

## BENEFICE WEEKLY NEWS AND NOTICES



ELMSETT  
ST PETER

ALDHAM  
ST MARY

KERSEY  
ST MARY

HINTLESHAM  
ST NICHOLAS

CHATTISHAM  
ALL SAINTS & ST MARGARET

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December Advent 4

**Aldham 11am** Family Service

**Kersey 4pm** Carol service

**Chattisham 6pm** Carol Service

**Elmsett 6:30pm** Carol Service

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Eve**

**Elmsett**

4pm Christingle

9:30pm Holy Communion

**Hintlesham**

4:30pm Crib Service

11pm Holy Communion

**Kersey**

9:30pm Holy Communion

**Christmas Day**

**Chattisham** 9:30am Holy Communion

**Aldham** 10am Holy Communion

Benefice of St Peter Elmsett

St Mary Aldham

St Mary Kersey

St Nicholas Hintlesham

All Saints and St Margaret Chattisham

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### In our prayers this week...

**The church throughout the world...** In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we remember this week the various church communities in the Holy land in particular the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

**Our local schools...** For the staff and pupils of the 3 schools in our benefice enjoying their Christmas break.

**Those who are suffering in body mind and spirit...** For our local healthcare centres and those who work at Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge.

**Trouble spots around the world...**

Remembering at this time of year the peace process in Gaza and the Middle East as well as the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, praying for those who are working to bring peace and reconciliation.

**Local and national government...** For our local Parish Councils

**Our local Hospitality industry...** Our local pubs, hotels and cafes and bars.

**Our clergy and accredited ministers...**

This week we pray for the parish of Aldham the churchwarden and the Local Ministry Team.

## Dates for your diary

**21<sup>st</sup> December** 4pm Kersey Carol Service

**21<sup>st</sup> December** 6pm Chattisham Carol Service

**21<sup>st</sup> December** 6:30pm Elmsett Carol Service

### January 2026

**7<sup>th</sup> January** Coffee Stop 10-12pm Hintlesham Community Hall

**14<sup>th</sup> January** Toddlers Group Hintlesham Community Hall 10am – midday

**20<sup>th</sup> January** Rural coffee caravan 10am – 12 Chattisham Church.

2pm – 4pm Outside Hintlesham Community Hall

**21<sup>st</sup> January** Discussion Group 3pm in Chattisham Church

**24<sup>th</sup> January** Service to welcome our new Bishop in the Cathedral. Time to be confirmed.

**27<sup>th</sup> January** Craft and Chat 10am – 3pm in Chattisham Church

### February 2026

**4<sup>th</sup> February** – Coffee Stop 10-12pm

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December, The First Sunday of Christmas

**Kersey 10am Holy Communion**

*The Clergy and Ministers wish you all a  
Happy Christmas*



## Regular Events

### Kersey

**Celtic Morning Prayer – Will be back on  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 9:30am**

### Hintlesham and Chattisham

#### Coffee Stop

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month Drop in between 10am – 12 Community Hall

**Discussion Group** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month 3pm in Chattisham Church

**Craft and Chat** 4<sup>th</sup> Tues of the month 10am – 3pm in Chattisham Church

#### Rural coffee caravan

3<sup>rd</sup> Tues of the month

10am – 12 Chattisham Church

2pm – 4pm Outside Community Hall

### Toddlers Group

#### Hintlesham Community Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month 10am - 12

### Elmsett

**Methodist Coffee Morning** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from 10am

### Bellringing:

**Kersey** Thursdays 7:45pm

**Elmsett** Wednesdays 7:30pm

**Hintlesham** First Friday of the month 7:30pm

### And finally...

Christmas and Oliver Cromwell: In June 1647, Parliament passed an ordinance banning Christmas, Easter and Whitsun festivities, services and celebrations, including festivities in the home. People caught observing the day with activities like exchanging gifts, feasting, dancing, or wearing fine clothes could be fined five shillings. In London, soldiers were ordered to patrol the streets on December 25th and forcibly seize any food (such as pies, goose, or capons) they discovered being prepared for Christmas celebrations, as the day was mandated as a time of fasting.