



Poppyland Benefice Bulletin

Antingham, Northrepps, Overstrand, Sidestrand, Southrepps, Thorpe Market,
Trimingham

Sunday 26th September
The seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Benefice Service Thorpe Market for Harvest (HC)

Services for the beginning of October – please note the times

3rd Oct: 10am Antingham (BCP) Harvest MW
10am Northrepps (HC)
10.30am Overstrand (HC)
11am Trimingham (Harvest MW)

10th Oct: 10am **Benefice** service at Northrepps with Archdeacon Ian Bentley
(HC= Holy Communion MW= Morning Worship)

SORRY NOT IN SERVICE?

This morning while driving to Aylsham for an early appointment I was passed by a Sanders bus which displayed on the destination board -

I was reflecting on this somewhat 'unusual' wording when along came an Emergency Ambulance with blue lights flashing. A few minutes later another Sanders bus passed with the same 'message' displayed! We are used to seeing notices which inform us that a shop, checkout, road or office is closed but this is not usually accompanied with an apology in the form of 'Sorry'. Why do buses have this display wording? That set me thinking that the ambulance crew are never 'NOT IN SERVICE'; when on the road it is full-time caring, healing, helping, re-assuring, transporting.....

God is never 'NOT IN SERVICE'

Psalm 121

*I lift up my eyes—
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,*

*the Maker of heaven and earth.
He who watches over you will not slumber.....
The Lord will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
The Lord will watch over your coming and going*



both now and forevermore.

This should be true too of a Christian, we are called to serve one another. We never know when we might suddenly be called to be of service to a neighbour, person in the street, family member.....

The housebound Christian can always pray for others as part of service. A phone call or card may just bring comfort and or a listening ear to help someone who is struggling or going through difficult time.

God wants us all to be on 'active service' - always ready and willing to share a word of comfort or listen to a friend who has a difficult problem to face. Serving by offering practical help in some way or another.

We are called to be like the Emergency Ambulance always 'ON SERVICE'.

Brother, sister let me serve you,
*let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.*

(Richard Gillard 1977)

***Teach us, good Lord,
To serve thee as thou deservest;
To give and not to count the cost;
To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To toil and not for seek for rest;
To labour and not to ask for any reward
Save that of knowing that we do thy will.
(St Ignatius Loyola)***

NOTE - for those of you who were at Overstrand's service last Sunday, this was written before that! Co-incidence?

Tim Bennett (Lay Minister)