

Dereham, Scarning,
East Bilney, Hoe,



Swanton Morley, Beetley with
Shipdham and Bradenham

This Week in our Churches

Week beginning 7th December, 2025

Sunday 7th Second Sunday of Advent	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Toy & Gift Service	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	10.30am	Cafe Carols	Bradenham Village Hall,	The Team
	11.15am	Morning Prayer	Scarning	Mr T Cross
	11.15am	Parish Communion	Swanton Morley	The Ven A Hawes
	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 <i>with Salvation Army</i> , Shipdham		
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.		
Mon 8th	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Dereham	
	7.30pm	Advent Course	Shipdham Rectory	The Revd L Purnell
Tue 9th	1.30-2.30pm	DJA Christingle	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	2.30pm	Advent Bible study	Church House	Mr T Cross
	7.00pm	Alpha Course		Mark & Ruth Thorpe
Wed 10th	9.30-11am	Pop up Pantry	Shipdham	
	10.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.00am	QDG Carol Service	Swanton Morley	
	11.30am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Ven A Hawes
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union meeting	St Nicks Chancel	
	7.00pm	Bell ringing practice	Scarning	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham	
Thur 11th	<i>Please pray for the interviews taking place today for the new Rector of the Mattishall Benefice</i>			
	10.00am	Coffee, cake and company, Swanton Morley		
	1.30pm	SMPS rehearsal	Swanton Morley	The Revd P Cubitt
	2.00pm	Advent Course	Shipdham	The Revd D Fotherby
Fri 12th	1.30-2.30pm	DJA Christingle	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley	
Sat 13th	10-12.30pm	Christmas coffee morning	Church House	
	12-5pm	Christmas Fair	Swanton Morley	
Sunday 14th Third Sunday of Advent	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
				The Revd M Newey
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Bradenham	The Revd L Purnell
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	East Bilney	Mrs L Crick
	9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Hoe	Mr T Cross
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Scarning	The Revd P Cubitt
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell

11.15am	Morning Prayer	Swanton Morley	Mrs L Crick
5.00pm	Christmas Carols & Readings <i>with the Mid Norfolk Singers</i> , Dereham		
7.00pm	Lessons and Carols	Hoe	The Revd M Newey

News for the Pews

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!

Mothers' Union Meeting Wednesday December 10th 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, 13th 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 13th 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.

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.

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)

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

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 : Derek Mortimer

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, Melva Brunning and Revd Michael Newey also Margaret Travis.

Psalm 72.1-7,18-19

- 1 Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.
- 2 Then shall he judge your people righteously
and your poor with justice.
- 3 May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people.
- 4 May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall righteousness flourish,
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wonderful things.
- 19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever.
May all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Prayers and Collects

Invitation to Confession

'The axe is laid at the root of the trees;
every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down.'
But confident in God's mercy we confess our sins.
cf Matthew 3.10

Collect

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

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

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
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
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
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 11.1-10
Romans 15.4-13
Matthew 3.1-12
Psalms 72.1-7, 18-19

Next week's readings from
Isaiah 35.1-10
James 5.7-10
Matthew 11.2-11