

Dereham, Scarning,  
East Bilney, Hoe,



Swanton Morley, Beetley with  
Shipdham and Bradenham

## This Week in our Churches

<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd L Purnell
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd L Purnell
First Sunday Of Advent	9.30am	Parish Communion (BCP)	Hoe	The Revd P Cubitt
	11-5pm	Last day of Christmas Tree Festival,	Dereham	
	11.15am	Songs of Praise	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.15am	Morning Praise	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
	4.00pm	Advent Carol Service,	Bradenham	The Revd L Purnell
	5.00pm	Advent Carols	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.		
<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup></b>	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Advent Course	Shipdham Rectory	The Revd L Purnell
<b>Tue 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	2.30pm	Advent Bible study	Church House	Mr T Cross
	7.00pm	Alpha Course		Mark & Ruth Thorpe
<b>Wed 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.30-11am	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	
	7.00pm	Dereham PCC Meeting	Church House	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham	
<b>Thur 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Coffee, cake and company,	Swanton Morley	
	10.00am	Coffee morning	Shipdham	
	2.00pm	Advent Course	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup></b>	1.00pm	Funeral of Roy Downs	Breckland Crem	The Revd P Cubitt
	2-5pm	Reindeer Drive	Church House	
	3.30- 6pm	Christmas Tree Festival <i>With Thomas Bullock School</i>	Shipdham	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley	
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10-2pm	Christmas Craft Fare	Scarning	
	10-6pm	Christmas Tree Festival <i>(4.00pm with the Community Choir)</i>	Shipdham	
	12.30pm	Wedding	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Carols with the Band	Swanton Morley	
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Toy & Gift Service	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
Second Sunday Of Advent	10.30am	Cafe Carols	Bradenham Village Hall	The Bradenham Team
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	Scarning	Mr T Cross
	11.15am	Parish Communion	Swanton Morley	The Revd L Purnell
	2-4.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival	Shipdham	
	3.00pm	Carols for Advent and Christmas, Beetley		The Revd P Cubitt
	4.00pm	Carols & readings among the trees With Salvation Army,	Shipdham	
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.		

# News for the Pews

This afternoon St Andrew's, Bradenham welcomes all from the Benefice to our **Advent Carol service** at 4pm. The service will be by candlelight – you may like to bring a small torch or use your phone-torch to boost the candles. The O Antiphons will be sung by Kett's Consort and refreshments will be served afterwards. Our church car park is lit. Any queries please contact Diana MacMullen on 07831 117453.

**Advent Courses** – There are two courses open to all in the benefice. On Tuesday afternoons in Church house, Tom will be looking at the theme of God with us. On Monday evenings and Thursday afternoons Rev Doreen and Rev Laura will be looking at the themes of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. Please do contact Tom, Rev Doreen or Rev Laura for any more information – or just turn up!

**Benefice Prayer meeting** December 2<sup>nd</sup> – an invitation.

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 on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. 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, or send an email to [prayerrequestc777@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Shipdham Christmas Tree Festival** – will be taking place from **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. There will be an opening concert from the Thomas Bullock School choir (3.30pm), a concert on the Saturday by Shipdham Community Choir (4pm) and the festival will close with carols at 4pm on the Sunday with the Dereham Salvation Army Band.

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December St Nicholas Church Fundraising Committee are holding a **Reindeer Drive with festive refreshments** in Church House from 2 -5pm. Tickets are £7.00 each and are available in advance from Dianne Harbord in Church on Sunday's or by calling Dianne on 07943962593 or Susanne on 07523958508. All welcome.

**Christmas Craft Fare, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December** - 10am to 2pm - Scarning Church and Village Hall. With locally made gifts, crafts, woodcrafts, cakes, plants, preserves, beauty products, cards, books, tombola, games and super refreshments. We have room for a few more stalls. If you would like to book one, please call Tricia on 01362 687082.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am St Nicholas Church will be having our TOY AND GIFT SERVICE when we will also be celebrating the Feast of St Nicholas.**

**Toys;** These are distributed by the Salvation Army, who have told us that gifts are especially needed for teenagers and those with sensory needs. Where possible they would like one larger gift rather than a selection of small items so that the children have something special to open on Christmas morning. New, unwrapped gifts please.

**Financial Gifts;** Our financial position as the year end nears once again gives cause for concern, so we are asking for gifts towards the day to day running of our church, which remains an expensive affair. At present we expect to be short by £7000 of income over expenditure in the general account. Please help us to reach the end of the year in the black! Ways to give are on the pink sheets in the pews.

**Mothers' Union Meeting Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm in St Nicholas Church Chancel**

This will be an Advent Reflection led by Angela Hall and followed by seasonal refreshments. All partners and friends welcome.

The Friends of All Saints Church, Swanton Morley, are having a **Christmas Fair** in the church on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December between 12- 5.00pm to help raise funds for the repair and maintenance of the church building. There will be at least 18 craft and gift stalls, a Wish Tree, Santa's Postbox with letters and envelopes available so that you can send any last minute request to the North Pole, together with reasonably priced refreshments including some of the best cakes in Norfolk! Santa, and possibly some of his friends will be visiting during the afternoon. Free entry and parking.

**St Nicholas Church Fundraising Committee** will be holding their **Christmas Coffee Morning** in Church House, Dereham, on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 10am - 12.30pm. There will be a bottle stall, a tombola stall, cakes and savouries to purchase and of course, delicious refreshments. Plus Christmas music. If anyone would like to donate items for the stalls or donate cakes and/or savouries, please speak to a member of the Fundraising Committee or contact Debbie on 07925 040735 or Pauline on 07925 362146. We will be extremely grateful for any donations offered. Do please come and join us on the day and bring your friends. We would love to see you there.

'I would like to say thank you very much for the lovely Sanctuary Flowers given to me on Sunday. Thank you also for your prayers, love and support in recent weeks when my son was in the HDU at N&N Hospital – it meant so much. I am so pleased to say Michael is now at home and making excellent progress.  
With grateful thanks, Val McRoberts.'

**Update for the Building Project Fundraising at St Nicholas**

We are currently applying for grants to support Phase One of our project. We are awaiting decisions on five applications and Tom and Lynn are working hard to encourage further donations. So far we have £47,000 in the bank. Once we secure 50% of the cost, we can apply for larger match funding grants. Progress on Phase Two will be available in the New Year. Stay with us, we are making progress!  
Lynn (Building Project Chair)

**Recently departed :** Roy Downs.

**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, Pam Walker, Maureen & Peter Hart, Robin & Joan Loveday, also Tommy Barnes, Sandra Newton, The Revd Michael Newey and Melva Brunning.

# **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**

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the  
light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ

## **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**

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **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](mailto:teamrector.dereham@gmail.com)  
*rest day Monday*

Team Vicar  
The Rev'd Laura Purnell  
[revlaurapurnell@gmail.com](mailto: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 2.1-5  
Romans 13.11-14  
Matthew 24.36-44  
*Psalms 122*

Next week's readings from  
Isaiah 11.1-10  
Romans 15.4-13  
Matthew 3.1-12  
*Psalms 72.1-7, 18-19*

Church Office, Church House, Church Street, Dereham, NR19 1DN  
Telephone 01362 693143 email: [parish.office.dereham@gmail.com](mailto:parish.office.dereham@gmail.com) Website:

<http://derehamanddistrictteam.org.uk>

**Benefice Newsletter items:** [derehamanddistrictteam@gmail.com](mailto:derehamanddistrictteam@gmail.com)

**deadline 11am Tuesday**