

Horsford Benefice Weekly News Sheet

Parishes of Felthorpe, Hevingham & Horsford

Sunday 28 February 2021: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Readings

Genesis 17: 1-7,15-16; Psalm 22: 23 to end; Romans 4: 13 to the end;
Mark 8: 31 to the end

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Specific prayers for this coming week:

- For the Church Warden elections on Sunday 11 April
- For the preparations for the Annual Reports and Annual Parochial Church meeting taking place in May
- For Margaret as she meets with her Curate Cluster group on Saturday
- For the family & friends of those whose funerals take place shortly:
 - David Sheldon, 3 March, Earlham Crematorium
 - Barry Chenery, 5 March, St Faith's Crematorium
 - Jennie Reynolds, 17 March, St Faith's Crematorium

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Sunday Reflection by Revd Wendy Saunders

As a hospice chaplain I often saw that the person dying had accepted what was happening and was at peace. It was their family and friends who found the journey much more difficult and where the chaplains did most of our work. Nobody wants someone they love to suffer and die and it is pure agony to watch it happening. So we can all understand Peter's reaction when Jesus tells his disciples he must undergo great suffering and be killed and after three days rise again. Peter immediately recoils from the very idea that Jesus should suffer and die.

Peter is just being human but Jesus needs his disciples to focus on divine things. I often wonder how Peter felt at being rebuked, and told "Get behind me, Satan!" As ever he had the best of intentions and as ever totally failed to understand what Jesus was about. The human things prevented him seeing the divine things.

Suffering has always been a problem; we struggle to understand how it can possibly be a 'divine thing'. We see it destroy faith in one person and yet deepen it for another. But we trust that suffering and death is not the end of the story. The light has come into the world and no darkness shall overcome it. We though must live through the suffering and death before love rises again. We must focus on the divine things and not the human things that always wants to shortcut to the resurrection without going through the Cross. We all look forward to an end to the sorrow and suffering this virus has caused, and to resuming our fellowship as part of the church of Jesus Christ. The pandemic has been part of that journey not an interruption to it.

Resumption of Services

Following the Prime Minister's announcement this week, I am now awaiting guidance from the Church of England and the Diocese about resumption of Sunday and other services.

I hope that we will have at least 1 service in the Benefice on Easter Sunday where we can come together to share the joy of the risen Christ and receive communion in some form. I am also talking to the Ministry team and those who join us for our on-line services about what will be offered via zoom and You Tube during Holy Week. There may also be a reflective Good Friday service in All Saints, Horsford. I will let you know as soon as possible. Thank you, Margaret

Benefice Easter Cards

Thanks to those who have designed, arranged the printing and are involved in planning the distribution of the Easter cards and posters this year. Distribution will be in

- Hevingham with the Hevingham News,
- Felthorpe with the Felthorpe Parish News
- Horsford by any of you able to collect bundles and deliver around Horsford. The bundles are currently being collated and will be available in All Saints Church from next week.

Church Warden Elections: Nomination forms will be available next week for the elections taking place on the 11 April.

Our Benefice Team

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

**For home communion, christenings, weddings and funerals
contact Rev Margaret McPhee, revmargaretmcphee@gmail.com**

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