

## St Benet's at Waxham and Tunstead Deanery Prayer Diary June - August 2021

Please pray for:

1 - 6 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keith and Sue as they retire at Kings Beck, and for the people of the villages of Kings Beck as they move into vacancy.</li> <li>schools on half term this week.</li> <li>- Those on retreat and those working in retreat houses as they re-open</li> </ul>
7 - 13 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Walsham benefice in vacancy</li> <li>those who care for our churchyards and grounds</li> <li>those who work in health care in hospitals, surgeries and emergency care</li> </ul>
14 - 20 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stalham benefice</li> <li>all who work as volunteers across our churches and in the community</li> <li>those hoping to return to work from tomorrow</li> </ul>
21 - 27 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jane, as she is consecrated as Bishop of Kings Lynn on Wednesday</li> <li>those to be ordained as priests and deacons, especially Taylor, Edwin and Jo from our deanery</li> </ul>
28 June - 4 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Waterside group in vacancy</li> <li>retired clergy across the deanery, giving thanks for their ministry among us</li> <li>those looking for work</li> </ul>
5 - 11 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>those at sea and for safety along the coast</li> <li>bell ringers across the deanery</li> <li>couples getting married this year and all in committed relationships</li> </ul>
12 - 18 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wroxham benefice</li> <li>the meeting of Deanery Synod on Mon 12th at Barton Turf and for a closer working together and support for one another</li> <li>those being confirmed at Hickling on the 18th</li> <li>all who work in boatyards and the leisure industry on the Broads</li> </ul>
19 - 25 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal Group</li> <li>Licensed Lay Ministers</li> <li>all on holiday over these next few weeks and those who provide for them</li> </ul>
26 July - 1 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Benedicts Benefice and the annual service at St Benet's</li> <li>PCC Treasurers and Independent Examiners</li> <li>charities and organizations involved in conservation work - Broads Authority, Norfolk Wildlife Trust</li> </ul>
2 - 8 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bishops Graham and Alan, and Archdeacon Steven in their care for this deanery</li> <li>staff at Diocesan House and Granary Court</li> <li>politicians and all involved in local government</li> </ul>
9 - 15 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smallburgh benefice</li> <li>residents and staff at residential and care homes</li> <li>families and young people of the deanery</li> </ul>
16 - 22 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ministry teams across the deanery and all exploring vocation</li> <li>the Dean and Chapter and all involved in the life of Norwich Cathedral; all involved with the Dippy the Dinosaur Exhibition</li> <li>all who work for our local councils</li> </ul>
23 - 31 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>those beginning training as ordinands and licensed lay ministers</li> <li>Tim Sweeting as he prepares to begin his role as Diocesan Secretary</li> <li>confidence and courage to look for opportunities to share God's love; growth in our churches</li> </ul>

## St Benet's at Waxham and Tunstead Deanery Digest - June, July, August 2021

How good it is to be together again through our deanery newsletter! And wonderful to have news and events to share across the deanery and to be able to meet in person!

I am hoping that our deanery synod will meet again on Monday 12 July at 7:30pm at Barton Turf church. There are many items for us to consider – the new diocesan vision and the eco-church strategy will be part of our discussions. I would like us to think about how we can get to know one another better, encourage one another and share good news and things that have worked well.

I would also like us to have some fun, and find time to enjoy one another's company. So, if you have any ideas, please be in touch! Agendas will be sent out to deanery synod reps, but meetings are open to all, so if you would like to come along, you are very welcome.

This month also sees the election of Diocesan Synod by Deanery Synod reps. Diocesan synod is responsible for decision-making about the direction of the diocese. If you are on the electoral roll of your parish, you are eligible to stand. Our deanery has three lay reps and three clergy reps. Reverend David Smith has kindly offered to be the presiding officer for the lay elections, and will be in touch by email with synod reps. If you would like to stand for election, please contact him by email [draesmith2@btinternet.com](mailto:draesmith2@btinternet.com)

As well as sharing events planned for the summer months, this newsletter also includes articles from a number of local people who are celebrating significant milestones this quarter. Many congratulations to Pauline Simpson who celebrate 20 years of Reader ministry here. And our prayers and congratulations for Jo Haywood, who will be ordained as a deacon later this month, and moves from North Walsham to the Trunch benefice. We are sorry to see her go, and wish her every blessing for the future.

We are also delighted to welcome Revd Taylor Wilton-Morgan to the deanery, serving as Assistant Curate of the St Benedict's benefice, and our congratulations and prayers for Taylor as he is ordained as a priest at the end of the month.

