

Constable Country Benefice



St Mary's, East Bergholt



St Michael's, Brantham



St Mary's, Bentley



St Mary's, Tattingstone

Four Parishes - One Benefice – Stronger in Unity

This Sunday
30th November

East Bergholt

10am Benefice Communion Service
(Rev Chris and Rev Roy)

This is a new 'fifth Sunday' addition to the services we are holding. It is an opportunity for everyone in the benefice to share communion and worship together in what will be a more traditional, joyful and uplifting service for all.

Advent 1

Isaiah 2.1–5
Psalm 122
Romans 13.11–end
Matthew 24.36–44

Next Sunday
7th December

East Bergholt

8am BCP Service
1pm – 5pm Christmas Tree Festival

Bentley

10.30am Connect Service

Connect: a service for all ages.
The best of traditional and new,
and to being all together.

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11.1–10
Psalm 72.1–7, 18–19
Romans 15.4–13
Matthew 3.1–12

COLLECT

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin
to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ
Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

“THEREFORE go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you and surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

This Week

Monday 1 st December	12pm Funeral of Hazel Sinclair at Raydon Church – all welcome. 2.50pm Assembly at East Bergholt Primary School (led by Nick)
Daily Reading	Ezekiel 47.1–12; or Ecclesiasticus 14.20–end; John 12.20–32
Tuesday 2 nd December	2pm-4pm Benefice Discussion Group - The Holy Spirit and the Church at East Bergholt
Daily Reading	Isaiah 26.1–13; Matthew 12.22–37
Wednesday 3 rd December	9.30am BCP Communion at East Bergholt (Rev Peter) 10am Take a Break Coffee, incorporating “Knit & Natter” at East Bergholt 12pm Funeral of John Etheridge at Brantham (Rev Chris)
Daily Reading	Isaiah 28.1–13; Matthew 12.38–end
Thursday 4 th December	9am Morning Prayer at the Rectory 11am- 2pm Women in Fellowship carol service at East Bergholt 2pm - 3.30pm Alpha Course at the Rectory 7pm - 8.30pm Connect Youth Group at the Rectory
Daily Reading	Isaiah 28.14–end; Matthew 13.1–23
Friday 5 th December	9.30am-11.30am Baby, Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt 4pm Choir Practice at East Bergholt
Daily Reading	Isaiah 29.1–14; Matthew 13.24–43
Saturday 6 th December <u>Rev Chris's day off</u>	9am-9.30am Benefice prayer for mission at Brantham -please just come and join us or contact Len and Issy Smith for details 1pm – 5pm East Bergholt Christmas Market in Village carpark 1pm – 5pm Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary's, East Bergholt
Daily Reading	Isaiah 29.15–end; Matthew 13.44–end



Looking further ahead.....

Family Friendly Services are held at 4pm on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Bring the family to one of our all-age family friendly services with stories, songs, activities and cake, lasting 40-45 minutes. Our next family service is on 14th December at East Bergholt

The Gathering: A contemporary service with worship, word and prayer. Followed by tea, coffee and cake! Held at St. Mary's East Bergholt every second and fourth Sunday of each month starting at 6.30pm.

East Bergholt Christmas Market is being held on 6th December between 1pm and 5pm in The Village car park (behind Red Lion). Craft Market and Street food.

Also on 6th December, this year's **Christmas Tree Festival** marks the grand finale of our Tower 500 celebrations — a joyful close to the year as towering trees fill St Mary's Church with light, colour, and creativity. Entry is free and open to individuals, families, community groups, and local businesses.

There will be refreshments after the **East Bergholt Carol service** on 14th December. Donations of mince pies and mulled wine will be much appreciated. We will be starting a collection in the church kitchen.

Month of prayer – January will be a month of prayer - details to follow.

