

Horsford Benefice Weekly News Sheet



Parishes of Felthorpe, Hevingham & Horsford



Sunday 4 January 2026: The Epiphany

Readings:

Horsford: Isaiah 60: 1 – 6; Ephesians 3: 1 – 12; Matthew 2: 1 - 12

Felthorpe: Psalm 135: 1 - 14; Isaiah 41: 21 – 42: 4; Colossians 1: 1 - 14

Collect for The Day: The Epiphany

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:

guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Christmas Thanks

A huge thank you from Richard and I for your Christmas messages, cards and gifts. We've been quite overwhelmed by them all and your appreciation of our ministry in this Benefice.

Thank you again to everyone who helped prepare for our Christmas services, who welcomed, offered refreshments and helped behind the scenes that made this Christmas so special. Here's to a blessed 2026.

Margaret

Benefice Website: www.horsfordbenefice.org.uk

Welcome to Nonnie!

Nonnie joins us today for her 2 month placement as part of her final year of training for ordination. She'll be coming along to a number of different things we're involved in as well as helping in our services across the Benefice. We welcome her warmly.

Coffee Morning at Alysham Care Trust Friday 9 January 2026, 10am

Please let Margaret know if you're coming. Lifts can be arranged.

All Saints Thatch Roof Repairs

It was with joy last Sunday I announced the final £250 needed to meet the cost of the repairs was met with the receipt of a generous donation. Wine and other suitable refreshments were enjoyed in celebration and thanksgiving after the service.

Ian, Bishop of Thetford, is coming to take part in a **Service of Celebration** on Sunday 22 February, 10.30am. Do put this date in your diary.

If you'd like to be involved in the planning of this service, displays and refreshments, please come along to The Rectory for an initial planning meeting on Monday 12 January, 7.30pm. Thank you.

Breakfast Supplies, Horsford Primary School

Individually wrapped chocolate brioche or croissants are needed please. These are given to the Mill Lane site children on a Friday who wouldn't otherwise have a breakfast before school. Thank you.

Pastoral Principles Sessions: A Benefice Opportunity

The Church of England's Pastoral Principles course is being run for our Benefice. It will take place in Horsford Church Room, 7pm to 9pm, on Thursday evenings:

29 January, February 5th, 12th and 26th, March 5th, 12th finishing with a bring a share meal on the 19th March.

Do come along to the first session to see what it's all about before committing to the rest of the sessions. Any questions, do ask Margaret or Richard.

Eco Church: Tub2pub!

Thank you for the tubs received so far – the pile is growing in All Saints, Horsford!. Bring along to Horsford or Felthorpe church or take to the Drayton Red Lion pub before Sunday 16th February. Money raised from the recycling is for the Macmillian Cancer Charity.

Stamps: Bring your stamps to church for Priscilla Bacon Lodge Hospice. Please do cut them off your envelopes with a 1 cm border around them.

Used Ink Cartridges: Again, for Priscilla Bacon Lodge Hospice. A collection box is in All Saints, Horsford.

Get Involved! If you are interested in being involved in your local Church eco group, please let Margaret (Rector) or Isi (Eco Church Co-ordinator) know.

Recycle Your Christmas Cards

Bring your unwanted Christmas cards to Horsford or Felthorpe churches by 16 January or take directly to the address shown on the information. They're being collected to be made into Christmas gift tags to help raise money for a dementia friendly garden at the NNUH.



Christmas Collections

- Felthorpe Carol Service: £111.39
- Hevingham Carol Service: £218.72
- Horsford
 - Year 1 Carol Service £88.06 (for project fund)
 - Village Hall Carols £92.39 (for project fund)
 - Christingle: £292.82
 - Christmas Night: £137.32
 - Christmas Morning: £69.44

Give thanks for the blessing of generosity of those who came to our services across our Benefice.

Benefice Request for Parish Share

Thanks to your weekly / monthly planned giving, our Treasurers' are able to budget and plan our finances and the Benefice PCCs can make informed decisions about our ongoing commitments.

Part of our ongoing commitment is towards our Parish Share which enables work to continue through our Parish Churches as well as having the Diocesan Parish Support team there to help and guide. Examples in during 2025 included:

- legal support and advice regarding Churchyard Regulations
- legal support and guidance concerning the access to Horsford churchyard
- Finance team support for our Treasurer's Kerry and David
- Safeguarding support for our Benefice Safeguarding Officer and ongoing safeguarding training for PCC members and those involved in our Toddler Group team, Board Games and Art Club social
- AWA support and training
- APA training resources
- Repairs to The Rectory
- A full time incumbent

2025 Request: The Benefice contributed £23,017 (67%)

- Felthorpe: £4,800 (52%)
- Hevingham £1,275 (100%)
- Horsford £16,942 (71%)

2026 Request: £35,808 (4% increase)

The Benefice has received an amazing £43,695 subsidy from the Diocese, for which we're thankful.

The PCCs have agreed the request will be divided as follows:

- Felthorpe £9,672 (equivalent to £806 per month)
- Hevingham £1,326 (equivalent to £110.50 per month)
- Horsford £24,810 = (equivalent to £2,067.50 per month)

Monthly commitments agreed:

- Felthorpe £350
- Hevingham £50
- Horsford £1,000

All the PCCs remain committed to ensuring as much of the Parish Share is met even with the increasing utility and insurance costs. During 2026, you will be kept informed with how we're progressing with our contributions as well as what the current income and other expenditure is amounting do.

Any questions please do ask Margaret (Rector), Kerry (Hevingham Treasurer) or David (Felthorpe and Horsford Treasurer). Thank you.

Residential Home Services

Would you like to come along and read, support the singing and to be part of the Residential Home services?

Currently we are invited to The Old Rectory, Hevingham and Grenville Court, Horsford. If you'd like to come along to a service to find out what is involved, or would like to be part of the team, please talk to Margaret, Jeremy or Rachel, and we'd be happy to talk with you more.

Specific prayers for this coming week

- All the staff and children returning to our local Primary Schools on Tuesday: Horsford C of E VA and Hevingham Community.
- Margaret taking Collective Worship at both sites of Horsford C of E VA Primary School, Thursday morning
- The work of Aylsham Care Trust (ACT)
- Our Treasurers David and Kerry
- Those who lead worship across our Benefice:
 - Richard, Lay Reader
 - Isi and Lizzie, AWAs

Next Week's Services

Tuesday: Mid-Week Communion, 10.30am.

Next Sunday:

- Horsford 10.30am, All Age Worship: Baptism of Christ
- Felthorpe, 3pm, Plough Sunday service

Our Benefice Team

Rector:	Rev Margaret McPhee <i>off duty each Wednesday & 4th Friday each month</i>	01603 893108
Lay Reader:	Richard McPhee	01603 893108
Home Communion Team:	Richard McPhee Brian Rowlands Isi Saunders	01603 893108 01603 754763 01603 897269
Toddler Group Leaders:	Rev Margaret McPhee	01603 893108
Uniform Bank Coordinator	Isi Saunders	01603 897269
Church Wardens: <i>Felthorpe</i> Hevingham: Horsford:	Vacant Vacant Jeremy Sly	07984623332
Benefice Safeguarding Officer: DBS Administrator:	Susan Jarvis Isi Saunders	01603 279238
Electoral Roll Officers Felthorpe: Hevingham: Horsford:	Brian Rowlands Rev Margaret Rachel Stowell	

Contact Rev Margaret McPhee, Rector on 01603 893108 or
Margaret.mcphee@dioceseofnorwich.org

Transformed by Christ

Prayerful Pastoral Prophetic

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