I would also like to thank Lisa Tucker for the time and commitment she gives as the editor of this newsletter. We are looking for a new name for this newsletter and if you have suggestions, Lisa would be delighted to hear from you! Our next edition will cover September to November, so please send articles and events for inclusion to Lisa [tucker72@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tucker72@hotmail.co.uk)

I look forward to seeing you soon.

May God bless us and equip us as we move forward together.

*Catherine*

Revd Canon Catherine Dobson.  
Rector of The Coastal Group.  
Rural Dean, St Benet's at Waxham and Tunstead.

# Mothers' Union

[Broadland Area]

We hope most MU groups will be meeting in September, but until then, it's letter or telephone contact.

Outside meeting in the summer may be possible, but that obviously depends on the weather!

## THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

**A new challenge stands on my doorstep;  
With fragile caution I move  
to open the door for its entrance.  
My heart leaps with surprise,  
joy jumps in my eyes,  
for there, beside this brand-new opening,  
stands my God with outstretched hand!  
He smiles and gently asks  
"Can we walk this new phase together?"**



# The Friends of St Benet's Abbey

**FREE GUIDED TOURS AT ST BENET'S ABBEY ARE BACK!**



The volunteer guides for St. Benet' Abbey are ready once more to take you on a guided tour which will open your eyes & ears to the sights and stories of this iconic place in the heart of the Norfolk Broads.

TO BOOK A **FREE** GUIDED TOUR OF ST BENET'S ABBEY PLEASE VISIT EVENTBRITE  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/guided-tour-of-st-benets-abbey-tickets-152320184773>

Tours are on: **WEDNESDAYS, SATURDAYS  
& SUNDAYS** at 3PM

From 1 May to 20 June booking is essential as places are limited in order to comply with Covid regulations. We are hopeful that our regular tours will be able to resume from the 21<sup>st</sup> June with no restriction on numbers and no need to book if restrictions are sufficiently eased.

We, the guides, look forward to welcoming you on one of ours tours.

Marion

St Benet's Abbey Guide Coordinator  
Norfolk Archaeological Trust

# Coastal Group [www.coastalgoup.org.uk]

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead, Hickling, Lessingham & Eccles, Ridlington, Sea Palling & Waxham, Walcott, Witton]

## Happisburgh

### St. Mary's Happisburgh

We are delighted to say that **David Dunnett**, the Organist at Norwich Cathedral, has very kindly agreed to give another **celebrity Organ Recital** for us. This will be on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm**. Free entry with retiring donations for general funds and the organ fund. Please put this date in your diary. We'd love to see you and have your support.

There will also be recitals on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July (David Berwick)** and **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August (Elwyn Bowler)** – both at 7.30pm.  
**Everyone welcome!**



## Hickling

Summer Concert - St Mary's Church, Hickling, NR12 0BQ  
Singers Hayley Moss and Benjamin Lake  
Concert date: 24th July at 7.30 p.m.  
Ticket price: £15.00 includes Pimms and Puddings



# United Benefice of King's Beck

[Banningham, Colby, Felmingham, Skeyton, Sloley, Suffield, Swanton Abbott & Tuttington]

*"Eight Buildings – one Church - with God at the Centre".*

The Benefice says farewell to Rector, Keith Dally and Licensed Lay Minister, Sue Smith, on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June as they prepare to head for retirement in Lincolnshire. Sue has also retired from her role as Sub-Warden of Readers (now LLMs) for Norfolk East.

When Keith & Sue (yes, they are married – to each other!) came in October 2013, Bishop Graham James remarked that the Benefice had got a B.O.G.O.F.I. Together, and with the support of the Churchwardens, PCC and Ministry Team, they have worked to develop the Church's Ministry and Mission to the eight villages of the Benefice (there were only six when they started!)

"There have been many highlights", said Keith," but the overarching memory will be of God's Family working together as 'One Church' to reach out in many different ways to our communities, our two primary schools and the wider world through such things as World Day of Prayer, Christian Aid, Children's Society, the Food Bank and issues such as Mental Health Awareness"

Sue started a weekly Benefice Drop-in Café which spawned a Women's Group, a Walking Group and even Guerrilla Gardeners! Individual churches have been encouraged to develop local coffee mornings that reach out to their communities and in ways that meet specific needs.

During their time, they have headed up Flower Festivals and Craft Fairs, commemorated the World War One Centenary with a new War Memorial for Felmingham and also marked the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Architect William Talman by having his grave in Felmingham churchyard restored.

"As the Benefice moves into Interregnum (or Vacancy) with all its uncertainties, we give all the Glory and Thanks to God for how he has inspired his people here" . "We are confident that, under His continued guidance and in the power of the Spirit, all involved will rise to the challenges that lie ahead"

In the meantime, PCC Lay Chair Heather McEwen will be the Benefice contact.  
[heathermcewenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:heathermcewenchurch@gmail.com). Tel: 01692 407345.

