

# 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  
14<sup>th</sup> December**

### East Bergholt

**4pm** Christmas Family@Church  
(led by Fiona)

**6pm** Nine lessons and Carols  
(Rev Chris)

### Bentley

**10am** Christingle Service (Rev Don)

### Brantham

**10.30am** Morning Worship with Communion  
with 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Banns for Maddie Smith  
and Sam Nightingale  
(Rev Peter)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Isaiah 35.1–10**

Canticle : Magnificat

James 5.7–10

**Matthew 11.2–11**

**Next Sunday  
21<sup>st</sup> December**

### East Bergholt

**8am** BCP Said Service (Rev Roy)

**10am** Morning Worship with Communion  
(Rev Roy)

**2pm**

MU Blue Christmas Service (led by Jeanette  
Appleton)

### Bentley

**10am** Carols and Lessons (led by Jane)

### Brantham

**10.30am** Carols and Communion with 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Banns reading for Maddie Smith and Sam  
Nightingale (Rev Chris)

### Tattingstone

**6pm** Nine Lessons and Carols at  
Tattingstone (Rev Chris)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Isaiah 7.10–16**

Psalm 80.1–8, 18–20

Romans 1.1–7

**Matthew 1.18–end**

## COLLECT

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist  
to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord  
Amen

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks,  
O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever  
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	
<b>Monday</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9am</b> Assembly at Bently Primary School (led by Chris) <b>1.15pm</b> Assembly at Tattingstone Primary School (led by Chris) <b>3.00pm</b> Assembly at East Bergholt Primary School (led by Chris)
Daily Reading	Isaiah 38. 1–8, 21–22 / Matthew 16.13–end
<b>Tuesday</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>11.30am</b> Burial of Ashes of Geoffrey Cousins at Brantham (Rev Chris) <b>2pm-4pm</b> Benefice Discussion Group - What next? (Rev Roy)
Daily Reading	Isaiah 38. 9–20 / Matthew 17.1–13
<b>Wednesday</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>2pm</b> Brooklands School Christmas Service at Brantham (invitation only) (Rev Chris)
Daily Reading	Isaiah 39 / Matthew 17.14–21
<b>Thursday</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9am</b> Morning Prayer at 22 Richardson Close, East Bergholt <b>9.45am</b> EBPS Christmas service (Rev Chris) (by invitation only) <b>6.30pm</b> Carol Service at Brantham followed by mulled wine and mince pies (Rev Chris)
Daily Reading	Zephaniah 1.1—2.3 - Matthew 17.22–end
<b>Friday</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.30am-11.30am</b> Baby, Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt <b>2pm</b> Tattingstone Primary School Nativity (Rev Chris)
Daily Reading	Zephaniah 3.1–13 / Matthew 18.1–20
<b>Saturday</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Rev Chris's rest day</i>	<b>9am-9.30am</b> Benefice prayer for mission at Brantham - please just come and join us or contact Len and Issy Smith for detail
Daily Reading	Zephaniah 3.14–end / Matthew 18.21–end

- ❖ There will be refreshments after the **East Bergholt Carol service** on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Donations of **mince** pies and mulled wine will be much appreciated. We will be starting a collection in the church kitchen.
- ❖ **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 14<sup>th</sup> 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. No Gathering in December



**Christmas Eve:** 2pm Family Christmas Service at Brantham (led by Sarah)  
3pm Family Christmas Service at East Bergholt (led by Nick)  
3pm Crib Service at Bentley (led by Doreen)  
4pm Crib Service at Tattingstone (led by Simon)  
5pm Family Christmas Service at East Bergholt (led by Nick)  
9.30pm Carols with Communion at East Bergholt (Rev Chris)  
11.30pm Midnight Communion (Rev Chris)

**Christmas Day:** 9am BCP Said Service at East Bergholt (Rev Roy)  
10am Christmas Morning Communion at Bentley (Rev Chris)  
10.30am Christmas Celebration at Brantham (led by Len)

**Funeral of Peter Sutton** is taking place at midday on 2<sup>nd</sup> January at Seven Hills Crematorium followed by a gathering at Brantham Bull. All welcome to attend.

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

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### **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 Norman Barnett; Peter Sutton; Marion Stott; Dot Tessier; Hazel Sinclair, Sheila Tweed and all who grieve at this time of their sad loss.

### **Please also pray for:**

- For all who will attend our Christmas services, that they would encounter Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
- 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ruthbull@btinternet.com) / 01206 298733
- ❖ **Moving Up Club** – Something new for the “younger” youth - for those in school years 6, 7 and 8. beginning on 4<sup>th</sup> January at St Michael’s Brantham. Speak to Len or Issy Smith or Rev. Chris for more details or email: [youth@constablebenefice.org](mailto:youth@constablebenefice.org)

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**Rector:** Rev Chris Willis, The Rectory, Rectory Lane, Brantham CO11 1PZ  
[revchris@constablebenefice.org](mailto:revchris@constablebenefice.org) / 07566 871270

**Benefice Administrator:** [michelle@constablebenefice.org](mailto:michelle@constablebenefice.org) / 07955 329341

**Website:** [www.ConstableCountryChurches.co.uk](http://www.ConstableCountryChurches.co.uk) **YouTube:** Constable Country Churches

**Facebook:** stmaryseastbergholt and St Michael's Church, Brantham

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### Parish Safeguarding Officers

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

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### Retired Priests (Permission to Officiate granted by the Bishop)

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

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### Readers

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

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### Churchwardens

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

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### Elders

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

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### Organists

**East Bergholt** – Vacancy  
**Tattingstone** - Jane Gould

**Brantham** - David McLachlan  
**Bentley** - Wilf Newport-Herring