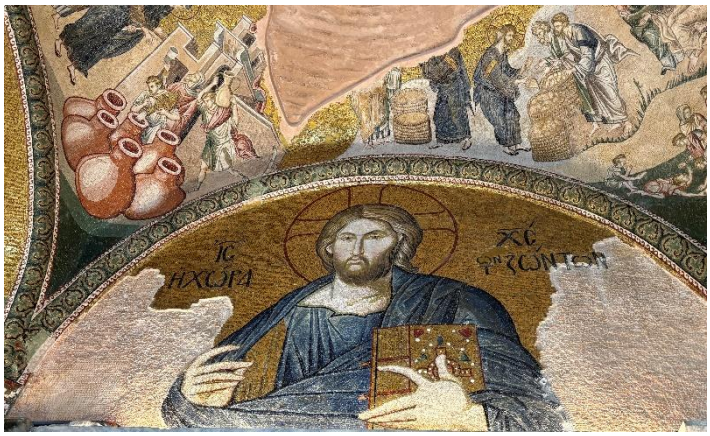
The North Lafford Benefice Newsletter November 2026



Reflection from the Rectory

One In Christ

Ordinary time finished on Sunday the 25th of October with Bible Sunday. We now enter what is informally called "The Kingdom Season". This season runs from All Saints' Day, or to the eve of the First Sunday of Advent which, this year, falls on the 28th of November. The Kingdom season is a time when we celebrate and reflect upon the kingdom of God, ending with the great Feast of Christ the King on the 22nd of November. We then return to the beginning of the story on Advent Sunday which will be on the 29th of November this year. From then we will be following Lectionary Year B and St Mark's Gospel.

As with all of the Church seasons we are called to go on a journey with Christ and this is especially true as the new vision of the Diocese of Lincoln of a Time to Grow Together comes into focus for us all, not just our own Benefice but our Local Mission Partnership and new Deanery. Some of us have already been involved with helping to develop it yet without the prayer and willingness of the people of our congregations and communities it will be simply words on a page.

On Bible Sunday I spoke of scripture being read through the lens of our Lord Jesus and that too must be our approach if we are to stabilise and grow as a Benefice. St Paul wrote to the Corinthians about being one in Christ. It is a call to be united in Christ. Unity in the Church is not optional. If you follow Jesus, you're part of a people bound together by the same Lord, the same gospel, and the same mission " We will not grow if we do not pray together, worship together, work together. That growth is not simply about numbers who attend church but growth within the community as we seek to love and serve those with whom we live.

On my most recent pilgrimage to what was known as Asia Minor, as a group we reflected on the 7 messages to the churches in the Book of Revelation. Each church had its merits, but also its flaws. Their way back, Jesus. We reflected on how we might have similar problems in our own churches, deaneries, diocese. I encourage you to read those messages and give thanks to God for those things which we do well and pray for help in those things with which we struggle.

As we approach Advent and the coming of our Lord Jesus I hope that you will pray that we, as the people of North Lafford, might grow together; in worship, in mission, spreading the good news of Jesus. As St Paul writes, "For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body." May we seek to inhabit those words together in the name of our Lord Jesus. With every blessing. Reverend Al.

Baptismal Joy



We have been blessed to baptise 2 children this month at All Saints. Reverend Jenny led her first baptism service on the 25th (see separate article) and I baptised Thomas on the 18th. The baptism took place within our service of Holy Communion, and it was a time of great joy as together with his parents Voiree and Joe, Thomas was welcomed into our church family.



Elizabeth's Flowers by Harriet

Sad Goodbye

On Thursday the 15th of October we said our sad farewells to our sister Elizabeth Webster. Elizabeth was well known throughout Ruskington working at Chestnut Street Primary School and doing good charitable works. Elizabeth was also an excellent singer and was part of our church choir at All Saints for many years, producing songbook from which the choir still sing. Please keep Stuart and his family in your prayers.

The Benefice Lunch



On Sunday the 25th of October the Benefice Lunch was held at the Winchelsea Centre Ruskington. A warming lunch of lasagne or shepherd's pie was offered along with a selection of desserts. Everyone really enjoyed themselves (all 46) along with some late comers, Revd's Jenny and Al! Many thanks go to all who organised, cooked, served and cleared up. Especially, Carol, Jayne, Victoria, Brian, Nigel, Sara, Di, Jenny O, Kath, and Jean.

Confirmation Service



The confirmation of Mark and Peter from All Saints will take place on Wednesday the 4th of November at 7pm at St Denys Sleaford. Bishop Nicholas will preach and preside. Please pray for Mark and Peter as they confirm their faith.

Lay Ministry Service in Lincoln Cathedral.



