

# AMELCOTE BENEFICE



## The Messenger

February – March 2019

**Rector, the Reverend Canon Káren Jongman**

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Honorary Assistant Priest (Retired), The Reverend Hugh Kent

Readers: Sue Titheridge

Certified Lay Worship Leader: Jean Pugh 07711 329 664

### Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830 287
Gayton	David Coppock	01604 859 645
	Andy Hartley	01604 858 360
Pattishall	Chris Bulleid	07934 589 685
	Gail Stuart	07766 663 008
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350 077
	Philip Titheridge	01327 351 219

Please note EARLY DEADLINE for the April-May Messenger  
Wednesday 20 March. Please email [amelcote.messenger@gmail.com](mailto:amelcote.messenger@gmail.com)  
or give to one of the churchwardens to pass on to the Editor.

☺ Thank you ☺

## A Note from the Rectory

One of my favourite verses in the Bible is from Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” In other words, listen to God’s voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he’s the one who will keep you on track.

Learning verses in the Bible is one of the ways you can write God’s word on the tablet of your heart. When I was growing up and attending Sunday School, each week we learnt a verse, and had some practical teaching on how to live by that verse. Over the years that has helped me to stay close to God.

During my marriage each morning with my husband we read a passage from the scriptures together, not a long passage, just a few verses, and then as we prayed together those verses became embedded in our hearts. This became so necessary over the years, that we began to get up much earlier so that we could spend more time in God’s word and developed a healthy respect for Him to lead us to Run to God! And to Run from evil! God promises that “this will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones” (Proverbs 3:8). In other words, there is a connection between the spiritual and physical.

As you grow closer to God you become more and more aware of how you need to give Him the very best, and that you want to get to Him first before you do anything else, and then give him the first part of you each morning, and every morning. Over the years I have discovered that when I give God the first part of me, everything I have including my income, not the last bit, but the first bit, He supplies all my needs, not my wants, but my needs.

There is another verse in Proverbs (3:10) which says, “your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” Now, doesn’t that sound good to you?

I pray that this year you will read God’s Words, learn and live by them so that they can bring honour to your name.

To help you this Lent, which begins on Wednesday March the 6<sup>th</sup>, why not join some of us to study the Beatitudes, “The Beautiful Words of God”. The Study has been written by the Bishop of Oxford, and is especially for Lent. It has a short reading from the Bible each day. Our Archbishop Justin Welby is commending the Study; it is part of “Thy Kingdom Come” (also available on an app, for those of you who are computer buffs). If you would like to know more contact me or meet up with me and some others to discuss each week, my contact details are on the cover page. More information below and to follow!

*Love in Christ,*

*Reverend Káren*

**Thy Kingdom Come** is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. For further information about ‘Thy Kingdom Come,’ please visit their website: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> .

For a taster of the Beatitudes study materials visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/node/21364/printable/print> where you can download a sample.

## Readings for February & March 2019

3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Hebrews 2:14-end	Luke 2:22-40
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Isaiah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
17 <sup>th</sup> February	Jeremiah 17:5-10 1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Genesis 2:4b-9 Revelation 4	Luke 8:22-25
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Exodus 34:29-end 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Deuteronomy 26:1-1 1 Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Genesis 15:1-12 Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 14:31-end
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Isaiah 7:10-14 Hebrews 10:4-10	Luke 1:26-38
31 <sup>st</sup> March	Exodus 2:1-10 Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:33-35
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8

**Did you know...?** Each of the churches in our Benefice has a presence on the Church of England's 'A Church Near You' website – visit <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> and then search for the name of your church. This is a great way for people to find out more about us, our worship, community work, events and, of course, the buildings themselves. Reverend Káren and Chris Bulleid have recently added some content to the Holy Cross page – check it out on <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16505/>.

A Message from Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton

## Albatross

**F**ifty years ago, in February 1969, 'Albatross' by Fleetwood Mac was at Number One in the UK charts. It's a classic instrumental and definitely worth a listen ... but not until you've read the rest of this article.



However, I must confess that the word 'albatross' does not take my thoughts solely in a Fleetwood Mac direction. It also leads me to Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Remember that from your school days? A brief partial summary would be that the Mariner's ship is in trouble until suddenly an albatross appears in the sky. Then everything seems to go well ... until, inexplicably, the Ancient Mariner shoots the albatross. From that point on, tragedy follows tragedy for the crew, and, as a reminder of his rash stupidity, the crew blame the Mariner and hang the albatross around his neck: *Instead of the cross, the Albatross / About my neck was hung*.

It's a strange poem which may owe some of its quirkiness to Coleridge's opium habit! But before you return to Fleetwood Mac...

Coleridge offers us some memorable and vivid lessons in this poem. Here's one of them – sometimes we carry our mistakes around our neck as a permanent reminder. Our future can be shaped by the failures of our past. The burden of our sin (as the *Book of Common Prayer* states so succinctly) is "intolerable".

What does the Bible have to say about this? "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:11,12)

Because of the cross and the loving grace and mercy of God, we do not have to carry the burden of our sin around our neck for all to see. In this 50th anniversary of 'Albatross', thank God for his eternal solution to our sinfulness. As Jesus said to a woman who had been publicly shamed: "... Neither do I condemn you. Go now and leave your life of sin." Start again. Let it go.

