

The North Lafford Benefice Newsletter August 2025



Reflection from the Rectory – Continuing the Story

In the July edition of the newsletter, I asked some questions about our faith and its stories and how well we know them. In the past few weeks, we have heard some really famous ones which amplify what Jesus asks of each of us. The sending out of the disciples to spread the news of the Kingdom of the God. The Good Samaritan and seeking the Kingdom of God through kindness to others and the sisters, Mary and Martha, and the importance of not only doing things for Jesus but spending time with him. How have those stories inspired you in your journey to know Jesus better?

I continue to want to know more about him and that means reading, not only our scripture stories but insights by those who have spent a lifetime with him. Some simple, and short books to begin with could be *Being Christian* and *Being Disciples*. Rowan Williams has written these, the former Archbishop of Canterbury and they are insightful, helpful and connect us to what we are called to be as Christian disciples. It believes deeply that it is important, for each of one of us to be familiar with Jesus's words for they call us to action, to thinking, to being and to praise and worship. The more deeply we know him, the more deeply we trust him and, through that knowledge and trust, the closer we come to him.

I pray that this summer you might take some time to be with him, in thought, word, and deed. With every blessing. Reverend Al.

PS I have some copies of those books if you would like to borrow a copy.

Benefice Stories



Messy Church - Creation

Messy Church has moved to the Winchelsea Centre and also from the 1st Saturday of the month to the 2nd Saturday. On Saturday the 12th of July we welcomed some familiar faces and some new ones. We explored the story of Creation. It was a highly active Messy Church, the story had lots of interaction; the



children sorted out the various days and what happened on them, they certainly kept Reverend Al on his toes! Activities included marble painting to create rivers, sky, and land; making bird feeders from pinecones, peanut butter, and seeds; Finding wild animal footprints and bugs (not real ones!). thank you to everyone who came along,

and we look forward to welcoming you again in September following our summer break.



Sunday@3 – Knowing the Story - Freedom in Jesus

Sunday@3, our Benefice All Age Service, took place on Sunday the 20th of July at All Saints. As you will all know by now the aim of the service is to deepen our understanding of our faith by Knowing the Story. We explored how we are set free through knowing Jesus. We had some new songs which were sung with gusto (well once we had 2 goes!!) The links are here for our digital subscribers [Child of God](#) and [Amazing Grace \(My Chains are Gone\)](#). Our bible story was taken from the Acts 12 and we discussed Peter being freed from prison. Our activity was well received as we talked about what it means to be free in the name of Jesus.

Benefice Monthly Evening Holy Communion



Our monthly Eucharist was held at St Mary's Evedon on a beautiful summer's evening. It was wonderful to welcome people from each of the parishes in the Benefice for the service. We returned to singing a Capella (without music) opening with our now traditional Be Still for the Presence of the Lord and preparing for the Eucharist with Will You Come and follow me. They were wonderfully sung and really enjoyed. Following service there were some questions around the sermon, which were welcome, and we feasted on cakes various and enjoyed the generous hospitality of our brother and sisters at St Mary's

Baptismal Joy



There has been real joy in baptism throughout late June into July and then into August. Charlotte and Grace (pictured) were baptised at All Saints Ruskington on the 29th of June. Ophelia and Constance were baptised at St Andrew's Leasingham on the 13th of July with Millie and Lenny being baptised on the 29th of July. We look forward to baptising Noah at St Andrew's

Leasingham on the 27th of July and then Toby at St Andrew's Cranwell Village on the 10th of August. Please keep them all in your prayers as they join as part of our church family. More baptism photos to follow.

Cathedral Pilgrimage

North Lafford will be going on pilgrimage to Lincoln Cathedral on Thursday August the 14th 2025. A coach will transport us to Lincoln where we will pray together, learn about our cathedral, worship together and break bread together. **Details of the pilgrimage and the sign up sheet are in each of the churches.** We will be maintaining a reserve list just in case someone might drop out. I do hope that you will be able to join us on what I pray will be a special day in our discipleship together. Blessings. Reverend AI.



VJ Day Commemoration 15 August 2025



The 15th of August 1945 saw the surrender of the Japanese and the end of the war in the Pacific. On Friday the 15th of August there will be services across the Benefice to commemorate the bravery of those who gave their lives and those who were injured and imprisoned during that conflict.