Pray for the church family:

- Monday:** Linda Daynes; Jeanette; Steve Newman; Sandra Jermyn; Marian Scott; Marji Holdsworth; Carole Wheatley; Christopher Lewis
- Tuesday:** Hilary Taylor; Margaret and Helen Wheatley; Christine Page; Daphne Glen; Carol Whitby; Marion Noble; Frances Grimwood
- Wednesday:** Jonathan Fermor; Jo and William Marston; Mandy Churchill; Wendie Felgate
- Thursday:** Vicky Scott; Peter Green and the Youth Group
- Friday:** Mary West; Annie Winckler; Eva Rainey; Valerie Ayton; Sharon Auton

Pray for those who have recently lost a loved one

The families and friends of Peter Sutton; Marion Stott; Dot Tessier; Sheila Tweedy and all who grieve at this time of their sad loss

Please also pray for:

- with thanks for the life of Peter Sutton who has gone to be with the Lord in the early hours of Tuesday this week, and for his family as they grieve.
- for the new Chaplain for East Bergholt High School, Becky Garland, as she carries on the great work begun by the previous chaplain Philip, with thanks to God for his provision of Becky to this role.
- for God's choice of organist/choir leader to apply for the role at St. Mary's, East Bergholt.

Keeping connected....

- ❖ **Getting to services** - do you need a lift to our services (or can provide lifts for others) please contact Michelle - michelle@constablebenefice.org / 07955 329341.
- ❖ **Weekly emails/blog** - if you would like to receive the weekly email, please message Michelle to add your name to our distribution list.
- ❖ **Alpha** - each year we run a least one Alpha course exploring life and the Christian faith. Contact Rev Chris revchris@constablebenefice.org / 07566 871270 for more information.
- ❖ **Discussion groups** - a few discussion groups are held throughout the year, if you would like to join contact Rev Roy - rseden@gmail.com / 07806 940407
- ❖ **Connect Youth Group** – A weekly group aimed at teenagers with fun faith and friends... contact Rev Chris or Issy Smith - 07941 096809
- ❖ **Open the Book** -taking bible stories into school with drama. If interested contact Ruth Bull ruthbull@btinternet.com / 01206 298733

Rector: Rev Chris Willis, The Rectory, Rectory Lane, Brantham CO11 1PZ
revchris@constablebenefice.org / 07566 871270

Benefice Administrator: michelle@constablebenefice.org / 07955 329341

Website: www.ConstableCountryChurches.co.uk **YouTube:** Constable Country Churches

Facebook: stmaryseastbergholt and St Michael's Church, Brantham

Parish Safeguarding Officers

East Bergholt	Howard Holdsworth	07970 416249	Brantham	Issy Smith	07941 096809
Bentley	Tom Hill	01473 311119	Tattingstone	Suena Harley	01473 327531

Retired Priests (Permission to Officiate granted by the Bishop)

Revd Peter Ball 01206 393316 | Revd Roy Seden 07806 940407 | Revd Don Mehen 01473 310383

Readers

Nick Pavitt 01473 328512 | Ruth Bull 01206 298733 | Sandra Mehen 01473 310383

Churchwardens

East Bergholt	Fiona Trott	01206 298205	Brantham	Jane Pavitt	01473 328512
	Jackie Reeves	01206 299973		Len Smith	07986 767123
Bentley	Tom Hill	01473 311119	Tattingstone	Linda Smalley	07803 589862
	Jane Day	01473 310518		Lyn Tomlinson	01473 328251

Elders

East Bergholt	Fiona Trott	01206 298205	Brantham	Sarah McCraw	01206 391384
	Chris Jacob	01206 298552		Len Smith	07986 767123
				Issy Smith	07941 096809
Bentley	Jane Day	01473 310518	Tattingstone	Simon Harley	01473 327531
	Carolyn Evans	01473 311090		Suena Harley	01473 327531
	Doreen Savage	01473 311122			

Organists

East Bergholt – Vacancy
Tattingstone - Jane Gould

Brantham - David McLachlan
Bentley - Wilf Newport-Herring