[www.achurchnearyou.com/kingsbeck](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/kingsbeck)

# Benefice of St Benedict

[Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf, Irstead, Horning, Neatishead]



**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>  
August 2021  
6.30pm  
New Victory  
Hall,  
Neatishead  
Join Lee and  
Lauren**



professional singers from  
**'Cruise and Maritime  
Voyages'** for a 'night on  
board' at the New Victory  
Hall, Neatishead.

**Joint Fundraising Event in aid of St Peter's Church  
Bell Restoration project and Giving hair and Hope  
to children and young people by providing wigs and  
funding vital research into childhood cancers.**

**Licensed Bar**

**Tickets at £15 to include pre-theatre supper from  
Pauline Simpson, tel: 07818 599303 or email  
[pauline761@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline761@btinternet.com)**

# North Walsham Benefice

[North Walsham, Edingthorpe, Worstead & Westwick]

Jo Haywood – Ordinand at St Nicholas', North Walsham – muses on vocation, training and moving on.

**Do you ask ever yourself: how could God possibly use someone like me?**

Well over the years, that's what I've repeatedly asked myself. Especially over the last couple of years that I've been in training. Well, actually in 'formation'. I have been training with the Eastern Region Ministry Course on their two-year, full-time, context-based pathway and academic study has been a large part of this. But most important of all has been the ongoing formation – the way in which God has been taking me and gently – and sometimes not so gently – shaping me and changing me and preparing me for ministry. And during that time, I've asked that question repeatedly – how could God possibly use someone like me? Someone who has seen a fair bit of life, not all of it good, married, divorced, single mum, repeated career starter – and abandoner. I suppose you could say, variety has definitely been the spice of my life! But through all the ups and downs, God has been a constant. I may not always have been aware of this at the time, but looking back, it's quite clear that, yes, he really was there, supporting and upholding me, through the people he placed around me and the opportunities which opened up at just the right time. It was through my son that God gently drew me back to himself and opened up new possibilities. First through the church and the Bible Study group – with creche – and holiday clubs which I attended and then helped at. Then when it was time for my son to go to school, the choice of a church school was the obvious one. Six weeks after he started in Reception a vacancy occurred for a parent governor and I was encouraged to stand. Serving my local community and church, opened up my vocation as a teacher. I finished the degree I'd abandoned in my 20's, enrolled on a post-graduate certificate in primary education and worked into the night to qualify. It was clear to me that God's hand was on me throughout this whole time, and that I was serving my calling by teaching in challenging community schools, where deprivation and poor life skills were an everyday occurrence. The opportunity to really make a difference to families for whom adversity was real, with homelessness and abuse commonplace, to be salt and light in a darker world, was underpinned by the sense that I was where God wanted me to be. These were fruitful years followed by difficult times, leading to early retirement and my move to Norfolk four years ago. I thought I'd arrived to start something new, maybe a B&B or to develop my new interest in textile art, or maybe just to walk and rest..... But God's plan was still ongoing, and the vocation I'd had as a teacher was about to change direction..... I'd not been here long when God gave me a tap on the shoulder and said – 'I haven't finished with you yet' – and the discernment of direction began again, leading to me starting training, serving in the North Walsham benefice, through a pandemic and a vacancy. I'm now just 5 weeks away from being ordained Deacon and will move to become Assistant Curate in The Trunch Group. It still seems surreal at times, but I know that God's plans are still unfolding, being revealed little by little. Formation has taught me that our God is a God of surprises and that trying to second-guess His next move is rarely fruitful! I may be about to acquire a collar, and a title – literally – that's what a curacy is – 'a title' - and my journey through life will have been different from those around me. But we all carry God's love and the commission to 'go and make disciples', ordained or not. So, it is not up to us to say 'how could God use someone like me?' but more to say how could God NOT use someone like me. We are precious to God, made in His image, and all that has happened to us, all our life experiences, just prepares us for the roles and vocations He still has for us.



Morsbag' making – sustainable sewing in church: reduce, reuse, recycle. Receiving a grant from the Community Shop. Ministry Team at St Nicholas', North Walsham. Rev Canon Paul Cubitt's leaving service.