Cranwell St Andrew's – 11am
Leasingham St Andrew's – 11am
Ruskington All Saints – 11am

End of Year Services (EOY) for our church Schools.



On Monday and Tuesday (20th and 21st of July) We welcomed our Church Primary Schools to Leasingham St Andrew's and All Saints Ruskington. At St Andrew's Leasingham Richard Vickers (Open the Book) and Jane Hansford (Bishop's Visitor) led the welcome for Key Stage 1 on the

Monday and they, together with Reverend AI, welcomed Key Stage 2 as Yr 6 reflected on their time at St Andrew's School and told us all about how they hoped senior school would be. On Monday Reverend AI was at All Saints to welcome Yr 6 from Chestnut Street for their EOY services where there were quite a few tearful eyes. They rang the bells and completed a lovely set of crafts and activities which are on show in the church. EOY services for the Yr 6 children are always bittersweet as we say goodbye to them as they go up from Primary School and wish God's blessing on them for their

new journey. Thank you to everyone who has supported, loved and prayed for the children in their time with us.

[Ruskington All Saints](#)

[Cranwell Military Wives Choir](#)



On Saturday the 6th of July, All Saints Ruskington, welcomed the Cranwell Military Wives Choir. It was wonderful to have the choir with us and a large audience of a 100 or more settled in for an excellent evening of beautiful music. There were songs from across the ages and 2 exceptionally beautiful pieces of prose were offered to us which brought a tear or two. A wonderful surprise as a visit by Helen Glover (pictured)



who many have not seen for a long time, and it brought even greater joy to the evening. Our sincerest thanks go to Sally and all of the choir (and Stephen who was in charge of the music for the first time!) thanks too to our amazing team who organised what was a thoroughly excellent evening.

[Stories From Around the Parishes](#)

[News from St Edith's Church and Community](#)



Sunday the 6th July we had our Church Open Day and despite the rain it was most successful. Thank you to everyone who came to visit our beautiful church.

[News from St Andrew's Church Cranwell Village and Community](#)

On Saturday 5th July St Andrew's Church, Cranwell held a mammoth funding raising day, commencing in the morning with their monthly coffee morning which included the Charity Table for the month St Barnabas Hospice. Great funds were raised for the

Hospice and they advised it was lovely to see everyone chatting whilst supporting them. The PCC held a couple of additional tables of a bottle stall, which proved very popular and handmade cards and cookbooks.



This was followed in the evening by the Fashion Show, lots of extra tickets were sold on the door and the three local models excelled themselves with great fun being had by all.

The coffee morning next month is on Saturday 2nd August when the Charity stall will be Cranwell WI.



On Sunday 29th June St Andrew's Church PCC held a Treasure Hunt stall at the Cranwell Village Summer Fair, which was great fun and sold out before the end of the day.

Celebrations were held after the service on Sunday 6th July to celebrate the 90th birthday of Margaret, St Andrew's Organist of many years.

On Sunday 17 August St Andrew's Church will be hosting a further talk on the History of the Church by local resident Trevor Bush. These talks are proving very popular with a further one coming possibly in September.



News from St Mary's Church Evedon and Community



It was our pleasure to host the Benefice mid-week Holy Communion service on Wednesday 16th July. The service was well attended, and it was lovely to see friends from around the Benefice. Refreshments & conversations were enjoyed by all.

Thank you to all who attended

News from St Andrew's Church Leasingham and Community



Some of the members of Leasingham church choir entertained Leasingham WI with WW2 songs at the VE Day tea. The WI enjoyed joining in with us for a super singsong. We sang 'White cliffs of Dover,' 'Seigfried Line', 'Lambeth Walk', 'Nightgale in Berkeley Square' and 'We'll meet again.'

News from All Saints Ruskington and Community



A wonderful summer lunch was enjoyed by people from across our community. Glorious weather, fabulous food and lots of chatter between friends old and new.