Ormston



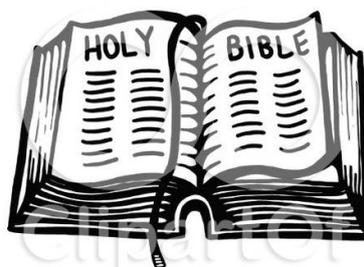
## The Amelcote Group of Parishes: Services for February

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Church</b>
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.30am	CW Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February Presentation of Christ	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Gayton
	9.30am	Morning Worship	Tiffield
	11am	Family Service	Pattishall
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am	BCP Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb Fourth Sunday before Lent	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Cold Higham
	11am	CW Holy Communion	Tiffield
	6pm	Evensong	Pattishall
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am	CW Holy Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb Third Sunday before Lent	9.30am	Morning Worship	Cold Higham
	11am	Morning Worship	Gayton
	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Pattishall
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am	BCP Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10am	Benefice CW Family Communion	Pattishall
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am	CW Holy Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Gayton
	9.30am	Morning Worship	Tiffield
	11am	Family Service	Pattishall
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March Ash Wednesday	9.30am	CW Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes	Pattishall
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March First Sunday in Lent	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Cold Higham
	11am	CW Holy Communion	Tiffield
	11am	Morning Worship	Pattishall
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	CW Holy Communion	Pattishall

# Pattishall, Cold Higham, Gayton and Tiffield & March 2019



Date	Time	Service	Church
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March Second Sunday in Lent	9.30am	Morning Worship	Cold Higham
	11am	Morning Worship	Gayton
	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Pattishall
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	BCP Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary	10am	Benefice CW Family Communion	Cold Higham
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	10am	CW Holy Communion	Pattishall
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March Mothering Sunday	<b><i>Service arrangements to be confirmed Please see weekly sheet</i></b>		
Sunday 7 April Fifth Sunday in Lent	9.30am	CW Family Communion	Gayton
	9.30am	Morning Worship	Tiffield
	11am	Family Service	Pattishall



## Supporting our Churches

Ensure that your regular giving to your church is maximised at no cost in money, time, or effort to you by giving through Peterborough Diocese. You can set up a standing order mandate payable to the diocese, who will then give the money plus the tax refund (as long as you are a UK taxpayer) to your church every month. For details, please ask your church treasurer.

***For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.***



# Food for Spirit, Mind and Body...

## Well Group – Monthly Women’s Luncheon and Fellowship

The Well Group meets on the last Thursday of each month from 12-2pm at Astcote Methodist Church. We welcome any woman who would like to have lunch and hear a short talk on a subject related to the Christian faith.

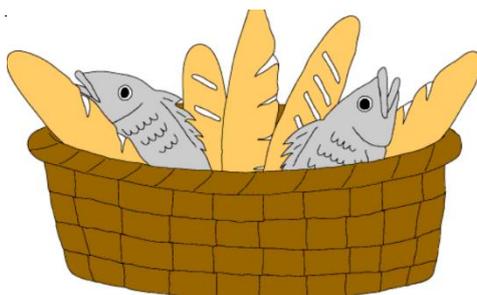
Please contact Alison Brierley [albrierley@btinternet.com](mailto:albrierley@btinternet.com) 07794 742 286 or Ann Atkin [ann.atkin51@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.atkin51@btinternet.com) 01327 830 907 to book a place for lunch, or to find out more.

**31 January** – Sue Titheridge – A Bible reflection

**28 February** – a Cynthia Spencer staff member will speak about the Hospice

**28 March** – Rev Brian Kennard will speak about Prison Chaplaincy

**25 April** – Caroline Gooch and Roger Harris will speak about Age UK



### Winter Warmer Lunch at Holy Cross Sunday 3 February / 12.30-2.30pm

Enjoy a friendly chat over a warming lunch of soup, bread and a hot drink  
No need to RSVP; donations welcome

### Please join us for Prayer Breakfast on the last Saturday of each month

**Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> / Mar 30<sup>th</sup> at 8.30am**  
Venues TBC – Please contact  
Sue Titheridge 01327 351219

### A Prayer Meeting at Holy Cross

Monday 4 March 10am – 12 noon  
Beginning with refreshments, please join Rev Káren and some of her friends to pray for the Benefice and for the Nation.

### Bible Study Group

The next group of sessions focusing on the Beatitudes will begin on Wednesday 6 March at Holy Cross. If you are interested or would like to find out more please contact Rev Káren (details front cover).

## Food for Thought...

### **Justin Brierley's Interview with the Archbishop of Canterbury**

Some of you will know that Alison and Crofton Brierley's son, Justin, works for Premier Christian Radio, presenting their flagship programme *Unbelievable?* every Saturday at 2.30pm. The show brings Christians and non-Christians together for dialogue and has produced an annual evangelism and apologetics conference. Justin's book *Unbelievable? Why, after ten years of talking with atheists, I'm still a Christian* (SPCK) is available from [www.unbelievablebook.co.uk](http://www.unbelievablebook.co.uk).

