

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
21st 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 2nd
Banns reading for Maddie Smith and Sam
Nightingale (Rev Chris)

Tattingstone

6pm Nine Lessons and Carols (Rev Chris)

4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7.10–16

Psalm 80.1–8, 18–20

Romans 1.1–7

Matthew 1.18–end

**Next Sunday
28th December**

East Bergholt

10am Benefice Morning Worship with
Communion (Rev Chris)

1st Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63.7–9

Psalm 148 [or 148.7–end]

Hebrews 2.10–end

Matthew 2.13–end

COLLECT

Eternal God, as Mary waited
for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through
the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things
we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
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 22 nd December	
Daily Reading	Malachi 1.1, 6–end / Matthew 19.1–12
Tuesday 23 rd December	
Daily Reading	Malachi 2.1–16 / Matthew 19.13–15
Wednesday Christmas Eve 24 th December	2pm Family Christmas Service at Brantham (led by Sarah and Ruth) 3pm Family Christmas Service at East Bergholt (led by Nick) 3pm Crib Service at Bentley (Doreen) 4pm Crib Service at Tattingstone (Rev Chris) 5pm Family Christmas Service at East Bergholt (led by Nick) 9.30pm Carols with Communion at East Bergholt (Rev Chris) 11.30pm Midnight Communion at Brantham (Rev Chris)
Daily Reading	Malachi 2.17—3.12 / Matthew 19.16–end
Thursday Christmas Day 25 th December	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)
Daily Reading	Isaiah 62.1–5 / Matthew 1.18–end
Friday 26 th December	
Daily Reading	Jeremiah 26.12–15 / Acts 6
Saturday 27 th December <i>Rev Chris' rest day</i>	9am-9.30am Benefice prayer for mission at Brantham - please just come and join us or contact Len and Issy Smith for detail
Daily Reading	Exodus 33.12–end / 1 John 2.1–11

- ❖ **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 11th January at East Bergholt and 25th January at Brantham.
- ❖ **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



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

January in the Benefice:

- Saturday 3rd Men's breakfast at East Bergholt
- Wednesday 7th 9.30am BCP Service at East Bergholt (Rev Peter)
10:00 Take a Break Coffee, with "Knit & Natter" at East Bergholt
- Thursday 8th 2pm MU Meeting at East Bergholt
- Friday 9th 9.30am - 11.30am Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt
- Tuesday 13th 7pm PCC meeting at East Bergholt
- Friday 16th 9.30am - 11.30am Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt
11.30am Wardens Meeting at the Rectory

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 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 / 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
- ❖ **Moving Up Club** – Something new for the “younger” youth - for those in school years 6, 7 and 8. beginning on 4th January at St Michael’s Brantham. Speak to Len or Issy Smith or Rev. Chris for more details or email: youth@constablebenefice.org

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