Dereham, Scarning, East Bilney, Hoe,

Dereham & District Team Ministry

Swanton Morley, Beetley with Shipdham and Bradenham

This Week in our Churches

Week beginning 8th March, 2026

Sunday 8th	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd L Purnell
	9.30am	Parish Communion	Dereham	The Revd L Purnell
Third Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Cafe Church	Bradenham Village Hall,	Mr M Purnell Mrs H Jeckells
	9.30am	Parish Communion	East Bilney	The Revd D Ackroyd
	9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Hoe	The Revd M Newey
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Scarning	The Revd J Fernando
	11.15am	Holy Communion	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
	11.15am	Morning Praise	Swanton Morley	The Revd M Newey

There is no Sacred Space today as the Revd Kirsty Long is being licensed as Rector to the Mattishall and Tudd Valley benefice at 5pm.

	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.		
Mon 9th	9.30am	Outdoor working party	Dereham	
	6.30pm	Bell ringers AGM	Church House	
	7.30pm	Lent Course	Shipdham Rectory	
Tues 10th	7.00pm	Pilgrim Course		Mark and Ruth Thorpe
Wed 11th	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
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Meeting	The Gatehouse	
	7.00pm	Bell ringing practice	Scarning	
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice	Shipdham	
Thur 12th	10.00am	Coffee, cake and company, Swanton Morley		
	2.00pm	Lent Course	Shipdham	
	7.30pm	Extra bell ringing practice	Dereham	
Fri 13th	12.00pm	Lent Lunch with Café Communion, Church House		
	4.00pm	Purple Day Service	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	7.30pm	Bell ringing	Swanton Morley	
Sunday 15th	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Service	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
Mothering Sunday	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Beetley	Mrs L Crick
	9.30am	Choral Matins	Bradenham	Revd L Purnell
	11.15am	Mothering Sunday Service	Scarning	The Revd M Newey
	11.15am	Morning Praise	Shipdham	The Revd L Purnell
	11.15am	All Age Communion for Mothering Sunday	Swanton Morley	The Revd P Cubitt
	3.00pm	Service	Eckling Grange	The Revd M Newey
	4.00pm	Sacred Space	Dereham	The Revd P Cubitt
	6.00pm	Compline, see on Facebook.		

News for the Pews

Easter Lilies at St Nicholas If you would like to help towards the cost of a lily in memory of a loved one, to be part of our church Easter decorations, please put £2.50 per lily in an envelope clearly marked EASTER LILIES, with your name and the name of the person to be remembered, and hand to a churchwarden or place in the letterbox of Church House by 15TH MARCH.

Bible notes readers. I will shortly be reordering the notes for the next twelve months. If anyone wants to make any changes or cancel their subscription please let me know asap. New readers will be most welcome. Thank you, Mary Jack.

Time 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**

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'.
Not on the 8th March (Licensing of the new Rector of Mattishall 5pm)

Sunday 15th March	Prayer and Music
Sunday 22nd March	Prayer and Language
Sunday 29th March	Prayer and Fasting
Sunday 5th April	Putting it together at Easter

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
Remaining Fridays in Lent are March 13th (with Café Communion, 11.30 for 12noon) and March 20th.
Please get a free ticket 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.

Mothers' Union Meeting Wednesday March 11th at 2.30 pm in the Gatehouse at Eckling Grange Unfortunately our speakers are not able to give their talk next week. Instead we will be having one of our Book meetings when members are invited to tell us about a favourite or significant book from the past or a new book that they have read more recently.

St Andrew's, Bradenham IP25 7QT: ***Kett's Consort***, conducted by Neil Starling are presenting a ***Reflection for Holy Week*** at 6pm on Weds 1st April at St Andrew's. Please join us for an hour of beautiful music by Byrd, Victoria, Schubert and others. Refreshments will be offered after the Reflection.

Confirmation: Sunday 24th May. If you are interested in being Confirmed/exploring the Christian faith, please contact the Rector.

Eco Church for Lent This week's challenge is to steward our money responsibly. Is your bank funding fossil fuel expansion or companies which exploit nature and people? Find out by looking at https://bank.green/ - you may be surprised! It is quite easy to switch to an Ethical Bank or Building Society so why not do that this Lent? More details on the Eco Church board.

To all my church family – Thank you for the lovely pink primrose that I received last Sunday, grateful loving thanks, Josie.

A47 Closure - There is another weekend full road closure planned from 8pm on Friday 20th March to 6am on Monday 23rd March 2026 for moving traffic onto the Wood Lane Junction.

Recently departed : Margaret Travis and David Hern.
Upcoming funerals : Margaret Travis, Tues 17th March, 11.00am, Shipdham
Those on the anniversary of their death : Simon Barrett, Leslie Gynn, Stanley Burton, Malcolm Farrant and Mary Clarke.

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.

Psalm 95

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
and be glad in him with psalms.
3 For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
4 In his hand are the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
6 Come, let us worship and bow down
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7 For he is our God;
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
8 O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
on that day at Massah in the wilderness,
9 'When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof,
though they had seen my works.
10 'Forty years long I detested that generation and said,
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."
11 'So I swore in my wrath,
"They shall not enter into my rest."'

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 most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
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

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
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
Exodus 17.1-7
Romans 5.1-11
John 4.5-42
Psalm 95

Next week's readings from
1 Samuel 16.1-13
Ephesians 5.8-14
John 9.1-41
Psalm 23