Justin's recent interview with the Archbishop of Canterbury is well worth a listen – find it here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTCUggL3a0Q's> (or do a Google search with the words 'Premier Radio interview Archbishop Canterbury Justin Brierley' and that should find it.)

With many thanks to 'proud mum' Alison for bringing this to the attention of the Prayer Breakfast in January – half an hour of thought-provoking listening.

## ...and Food for Action

Although it's a late Easter this year, some of us may already be thinking about what we will 'give up' for Lent. In past years I've said a temporary goodbye to chocolate, sugar, meat and alcohol – tho not all at once! Another year I followed my cousin's example to 'spring clean' a cupboard or drawer every day and donate the items we no longer needed or wanted to a charity.

I recently read about the new 'planetary health diet'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-46865204> - not a 'diet' as such, but rather a way that we can all tread more lightly on the earth and (possibly) slow or stop the horrendous environmental damage that we have inflicted upon it. It involves eating largely plant-based foods (kudos to you already-veggies), but also greatly reduced portions (by Western standards), with protein coming largely from pulses and nuts. I'm not sure whether I can commit to this for all of Lent – have a holiday to the US in the middle and my stepmum is a good cook! – but am planning to follow this plan for at least a fortnight to find out what a global diet to save the planet is like in practice.

Will you be 'giving up' anything for Lent this year? Please send your thoughts to me and I'll include in the next Messenger.

*All good wishes, Kirsten*  
(Messenger Editor)

## **Thank You for the Beautiful Crib & Epiphany Services!**

We know it was several weeks ago but we would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Christmas Eve Crib and Epiphany Services so beautiful and the perfect way to prepare for Christmas Day and then with renewed inspiration to go forward into the New Year.

To have the children, quite literally, in the centre at the Crib Service was a reminder of how we are told in the Gospels that Jesus placed a child in the centre and said that we should all become “as little children”. The Epiphany Service, with the arrival of the “Magi” bearing their gifts, led us on into the celebration of other later significant moments in Jesus’ life.

So again, thanks to all who worked hard to make these services wonderful, from the makers of fluffy sheep to the ringers, singers, the readers and, not least, Reverend Káren.

*Yvonne & Brian Englefield*

*The Communal Christmas Card displayed at Holy Cross Church raised a donation of £30 for World Vision.*

*Many thanks to all, Alison Brierley*

## **Messy Church is On Tour!**

**Enjoy some creative play, a snack, and a Bible story**

2-3.30pm on the following Saturdays:

9th February at Pattishall School

9th March at Astcote Chapel

13th April at Holy Cross

***Messy Church is a partnership between Holy Cross Church and Astcote Methodist Chapel – thank you to the volunteers who make it happen!***



If Music be the Food of Love – there must be lots of love in the Amelcote Benefice...

**'Bring & Sing Messiah' Holy Cross – Saturday 9 Feb from 9.00am**  
**A FEW PLACES STILL AVAILABLE!**

Led by Nigel Perrin, founder member of the Kings Singers and highly regarded choral director, and accompanied by Andrew King, a leading local keyboard performer and teacher.

£25 to sing / £5 to listen – booking essential ASAP via Gail Stuart.



**Holy Cross Church**  
**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - 2.30-4.00pm**

**Enjoy afternoon refreshments  
and some fabulous music with**  
**The Great Central Big Band**

**Refreshments and Bar**  
**Tickets £10 (under 12s free)**  
**from Wendy Watts 07906 077055**  
**Proceeds to Church Funds**

**Don't miss the Award-  
Winning**  
**NORTHAMPTON MALE VOICE  
CHOIR**

**Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm**  
**Holy Cross Church, Pattishall**



**Refreshments including Bar**  
**Tickets £10 (under 12s free) from Wendy Watts**  
**07906 077 055**

## Dates for Your Diary – full details inside

Thu 31 Jan	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel
Sun 3 Feb	12.30-2.30pm	Winter Warmer soup & bread lunch at Holy Cross – no need to RSVP
Sat 9 Feb	2-3.30pm	Messy Church at Pattishall School
	9.00am 4.30pm	Bring & Sing Messiah workshop day HC Scratch Messiah performance at HC
Sat 23 Feb	8.30-10am	Prayer Breakfast – venue tbc
Thu 28 Feb	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel
Sun 3 March	2.30-4pm	Great Central Big Band at Holy Cross
Mon 4 Mar	10-12noon	Prayer meeting at Holy Cross
Wed 6 Mar	Time TBC	Lent Bible Study based on the Beatitudes begins – more information from Rev Káren
Sat 9 March	2-3.30pm	Messy Church at Astcote Chapel
Wed 20 Mar	ALL DAY	Messenger Deadline – to cover April & May, plus forward dates!
Thu 28 Mar	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel
Sat 30 Mar	8.30-10am	Prayer Breakfast – venue tbc
Sat 13 April	2-3.30pm	Messy Church at Holy Cross, Pattishall
Thu 25 April	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel
Sat 27 April	7.30pm	Northampton Male Voice Choir Concert at Holy Cross, Pattishall