Coming up

An afternoon tea to commemorate VJ 80 will be held on Saturday 16 August at 1pm. £7.50 per person. 62 Rectory Road Ruskington. Open to everyone across the Benefice. For more information and tickets please contact caroline.morrice@sky.com or call 01526 830717 (please leave a message)

ALL SAINTS' KNITTERS



What a wonderful group of knitters we have! So far we have knitted 127 new-born baby bonnets for the Lincoln Hospital Maternity Unit, and there are still a few days to go before the end of July when I will take the final offering in to the Unit. A very big THANK YOU to everybody involved; I know some people even took their knitting away on holiday with them. That's dedication! Out next meeting is on Saturday 16th August 2025 in the

Winchelsea Centre from 10.00.a.m. until 1.00.p.m. or until our hands get tired! Please feel free to drop in anytime to join us or just pick up a pattern and some wool and have a chat. We shall be knitting a hat for sea-farers so something quite a bit larger than our present offering and if you prefer to use your own needles they need to be size 8 UK or 4mm.

There will be the usual refreshments on offer so come along and have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit with us. Keeeep knitting, Stella

August Coffee Mornings around the Benefice



Do you enjoy a coffee and some good conversation on a Saturday morning? With a warm welcome, stalls to tempt and a hot drink to quench your thirst, why not tour the Benefice?

2nd August Anwick Village Hall at 10.00am

2nd August Cranwell Village Hall at 10.00am

9th August Leasingham Village Hall 10-11.30am

16th August Ruskington, Winchelsea Centre at 9.00am-serving bacon butties & hot drinks!



Please remember to send your Newsletter article to northlafford@gmail.com

Articles should be submitted by the **20th of August** to ensure its inclusion in September edition

Readings for August

	Psalm Reading	2 nd Reading	Gospel Reading
Sunday 3 rd August Trinity 7 Green	Psalm 49:1-12	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Sunday 10 th August Trinity 8 Green	Psalm 33:12-end	Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16	Luke 12:32-40
Sunday 17 th August Trinity 9 Green	Psalm 82	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
Sunday 24 th August Bartholomew Red	Psalm 145:1-7	Acts 5:12-16	Luke 22:24-30
Sunday 31 st August Trinity 11 Green	Psalm 112	Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16	Luke 14:1,7-14

Church Services for the Benefice of North Lafford - August 2025

Date	Ruskington	Service
03 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise
10 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise
Friday 15 August 2025	11am	VJ Day Commemoration
17 August 2025	11am	Holy Communion
17 August 2025	3pm	<u>Sunday@3 Knowing the Story</u>
20 August 2025	6.30pm	Benefice Evening Communion St Edith's
24 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise
31 August 2025	11am	Benefice Holy Communion

Date	Anwick	Service
03 August 2025	9.30am	Holy Communion - Combined Service with St Mary's at St Edith's Anwick
17 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise - Combined Service with St Edith's at St Mary's Evedon
17 August 2025	3pm	<u>Sunday@3 Knowing the Story</u>
20 August 2025	6.30pm	Benefice Evening Communion St Edith's
31 August 2025	11am	Benefice Holy Communion

Date	Cranwell	Service
03 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise
10 August 2025	11am	Holy Communion
10 August 2025	1pm	Baptism
Friday 15 August 2025	11am	VJ Day Commemoration
17 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise
17 August 2025	3pm	<u>Sunday@3 Knowing the Story</u>
20 August 2025	6.30pm	Benefice Evening Communion St Edith's
24 August 2025	9.30am	Morning Praise
31 August 2025	11am	Benefice Holy Communion

Date	Leasingham	Service
03 August 2025	9.30am	Morning Praise
10 August 2025	9.30am	Morning Praise
Friday 15 August 2025	11am	VJ Commemoration
17 August 2025	9.30am	Morning Praise
17 August 2025	3pm	Sunday@3 Knowing the Story
20 August 2025	6.30pm	Benefice Evening Communion St Edith's
24 August 2024	9.30am	Holy Communion
31 August 2025	11am	Benefice Holy Communion

Date	Evedon	Service
3rd August 2025	9.30am	Holy Communion - Combined Service with St Mary's at St Edith's Anwick
17 August 2025	11am	Morning Praise - Combined Service with St Edith's at St Mary's Evedon
17 August 2025	3pm	Sunday@3 Knowing the Story
20 August 2025	6.30pm	Benefice Evening Communion St Edith's
31 August 2025	11am	Benefice Holy Communion

The North Lafford Benefice Office is located
at **Myers House** (next to the Winchelsea Centre) Ruskington
Opening hours Tuesday and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

The Ministry Team

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Revd Nigel Panting, Deacon
Richard Vickers, Reader
Corinna Langridge, Reader
Jane Hansford, ALM
Di Holt, ALM
Caroline Morrice, ALM