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

Next Sunday - Advent Sunday 29th November

East Bergholt
10am Benefice Communion Service

Brantham
6.30pm-8pm Moving Up Club

1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64.1–9
Psalm 80.1–8, 18–20 [or 80.1–8]
1 Corinthians 1.3–9
Mark 13.24–end

Next Sunday 6th December

Bentley
10.30 Connect Service - a service for all ages. The best of traditional and new, and to being all together (*with a group for younger children during the service*) (Rev Chris)

Brantham
6.30pm-8pm Moving Up Club

East Bergholt
8am BCP Service (Rev Chris)
11am – 4pm Christmas Tree-Mendous Festival at St. Mary's

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40.1–11
Psalm 85.1–2, 8–13 [or 85.8–end]
2 Peter 3.8–15a
Mark 1.1–8

COLLECT

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin
to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God,
the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful
to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in 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 30th November	2.50pm Assembly at EBPS (Nick) **Daily Reading:** Ezekiel 47.1–12 John 12.20–32
Tuesday 1st December	10am CCC Nativity at East Bergholt (invitation only) 12.30pm - 2pm Advent lunch at East Bergholt 2pm Benefice Discussion Group at East Bergholt 2.30pm School Christingle service at Tattingstone **Daily Reading:** Isaiah 43.1–13 Revelation 20
Wednesday 2nd December	9.30am BCP Service at East Bergholt 9.30am -11.30am St. Michael's Toddlers at Brantham 10am Take a Break Coffee, incorporating "Knit & Natter" at East Bergholt **Daily Reading:** Isaiah 43.14–end Revelation 21.1–8
Thursday 3rd December	9am Morning Prayer at the Rectory 11am Burial of Ashes of Pamela Green at Brantham 7pm Connect Youth at the Rectory **Daily Reading:** Isaiah 44.1–8 Revelation 21.9–21
Friday 4th December	9.30am - 11.30am Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt 6pm Choir Practice at East Bergholt **New members very welcome as we prepare for Christmas** **Daily Reading:** Isaiah 44.9–23 Revelation 21.22—22.5
Saturday 5th December *Rev Chris day off*	12pm-4pm Christmas Market in the Red Lion Garden, East Bergholt 1pm- 5pm Christmas Tree-Mendous Festival at St. Mary's, East Bergholt **Daily Reading:** Isaiah 44.24—45.13 Revelation 22.6–end

- **Family Friendly Services** are held at 4pm on the 2nd and 4th 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 services next are at East Bergholt on 13th December and at Brantham on 10th January 2027.

- **The Gathering:** A contemporary service with worship, word and prayer. With tea, coffee and cake! Held at St. Mary's, East Bergholt. Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month starting at 6.30pm.

- **The Benefice Discussion Group** We are discussing Jane William's book "The Art of Advent". It is based on 37 short reflections. Each consists of a short commentary, an image, one or more biblical references or passages, and two or more (usually) searching questions for us to consider. Do contact Rev Roy at rseden@gmail.com for further details.

Looking further ahead.....



Monday 7th December

10am Constable Country Childcare Nativity at Brantham (invitation only)
2.50pm Assembly at EBPS (Rev Chris)

Tuesday 8th December

10am Constable Country Childcare Nativity at Brantham (invitation only)
12.30pm - 2pm Advent lunch at East Bergholt

Wednesday 9th

9.30am -11.30am St. Michael's Toddlers at Brantham
2pm – Constable Country Childcare Nativity at Brantham

Thursday 10th

9am Morning Prayer at the Rectory
7pm Connect Youth at the Rectory

Friday 11th

9.30am - 11.30am Toddlers and Carers at East Bergholt
2pm Brooklands Christmas school service at Brantham
6pm Choir Practice at East Bergholt **New members very welcome as we prepare for Christmas**
7pm Carol Service in Bentley Village Hall

Saturday 12th

Sunday 13th

10am Morning Worship with communion at East Bergholt (Rev Chris)
10am Christingle Service at Bentley (lay led)
10am Christingle Service at Tattingstone (Linda)
10.30am Morning Worship with Communion at Brantham (Rev Peter)
4pm family@church at East Bergholt (led by Fiona)
6.30pm The Gathering at East Bergholt (Rev Chris)
6.30pm-8pm Moving Up Club at Brantham

Pray for the church family:

Monday: Linda Daynes; Jeanette; Steve Newman; Sandra Jermyn; Marian Scott; Ted and Carole Wheatley; Christopher Lewis

Tuesday: Hilary Taylor; Helen Wheatley; Rev Chris Chapman; Daphne Glen; Carol Whitby; Marion Noble; Frances Grimwood

Wednesday: Jonathan Fermor; Jo and William Marston; Mandy Churchill; Wendie Felgate; Adi Lavender and the Brantham Toddler Group

Thursday: Peter Green; Margaret Burridge; Barry Blomfield and the Youth Group

Friday: Mary West; Annie Winckler; Valerie Ayton; Lynn and the East Bergholt Toddler Group

Pray for those who have recently lost a loved one

The families and friends of Christine Page; Barbara Hopkins; Noah Woods; Rodney Chadburn; Margaret Wheatley and all who grieve at this time of their sad loss.

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** – For the "younger" youth - for those in school years 6, 7 and 8. Held 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**	Linda Smalley	07803 589862

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	**Tattingstone**	Linda Smalley	07803 589862
Bentley	Jane Day	01473 310518	**Brantham**	Sarah McCraw	07977 808994
	Doreen Savage	01473 311122		Len Smith	07986 767123
				Issy Smith	07941 096809

Choir Leader: Julian Merson

Organists: Brantham - David McLachlan **Tattingstone** - Jane Gould **Bentley** - Wilf Newport-Herring