On Saturday 10th October it was the Licencing of Readers during the Lay Ministry Service in Lincoln Cathedral. Many Readers and Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) processed with Bishop Nicholas into the choir stalls. Six new Readers were being licenced during the Holy Communion service, which also had some of the Cathedral Choir and wonderful uplifting hymns. Readers, ALMs plus friends and family were invited to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) afterwards.

Pictured above is Corinna Langridge, Reader, Jane Hansford and Di Holt, ALMs with Revd Jenny Hunt the Benefice Curate.

News from around the Benefice

St Edith's Church Anwick



Evening Prayer on the 3rd Wednesday at 3pm each month

Come and join us for this short service of prayer and reflection, a time when we can pray together for those whom we know are sick, lonely and vulnerable.

Led by a member of the North Lafford Ministry Team.

Everyone is welcome.

St Andrew's Church Cranwell

On Saturday 3rd October St Andrew's Church, Cranwell held their usual coffee morning when the Charity stall for the month was our very own Cranwell WI with an assortment of options for winning prizes.



The next Coffee Morning is on Saturday 7th November when there will be an assortment of fundraising tables. The Church will have their usual Children's Tombola / Teddy Bear table, Linda from Scentsy will be there and Arabella, the Scout from 1st Cranwell RAF Scout Group will once again be fundraising for her trip to the World Scout Jamboree in Poland next year.

All Sorts



Would you like to meet up with friends or make new ones? All Saints is a Benefice initiative to help us do that. It is held at the Winchelsea Centre Ruskington on Mondays between 2pm and 4pm. We hope that as many people from across our communities will come along to enjoy fellowship, craft, activities and more. Please come along or if you want to volunteer please drop Reverend Al a line.

St Andrew's Church Leasingham



Leasingham's Coffee Morning on November 14th in the Village Hall will have a book and jigsaw stall along with the homemade cakes and scones. We also serve Fairtrade beverages. A lady from the village who fundraises for the Air Ambulance will also have a stall of handmade craft items for sale. Hope you can come along.

The Advent Celebration at the Duke of Wellington Pub in the village will take place on December 1st between 3pm and 7pm when they will be switching on the Christmas light show in the gardens and revealing their Advent window. Traditional food and drinks will be available and stalls run by various organisations locally including Leasingham Church. Hopefully the village school choir will be joining the event. Other residents will be revealing their window displays every evening during Advent.

All Saints Church Ruskington

All Saints Ladies Club Annual General Meeting Gift.



All Saints Ladies Club held their Annual General Meeting in October and as is their custom, a member of the Ministry Team from All Saints Church is invited to Chair the AGM part of the Meeting. Revd Jenny Hunt the Curate who has been working in the North Lafford Benefice with Revd Al Jenkins, came along for the first time.

She gave a very sincere and thoughtful talk on how she became an ordained Deacon and was now a Curate in training to be a vicar. After initially fighting against it and saying she did not want to give up a job she loved and change her life, she felt God talk to her. She said she knew that her role was to be a member of the clergy and as a Lincolnshire girl was happy to be in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Rose Foot ASC Chairlady along with Carole Arnold Treasurer, then presented Revd Jenny with a very substantial cheque from the Ladies Club to pay towards the new chairs in the Winchelsea Centre. The chairs replace the very heavy ones that many members of the club and other groups had difficulty in lifting. Revd Jenny gave her thanks on behalf of All Saints Church and accepted the cheque as shown.

Messy Church



I (Revd Jenny) had the joy of leading this month's Messy Church, as families, children and adults gathered together to explore the theme of light. We sang My Lighthouse and This Little Light of Mine (complete with actions, of course!) and thought about what it means that Jesus is the light of the world, and how each of us is called to shine his light in our daily lives.

After worship, everyone enjoyed a range of crafts, including creating some fantastic lighthouses to take home. It was a wonderful afternoon of fun, creativity and fellowship. Thank you to all the helpers, parents and children who made it such

a special occasion. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on 14th November for our next Messy Church.

Church@3



Members of our church family, from babies to grandparents, came together for our October Church@3 service. Continuing our theme of light, we listened to Bible readings that reminded us that true fullness of life is found in Christ, the light who shines in the darkness and always overcomes it.

A candle was lit to represent the light of Christ, and everyone was invited to write the names of people or places that need that light, laying them before the candle as prayers. We finished with yet another enthusiastic rendition of My Lighthouse, before sharing refreshments, conversation and crafts together.

