

# Horsford Benefice Weekly News Sheet

*Parishes of Felthorpe, Hevingham & Horsford*

Sunday 21 February 2021: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

## Readings

Genesis 9: 8-17; Psalm 25: 1–10; 1 Peter 3: 18-22; Mark 1: 9-15

## Collect

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert:

help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer

that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Specific prayers for this coming week:

- For the family & friends of those whose funerals take place shortly:
  - John Bambridge, 26 February, a graveside service at Hevingham churchyard
  - David Sheldon, 3 March, Earlham Crematorium
  - Barry Chenery, 5 March, St Faith's Crematorium
- Horsford Church Room AGM, Monday, 7pm, via zoom

## Jennie Reynolds, Horsford PCC Secretary

It is with great sadness I write of Jennie's dying from Covid 19 on Thursday evening. As those of you who have served on the PCC for the past 2 ½ years know, Jennie was a fabulous PCC secretary. She was also personally encouraging of me in my approach and ministry. Please pray for her family in this most difficult time.

## Prayer for the Nation week 4:

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you. In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.

Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders.

Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.

Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days,  
turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. Amen.

## All Saints Jar Collections

Thank you for those who have donated this way; the 2000/2021 total is £25. Although much less than previous years, we know this is because we've not been using so much cash and/or being in lockdown. There are jars available again in church to collect or, if you would like one delivered, let Margaret know and she'll arrange this for you.

**Benefice Website:** [www.horsfordbenefice.org.uk](http://www.horsfordbenefice.org.uk)

There's been a lot of development so do take a look. The information for each of the Parishes will have some substantial changes in due course. Thanks to those involved.

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## Sunday Reflection by Richard Turk, Ordinand

This week's readings have a common theme: water.

In the reading from Genesis there has just been a flood and we are given the sign of the rainbow. In the Gospel reading water is used for baptism. And Peter's first letter brings the two together. We see water as the means for hope; the rainbow cannot appear in the sky without the presence of water. We see water as symbolising new life.

But water also symbolises death. In baptism, we die to sin and are born again. The flood that preceded the rainbow was a means of destruction, the way in which God 'cut off all flesh' and was to 'destroy the earth.' From this death, new life was given. God made a promise to every living creature. This is one of the first parts of scripture that most children are taught. I imagine most of us feel we are familiar with this part of the Old Testament. Yet how often do we remember that the promise God made was to *every* living creature? How many of us fall into the trap of thinking that God's promises only apply to us as human beings?

If we remember that God is concerned for all of His creation, how might that change the way we think about our place within it, and our responsibility for it?

What might we need to do differently?

God might not send another flood, but our own actions are affecting the water of His creation.

## Our Benefice Team

<b>Rector:</b>	Rev Margaret McPhee revmargaretmcphee@gmail.com 1B Gordon Godfrey Way, Horsford NR10 3SG <i><b>Margaret's day off is Thursday &amp; also 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month</b></i>	01603 893108
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Richard McPhee	01603 893108
<b>Home Communion Team:</b>	Rev Margaret McPhee  Richard McPhee  Brian Rowlands	01603 893108  01603 893108  01603 754763
<b>Toddler Group Leader:</b>	Lizzie Baker	01603 893824
<b>Church Wardens:</b> <i><b>Felthorpe</b></i>	Brian Rowlands	01603 754763
<i><b>Hevingham:</b></i>	Mike Delph	01603 754427
<i><b>Horsford:</b></i>	Vacant: contact Rev Margaret	
<i><b>Benefice Safeguarding Officer:</b></i>	Susan Jarvis	01603 279238
<i><b>Electoral Roll Officers</b></i> <i><b>Felthorpe:</b></i> <i><b>Hevingham:</b></i> <i><b>Horsford:</b></i>	Brian Rowlands Vacant: contact Rev Margaret Rachel Stowell	

**For home communion, christenings, weddings and funerals  
contact Rev Margaret McPhee, [revmargaretmcphee@gmail.com](mailto:revmargaretmcphee@gmail.com)**

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