# North Walsham Benefice

[North Walsham, Edingthorpe, Worstead & Westwick]

The Bishop's Day of Prayer – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021

This was an opportunity for us to lead prayers committing us to the Diocesan Vision: a commitment to deepen our prayer life, to support all our vocations and pray for how best to serve our communities, and to be prophetic in our response to the world. Each Deanery was given a short time to pray for the particular needs of their Deanery in a different part of the Cathedral so prayers were said throughout the cathedral and some of the grounds during the day. Our Deanery was privileged to pray in St Catherine's Chapel a beautiful, "thin" place: a map of the Deanery with candles for each Benefice helped us focus our prayers. And so, we prayed, using our own prayers, prayers of St Benedict and others, the words of hymns and especially silence. We were joined for our prayers by Bishop Graham and Dean Jane who thanked us for our contribution. The stillness of the Cathedral makes it easy to pray and we agreed after what a moving experience it was to pray for our beautiful part of the world. Stephen Whittleton, Deanery Secretary and North Walsham Synod rep



# Benefice of St Benedict

[Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf, Irstead, Horning, Neatishead]



**Pauline Simpson BEM – 20 years as a Licensed Lay Reader as part of 30 years of Ministry in the Horning Group of Parishes**

I moved to Neatishead in 1987 and for the first two years with a very demanding job there was little or no time to engage in community activities, let alone church. I have to admit that although being brought up in a Christian household and attending church and Sunday school (my mother was a Methodist and my father a member of the congregational church), I had lapsed from church going in my twenties and early thirties. However, that was all to change when my daughter Anna arrived in 1989 as my very first visitor on return from hospital was the vicar of the then parishes of Neatishead, Barton Turf and Irstead, Rev'd Arthur Green. As it happened Mothering Sunday was a couple of weeks away and Arthur invited me to attend the service at Irstead. Attendance at this service subsequently changed my whole life - from joining the choir to attending pram services at the Rectory with other mums and toddlers. Then

followed confirmation classes and confirmation at Norwich Cathedral in November 1990 by Bishop Peter. I owe my initiation into children's work in these parishes to Arthur's wife Vera. Holy Week was a great time for the children at St Peters Church with Vera (whilst the adults attended the more formal services at Barton Turf), – making the Easter garden, craft work and rehearsing for the Good Friday drama and music production. This was to become my responsibility when Arthur and Vera retired. Our parishes then entered a period of just over 2 years in an interregnum and with the support of the churchwardens I started to run the family services and those all-important church festival services which involved children and young people and formed a children's midweek club. Our three parishes were then joined by Horning and Ashmanhaugh and on the arrival of a new priest I was encouraged to apply and be accepted for Reader Training. The majority of my Ministry has been involved with children and young people. Leading the annual Crib Service for 25 years has been a highlight and introducing Christingle to these parishes and their schools plus organising the first Palm Sunday walk in 1998 are a legacy of which I am very proud. A 12-year period of working with school visits at the Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham gave me the opportunity to become involved with the Diocesan Children's Officer presenting music workshops for children's leaders and leading Safeguarding training across the Diocese, as well as assisting with children's events at the Cathedral. AS well as my ministry within this Benefice, I was privileged to have been appointed by Bishop Graham James as Chaplain to former far east prisoners of war, my father being in captivity for 3 and a half years in Thailand and Singapore. This is quite a commitment but a very rewarding and humbling one. An eventful time over a period of 30 years (not without its ups and downs) and 7 priests have put up with me! I certainly owe much gratitude to both Arthur and Vera in enabling me to respond to a call which I sincerely believe could so easily have passed me by had I not accepted his invitation in 1989 but I count myself as having been truly blessed.

# Stalham Benefice

[Stalham, Sutton, Ingham, East Ruston & Brunstead]

We have only just begun to plan events for this year so not much to report at the moment – but details of these events and any others will appear on our website [www.stalhambenefice.org.uk](http://www.stalhambenefice.org.uk)

## Sutton Open Gardens and Flower Festival

To be held around Sutton and in St. Michael's Church  
Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June



In aid of the kitchen & toilet fund.

## Tuesday Coffee & Cake Stall St Mary's Stalham

Coffee and tea and 'eat-in' cake will be available  
from June onwards at St Mary's Stalham,  
Tuesday mornings from 9am-midday.



Covid safety measures will be in place.  
We look forward to seeing our regulars again and  
meeting new visitors too.

## Vintage Street Market

on **Stalham High  
Street**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>  
August**

**10am – 4pm**

Refreshments will be  
available at St  
Mary's Stalham from  
midday onwards.

# Waterside Benefice

[Catfield, Hickling, Ludham, Potter Heigham,]

*The Annual Service at St Benet's Abbey, Ludham will take place on Sunday 1 August at 3.30 pm. It will be led by the Rt Reverend Graham Usher, Abbot of St Benet's Abbey and Bishop of Norwich who will arrive by wherry. This ecumenical service is open to all and supported by the Community of St Benet's Abbey. For further information please contact the Abbey Prior and Rector of the Horning Benefice, Rev. David Smith - 01692 630216, email - [draesmith2@btinternet.com](mailto:draesmith2@btinternet.com)*