL

9:30am North Elmham
9:30am Foxley
10:00am Guestwick
10:30am Bawdeswell
11:00am Stibbard
11:00am Twyford
11:00am Guist

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion (CW1)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Holy Communion (CW1)
Holy Communion (CW1)
Holy Communion (CW1)
All-Age Worship (CW1)

SUNDAY 9 APRIL

9:30am Billingford
10:00am Guestwick
11:00am Worthing
11:00am North Elmham

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion (CW2)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Morning Prayer (BCP)

SUNDAY 16 APRIL

9.30am North Elmham
9:30am Twyford
9:30am Billingford
10:00am Guestwick
10:30am Bawdeswell
11:00am Stibbard
11:00am Foxley
11:00am Worthing

Easter Day

Holy Communion (CW1)
Holy Communion (CW1)
Family Service
Family Service
The 10:30
Holy Communion (CW1)
Holy Communion (CW1)
Christ is Risen service

SUNDAY 23 April

9:30am Bintree
9:30am Billingford
9:30am Themelthorpe
10:00am Guestwick
10:30am Bawdeswell
11:00am North Elmham
11:00am Worthing
6:00pm Foxley

Second Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (CW1)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Holy Communion (CW1)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Word & Praise (CW1)
All-Age Worship (CW1)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Evening Prayer (BCP)

SUNDAY 30 April

10:30am Foulsham

Third Sunday of Easter

GROUP SERVICE

Happy Easter from:

The parishes of:
Bawdeswell
Billingford
Bintree
Foulsham
Foxley
Guestwick



Guist
North Elmham
Stibbard
Themelthorpe
Twyford
Wood Norton
Worthing

The parishes of:
Bawdeswell
Billingford
Bintree
Foulsham
Foxley
Guestwick



Guist
North Elmham
Stibbard
Themelthorpe
Twyford
Wood Norton
Worthing

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PEWS NEWS - APRIL 2017

Worship Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to complete our 2017 questionnaire. Below is a summary of your responses. They have shown us the diverse views that you have on worship, not only across the benefice, but also within individual parishes. You gave us lots of ideas about how worship could be improved and also what else you would like your church to offer you. We haven't the space to reproduce these ideas in Pews News, but we did share some of them with you at our feedback services. - *Many of you would like to see a greater focus on children within the benefice so we are proposing to set up an 'Open the Book' group to contribute to assemblies in our schools. (See info box inside)*

Why did you come to church today? For many of you, coming to church on Sunday is something you have always done. Most of you value this time to worship with fellow Christians and gain spiritual refreshment for the week ahead.

Which service do you enjoy most? Most of you said that you enjoy communion services best. Morning Prayer was also a popular choice, although a significant number of you had no preference. Those people who had experienced more informal worship, for example 'The 10.30', also chose this as their preference.

Which liturgy do you prefer? The benefice overall was evenly divided between those preferring The Book of Common Prayer with its traditional language and familiar text and more modern liturgies with relevant wording that could also engage new worshippers. There were also differing preferences within individual parishes.

Now that we are a larger benefice, we are able to have a variety of services and liturgies for you to choose from each week. We hope that by providing this variety, we are able to go some way towards meeting the needs of current worshippers.

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Which parts of worship mean most/least to you? You said that prayers and communion are the parts of worship that mean most to you, closely followed by hymn singing. The parts that mean least to you included either modern versions of worship or 'old language' services. Some of you also expressed concerns about the Peace.

Is singing an important part of worship? - Almost all of you felt that singing has an important place in worship. You said that singing is uplifting and gives the congregation an opportunity to join together in praise. You were however concerned that there are sometimes too many verses to sing if the congregation is small. *Would you like to be part of a singing group within the benefice? Could you lead a 'relaxed' group of singers who come together to enjoy singing and even perhaps contribute to benefice services? Please contact Revd Sally to find out more.*

Do you feel engaged with prayers throughout the service? - Just over half of you said that you feel engaged with prayers throughout the service. However, a significant number of you admitted that you lose concentration especially if the prayers are predictable and not relevant to everyday life. Some of you would like more opportunities for private prayer and open prayer. *A Deanery Prayer Workshop Day is being held on Saturday 13th May (10am-3.30pm) at Reepham St Mary's and St Michael's, exploring different styles of prayer. (See box see info box for full details)*

How important is the sermon to you? - Most of you thought that the sermon is an important part of worship. You expected it to give you encouragement and inspiration, be thought provoking and related to the modern world as well as giving you a deeper insight into the Christian faith. *You suggested a number of alternative approaches for delivering the message in the sermon which we hope to be able to use in the future.*

Could members of the congregation take a more active part in worship? - Most of you felt that the congregation could lead some prayers and do readings. For many of you, this already happens. For others, this will hopefully be something you will be able to do in the future if you want to. *Would you like some help in planning and leading intercessions? If the answer is yes, or you would just like some new ideas, come along to the Prayer Day (see boxed info overleaf) If you would like to be more involved in any way, please let Revd*

Should there be opportunities for more informal forms of worship in the benefice? - Approximately half of you thought that there should be opportunities for more informal forms of worship in the benefice and you offered a variety of suggestions for what this might be. *We will be exploring these ideas with you in the future.*

Do you attend services in other churches in the benefice? Over half of you said that you did attend services in other churches in the benefice either occasionally or on a more regular basis. You were sometimes stopped from doing so by lack of transport. *PCCs will be discussing possible solutions to transport problems.*

Would you attend services on a weekday? Some of you said that you would attend services on a weekday. The type of service you would attend ranged from a formal said Holy Communion to informal worship, for example House Church. *Again, we will be exploring these ideas with you in the future.*

**So..... what should our next steps be?
What would God want us to do?**

Dates for your Diary

Deanery Prayer Day Workshop

Saturday May 13th 10.30am - 3.30pm
Venue : St Mary's & St Michael's Reepham
Please bring a picnic lunch drinks provided.

A booking form will be available shortly..

NO CHARGE

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OPEN THE BOOK WORKSHOP DAY

Thursday May 25th 9.30am till 3.30pm
Venue: Bawdeswell Church
The day will start with Holy Communion to celebrate the Ascension.
Workshop begins at 10am.
Please bring a picnic lunch hot drinks provided.
To book your place or further info contact
Eunice on 01328 855665
or email stibbardchurch@btinternet.com

Revd Sally Kimmis Team Rector: her usual day off is **Friday. 48 Holt Road, North Elmham NR20 5JQ**
heartofnorfolkrector@gmail.com 01362 668850

Revd Canon Christopher Davies will be working three days a week and taking some of the Sunday services.
Contact is cjdoldrectory@gmail.com and mob: 07702 865412

Benefice Administrator (Vacancy)
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Future notices and info for Pews News should be sent to
Eunice Norwood at stibbardchurch@btinternet.com