

“The Newsletter”

For MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL
Sunday 12 July 2026



Over the last few weeks, I've had a phrase from a well-known hymn going round in my head 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow'. (Do let me know what tune pops into your head when you hear those words!)

I think God has been using these words to remind me that even when dark days come and we struggle, he is still the source of everything good in our lives.

I shared this with the Messy Church team ahead of our event on 20th June. For various reasons, my head wasn't quite where it needed to be that morning, but God in his faithfulness, took my weaknesses and used them for his glory. We had a wonderful morning exploring Jesus as our Shepherd – another reminder that Jesus walks with us (sometimes trudges with us!) every day.

The next few weeks will mark a change of pace for some of us, exciting changes and challenges for some of our young people and perhaps a chance to rest. Can I encourage you to use the change of pace to reflect on God's blessings in your life. On Sunday at St Michael's, we will be listening to a song during communion called 'He will hold me fast', this song is another reminder of God's steadfast love and an assurance of his constant presence. God is always with us, even when he seems far away. He is the source of all good things.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Emma

Sunday 12 July

**10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's
with Rob & John Gillett (Open Doors)**

6:30 pm - Evensong - St John's

Monday 13 July

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

Sunday 19 July

10:00 am - Morning Worship - St Michael's

11:00 am - Holy Communion - St Mary's

Monday 20 July

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

Wednesday 22 July

10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's

Sunday 26 July

10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's

6:30 pm - Evensong - St John's

Monday 27 July

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

Sunday 2 August

**10:30 am - Benefice Holy Communion and
Bring & Share - St Michael's**

Monday 3 August

8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's

Tuesday 4 August

7:00 pm - Prayer Meeting - Runway

Open Doors - This Sunday

You may remember that at this year's lent lunches we raised £854 for the Christian charity Open Doors.

I'm very excited to say that that this Sunday at St Michael's we have John Gillett, a representative of Open Doors, coming to talk to us about the work of Open Doors and how that money would be spent. John is also going to be preaching to us. Please do come along and hear what he has to say. Thanks.

Rob

Hear the Bible

On **Sunday (19th July)** we will be reading the book of Romans aloud. We will be reading how the apostle Paul explains to the Christians in Rome that *"...we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand."*



You can just sit and listen, you can follow the readings along, you can read a chapter aloud if you wish. Every time that we have done this so far there have been people who take something from it that they've either not heard or thought about before. God's Word is truly alive and still speaks today, please do come along and have a listen. **St Michael's, 19th July, 6:30 pm**

Rob

Bishop Joanne asks for your help. There is a renewal of the diocesan growth strategy underway and she would like to hear from everybody about their views, informed by prayer, as they move forward. If you are able to take part, please follow this link and choose the appropriate survey to comment on:

<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/exploring-faith/our-bishops/together-we-are-listening/>

Toby

The Next Vicar

As you all know, Toby will be leaving us in a few weeks to pastures new, and as he goes with our prayers and thanks, we must also start the process of finding his replacement. That process starts next week. Arch Deacon Rich Henderson will be coming to speak to the PCC on Monday evening, to talk them through the processes and the various meetings that have to happen, offering practical advice and praying for us all.

We will of course keep you up to date with the progress and keeping Toby and family in your prayers, please also be praying for the PCC as they navigate the (what can be a lengthy and complicated) process. Please also prayer for AD Rich, and also for the next Vicar, we don't know who that is of course, but God is already working in them preparing them for the role. Thanks.

Rob

Jeremy Walsh's funeral is to be held at St Michael's Church on **Monday 13th July at 12pm** and all are welcome to attend.

Toby

There will be a memorial service to give thanks for Doug Baxter's life at St Mary's on **Monday July 20th at 2pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Christine

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Revelation 21:4

Bring and Share Lunch - Sunday 2nd August

Please remember to sign up if you are planning on coming to the Bring and Share lunch on Sunday 2nd August. Sign up sheets are in the lobby area at St Michael's and with Pam and Roger at St Mary's & St John's. There are also sign up sheets to add your name to, if you could bring a Salad on the day and/or a pudding.

