

# Horsford Benefice Weekly News Sheet

*Parishes of Felthorpe, Hevingham & Horsford*

Sunday 7 March 2021: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## Readings

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

## Collect

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch:  
help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together,  
and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ  
our Lord. **Amen**

## Specific prayers for this coming week:

- For the family & friends of Jennie Reynolds whose funeral takes place on the 17 March, St Faith's Crematorium
- For the Church Warden elections on Sunday 11 April
- For the preparations for the Archdeacon's Visitation on 18 April
- For Margaret as she chairs the Nebula Federation's Ethos Committee on Monday
- Margaret as she continues her Safeguarding Leadership training and required reflection
- Margaret and the Church Room Secretary, Maggie, on their sponsored cycle ride round every street in Horsford next Saturday, raising money for Horsford Church Room

## Rector's Sunday Reflection

There is great imagery in today's readings; whether the images we conjure up of what the 10 commandments look like either when others break them or we don't (!), the Psalmist praising the glory of God's creation, the foolishness of faith versus the wisdom of the so called worldly wise and Jesus clearing out the Temple. What an amazing array of colour, action and response! How do we respond to being told what's wrong, what needs to change, what needs to be cleared out?

Over the past year many of us have been clearing out cupboards, rooms, garages and so on. There are items I've put back in order, too precious to me rather than let go of. Other stuff has gone to charity shops or been taken to the local recycle centre. Clutter is slowly being sorted and currently stored (!) ready to go.

Jesus is doing more than clearing out clutter in the Temple. In John's gospel this is the start of His ministry; no looking and listening for 12 months, or perhaps He has? Those controlling the Temple have lost their focus on God and allowed swindlers to exploit others. An economic haven has been created and, in the light of the Exodus reading, idols have been made of sacrifices and money and objects are owned rather than held in gratitude to God.

Lent gives us a pause button to give thanks for God's provision, to reflect on our priorities, our "idols" and to declutter, spiritually, emotionally and physically. I'm not suggesting we do actually turnover our tables but image is clear. So, what is holding us back from having God at the centre rather than the periphery of our lives? How do we show a deep sense of gratitude to God for what we have and what we can give to His work in our Benefice communities and beyond?

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

## **Resumption of Services**

The Ministry Team is meeting this afternoon, Sunday, to finalise details of services resuming. Full details will be in next week's news sheet.

## **Benefice Easter Cards**

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 available in All Saints Church.

## **Church Warden Elections**

It is an exciting time to be a Church Warden as the next year will be focusing on how the Benefice can come together and function on a more sustainable basis. Nomination forms are available with this news sheet. For any who wish to stand as Church Warden you will need to meet the Church of England criteria i.e. being on the Electoral Roll of the Parish, a communicant, aged 21 and over. The Diocese arranges for a DBS on election.

Any questions about what's involved talk to Margaret, our current Church Wardens Brian and Mike or our ordinand Richard Turk (a previous Church Warden of St Peter Mancroft Church, Norwich).

## 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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