

Let us pray: -

Gracious God, as we journey through Advent's expectant waiting to the brightness of Epiphany, we give thanks for the light of Christ shining in our midst. Fill our hearts with joy and hope, that we may prepare a place for your Son with gladness and faith. Through Christmas, remind us of the wonder of the Incarnation— your Word made flesh, dwelling among us in love. Bless all who gathered in our churches this season, both familiar friends and new faces, that together we may grow in faith and community. As the Magi followed the star, guide us too, that we may seek Christ with open hearts, offer him the gifts of our lives, and proclaim his light to the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A prayer for the Box River Benefice during the Interregnum

Faithful God, in this time of waiting and transition, hold our Benefice in Your gentle care. Bless our Churchwardens, PCC members, Volunteers, Clergy Team and all who serve, as we seek your wisdom and steadying peace. Strengthen us in fellowship and prayer, so that together, we may prepare hearts and homes for the shepherd you are sending. May patience grow, compassion deepen, and hope be renewed, as we continue your work, anchored in grace and love. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Please remember in your prayers

In Need of our Prayers:

Colin Bloomfield, Paul Goldsmith, Joey Jane,
Jill Nation, Sharon Oliver, Jean Watling, John,
Janet Daniels, Sally Furlonger, Rob Jones,
John Overton, David Ball, Éd Canavarros de Arruda

*Heavenly Father, giver of life & health, comfort & relieve those who are challenged by physical, mental & emotional health. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness & have confidence in your loving care, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Those who have died recently or whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

Christine Chaplin

May they rest in peace and rise in glory! Amen.

Please note: to keep the prayer list 'current,' we refresh it regularly. If you would like a name to be added to the prayer list or to remain on the prayer list longer than 4 weeks, please contact the Benefice Office.



The Box River Benefice

*Boxford, Edwardstone, Groton,
Little Waldingfield and Newton*

**Sunday, 14th December
Advent 3**

**Sunday, 21st December
Advent 4**

**Sunday, 28th December
Holy Innocents – Christmas 1
Sunday, 4th January
The Epiphany – Christmas 2**

Associate Priest: The Ven. James Ridge
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Lay Minister: David Ball
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Benefice Administrator: Liz Potter
Benefice Office, Mary's House,
5 Swan Street, Boxford, CO10 5NZ
Tel: 01787 828046
Email: boxriverbenefice@gmail.com

Normal working hours: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm
Tuesday – Thursday, emails of an urgent pastoral nature will be responded to outside of these working hours

Website: www.boxriverbenefice.com

Follow us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/boxriverbenefice

Or find us on A Church near You

Box River Benefice - A Church Near You

If you would like an electronic copy of this notice sheet each week, please contact the Benefice Office to be added to the list.

**Welcome to the Box River Benefice,
please make yourself known to one of
our priests or ministers after the service.**

**Pastoral visiting, spiritual guidance,
confession, blessings:**

The Benefice offers a rich ministry of Spiritual Guidance, Confession and Pastoral Visiting to the sick, housebound, or hospitalised. If you would like a Pastoral Visit, Home Communion, Spiritual Guidance, Confession, House Blessing, Hospital Visit for yourself or someone you know please contact the Benefice Office.

**Sunday, 14th December
Advent 3**

9.30 am – Sunday Eucharist (Groton)
11.00 am – Sunday Eucharist with Choir (Boxford)
4.00 pm – Christingle (Boxford)

Tuesday, 16th December

10.00 am – Drop in for Coffee (Mary's House)

**Wednesday, 17th December
Eglantyne Jeb, 1928; O Sapientia**

10.00 am – Communion & Coffee (Mary's House)
7.30 pm – Bell Ringing Practice (Boxford)

Thursday, 18th December

6.00 pm – Choir Practice (Boxford)

Friday, 19th December

5.00 pm – Carol Service (Groton)
7.00 pm – Carol Service (Lt Waldingfield)

Saturday, 20th December

10.00 am – Big Church Clean (Boxford)

**Sunday, 21st December
Advent 4**

9.30 am – Sunday Eucharist (Edwardstone)
11.00 am – Sunday Eucharist (Boxford)
6.00 pm – Carol Service (Boxford)

**Wednesday, 24th December
Christmas Eve**

10.00 am – Communion & Coffee (Mary's House)
6.00 pm – Carol Service (Edwardstone)
11.00 pm – Midnight Mass (Boxford)

Thursday, 25th December

9.30 am – Christmas Day Eucharist (Groton)
10.00 am – Christmas Day Eucharist (Boxford)

**Sunday, 28th December
Holy Innocents – Christmas 1**

11.00 am – Christmas Eucharist (Newton)
11.00 am – Christmas Eucharist (Boxford)

Friday, 2nd January

10.30 am – Coffee Morning (Lt Waldingfield)

**Sunday, 4th January
The Epiphany
Christmas 2**

9.30 am – Sunday Eucharist (Lt Waldingfield)
11.00 am – Sunday Eucharist (Boxford)

Tuesday, 6th January

10.00 am – Drop in for Coffee (Mary's House)

Wednesday, 7th January

10.00 am – Communion & Coffee (Mary's House)

**Sunday, 11th January
Baptism of Christ**

9.30 am – Sunday Eucharist (Groton)
11.00 am – Sunday Eucharist with choir (Boxford)
4.00 pm – BCP Evensong (Boxford)

**Sunday 14th December, Advent 3
Sunday Eucharist**

Readings

James 5.7-10
Matthew 11.2-11

Hymns

550 – Praise my soul
620 – The angel Gabriel
444 – May the mind
612 – Tell out my soul

Christingle as per service sheet

**Sunday, 21st December, Advent 4
Sunday Eucharist**

Readings

Romans 1.1-7
Matthew 1.18-end

Hymns

565 – Rejoice the Lord is King
247 – Hark! A herald voice is calling
375 – Let all mortal flesh
671 – Thou didst leave thy throne

Carol Service as per service sheet

**Wednesday, 24th December, Christmas Eve
Carol Service as per service sheet**

Midnight Mass Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2.1-14 [15-20]

Midnight Mass Hymns

506 – Once in Royal David's city
508 – On Christmas night
35 – Angels from the realms of glory
318 – In the bleak midwinter – during communion
468 – O come, all ye faithful

**Thursday, 25th December, Christmas Day
Readings**

Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2.1-14 (15-20)

Hymns

85 – Christians awake
130 – Ding, dong, merrily on high!
497 – O little town of Bethlehem
35 – Angels from the realms of glory

**Sunday, 28th December, Christmas 1
Readings**

1 Corinthians 1.26-29
Matthew 2.13-18

Hymns:

574 – See him lying on a bed of straw
733 – While shepherds watched
626 – The first Nowell
687 – Unto us a boy is born

**Sunday, 4th January, The Epiphany
Readings**

Ephesians 3.1-12
Matthew 2.1-12

Hymns:

Lt Waldingfield 49/Boxford 42 – As with gladness
Lt Waldingfield 724/Boxford 709 – We three kings
Lt Waldingfield 152/Boxford 133 – Earth has many a noble city
Lt Waldingfield 85/Boxford 78 – Brightest and best