Our next Church@3 will be on 15th November. Church@3 is designed with all ages in mind, whether you are exploring church for the first time or have been attending for many years. If you haven't tried it before, why not join us? We would love to see you there! (Revd Jenny)

November Coffee Mornings around the Benefice



Do you enjoy a coffee and some good conversation on a Saturday morning? With a warm welcome, stalls to tempt and a hot drink to quench your thirst, why not tour the Benefice?

7th November Anwick Village Hall at 10.00am
7th November Cranwell Village Hall at 10.00am
14th November Leasingham Village Hall 10-11.30am
21st November Ruskington Winchelsea Centre at 9.30am – noon



Please remember to send your Newsletter article to northlafford@gmail.com

Articles should be submitted by the ***20th November to*** ensure its inclusion in **December edition**

Readings for November 2026

Date/Festival	First Reading	Second Reading	Gospel Reading
1 November 2026 All Saints Day **Colour White**	Revelation 7.9-end	1 John 3.1-3	Matthew 5.1-12
1 November 2026 Remembering Our Loved Ones **Red**			John 6:37-40 (Reading is in the ROLO OOS)
8 November 2026 Remembrance Sunday **Red**	1 Thessalonians 4.13-end	Romans 8.31-39	John 14.1-6a, 27
15 November 2026 2nd before Advent **Colour Green**	Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end	1 Thessalonians 5.1-11	Matthew 25.14-30
22 November 2026 Christ the King **Colour White**	Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24	Ephesians 1.15-end	Matthew 25.31-end
29 November 2026 Advent Sunday **Colour Purple**	Isaiah 64.1-9	1 Corinthians 1.3-9	Mark 13.24-end

Monthly Sunday Service Planner - North Lafford Group - November 2026

Date	Ruskington	Service
01 Nov 2026	11am	Holy Communion All Saints Day
01 Nov 2026	**3pm**	**Remembering Our Loved Ones with St Edith's and St Mary's**
08 Nov 2026	**9.30am***	Holy Communion Remembrance Sunday followed by the Act of Remembrance
15 Nov 2026	11am	Holy Communion
15 Nov2026	3pm	Sunday@3
22 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise - Christ the King
29 Nov 2026	11am	Benefice Holy Communion - Advent Sunday

Date	Anwick	Service
01 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise with St Edith's at St Mary's
01 Nov 2026	**3pm**	**Remembering Our Loved Ones with St Edith's and St Mary's**
08 Nov 2026	**10.00**	Morning Praise Remembrance Sunday with a short Act of Remembrance

15 Nov 2026	9.30am	Holy Communion with St Mary's at St Edith's
15 Nov 2026	3pm	Sunday@3
29 Nov 2026	11am	Benefice Holy Communion - Advent Sunday

Date	Cranwell	Service
01 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise
01 Nov 2026	**3pm**	**Remembering Our Loved Ones**
08 Nov 2026	**10am****	Morning Praise - Remembrance Sunday followed by the Act of Remembrance
15 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise
15 Nov 2026	3pm	Sunday@3
22 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise - Christ the King
29 Nov 2026	11am	Benefice Holy Communion - Advent Sunday

Date	Leasingham	Service
01 Nov 2026	9.30am	Morning Praise
01 Nov 2026	**3pm**	**Remembering Our Loved Ones**
08 Nov 2026	10am**	Morning Praise Remembrance Sunday followed by the Act of Remembrance
15 Nov 2026	9.30am	Morning Praise
15 Nov 2026	3pm	Sunday@3
22 Nov 2026	9.30am	Holy Communion - Christ the King
22 Nov 2026	1pm	Baptism
29 Nov 2026	11am	Benefice Holy Communion - Advent Sunday

Date	Evedon	Service
01 Nov 2026	11am	Morning Praise with St Edith's at St Mary's
01 Nov 2026	**3pm**	**Remembering Our Loved Ones with St Edith's and St Mary's**
15 Nov 2026	9.30am	Holy Communion with St Mary's at St Edith's
15 Nov 2026	3pm	Sunday@3
29 Nov 2026	11am	Benefice Holy Communion - Advent Sunday

Church Key

Ruskington - All Saints	**Come and join us** **You will always be welcome**
Anwick - St Edith's	
Cranwell - St Andrew's	
Evedon- St Mary's	
Leasingham- St Andrew's	

The North Lafford Benefice Office is located

At **Myers House** (next to the Winchelsea Centre) Ruskington

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.15am – 11.15am

Email northlafford@gmail.com

The Ministry Team

Revd Al Jenkins, Rector
Work Mobile: 07961 654486
revdajenkins@gmail.com

Revd Jenny Hunt, Curate
Revd Rosemary Jenkins, Priest
Revd Nigel Panting, Deacon
Richard Vickers, Reader
Corinna Langridge, Reader
Jane Hansford, ALM
Di Holt, ALM