Donations toward a gift for the Tate family can be given to Chris Howard and Pam & Roger Goffee. Thank you,

Jo Stuckey

Could you help?

There are a number of roles that need to be filled when I move on. Two that stand out are:

Since 2020 the collection box for FIND has lived on my porch and is used by the community to make donations for those in need. Could you host this on your porch? It simply serves as a collection point and requires no input from you as the food etc. will be collected. If you can help, let me know.

Also, there is a need for help with setting up St Michael's for services. This seems to have defaulted to the service leader (with help from the lovely Alasdair). Could you come a few minutes early and help set up chairs and move things ready for the service? This is especially important for when we have visiting speakers during the vacancy. Do let me know if you are willing to be put on a rota to do this.

Thank you, **Toby**

Our Toddler group needs you!

The Thursday morning Toddler Group at St Michael's continues to be very popular and is one of the main ways we meet local families each week. From September, with Toby and Tamsin leaving, Emma needs a couple of people to help her run the group each week. **The commitment would be 9.00am until 11.30am once a month on a Thursday morning.** Emma sets everything up so your job would be to welcome the families, help with the smooth running of the session, join in with story and song time and help clear away at the end.

If you think you could help with this, please speak to Emma as soon as possible or email her; emma@martleshamcofe.org.uk

Many thanks in advance.

Emma Allinson

Licensed Children and Families Minister
Martlesham Benefice

Coffee Shop Manager required

The Runway Coffee Shop in Martlesham Heath is looking to employ a part-time manager (16 hours/week) to oversee its operations.

The Runway is a not-for-profit coffee shop operated by the church in Martlesham and is an important Christian outreach project serving the local community.

For further details please email:
therunway@martleshamcofe.org.uk

Closing date Friday 17th July.

Prayer Diary for July

Please include the following in your daily prayers and pray daily for peace.



This week.....

- 12 that the world may know God's peace
- 13 those starting new jobs
- 14 those living with painful medical conditions
- 15 for the residents of Main Road
- 16 for Parliament and MP's going into summer recess today
- 17 all young people leaving their current school this term
- 18 those working for reconciliation and peace

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

PARISH MINISTER: The Revd Toby Tate (Rest day: Friday)

Tel: 01473 612659, Email: toby@martleshamcofe.org.uk

ASSOCIATE PRIEST: The Revd Christine Pinder (Working days: Sun, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 07555 748345, Email: christine.pinder@btinternet.com

CURATE: Revd Rob Allinson, Curate (Rest day: Friday)

Tel: 07539 463312, Email: rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTER: Emma Allinson

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Rowan Limb:

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<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068833925952>

<https://www.youtube.com/@martleshambenefice>

Another prayer from: The Valley of Vision - A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions

The Divine Will

O Lord,

I hang on thee; I see, believe, live

when thy will, not mine, is done;

I can plead nothing in myself

in regard of any worthiness and grace,

in regard of thy providence and promises,

but only thy good pleasure.

If thy mercy make me poor and vile, blessed be thou!

Prayers arising from my need are preparations for future mercies;

Help me honor thee by believing before I feel,

for great is the sin if I make feeling a cause of faith.

Show me what sins hide me from thee

and eclipse thy love;

Help me to humble myself for past evils,

to be resolved to walk with more care,

For if I do not walk holily before thee,

how can I be assured of my salvation?

It is the meek and humble who are shown thy covenant,

know thy will, are pardoned and healed,

who by faith depend and rest upon grace,

who are sanctified and quickened,

who evidence thy love.

Help me to pray in faith and so find thy will,

by leaning hard on thy rich free mercy,

by believing that thou wilt give what thou hast promised;

Strengthen me to pray with the conviction

that whatever I receive is thy gift,

so that I may pray until prayer be granted;

Teach me to believe that all degrees of mercy arise

from several degrees of prayer,

that when faith is begun it is imperfect and must grow,

as chapped ground opens wider and wider until rain comes.

So shall I wait thy will, pray for it to be done,

and by thy grace become fully obedient."