



The Box River Benefice

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

Let us pray:

Risen Lord Jesus, you walk beside us on the road, opening our eyes to recognise your presence in the breaking of the bread and in the quiet moments of grace. Good Shepherd of your people, you call us each by name, and you lead us through places of uncertainty into the fullness of life. Stay with us in all our journeys. Strengthen those who feel weary, comfort those who grieve, and guide all who are searching for hope. Be close to those facing illness, loneliness, or anxiety, and uphold all who care for others with patience and compassion. We pray for our world in these troubled days: for peace where there is conflict, for wisdom among leaders, for shelter and safety for those who have been displaced, and for all working to bring relief, justice, and healing. Bless our communities, our families, and our neighbours, that we may reflect your kindness and bear witness to your risen life in all we do. Open our hearts to your voice, shape our lives by your compassion, and draw us into paths of justice, mercy, and peace. May your light guide our steps, and your love hold us fast, today and always. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers

In Need of our Prayers:

Paul Goldsmith, Joey Jane, Jill Nation,
Jean Watling, John Daniels, Janet Daniels,
Rob Jones, John Overton, Carol Langley,
Heather Abel, Gill Harritt, Miranda Doyle

*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:

Audrey White, Ann McLeod, Colin Bloomfield,
Peter Watt

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

Please note: 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.

GIVING: Ministry to our communities & the upkeep of our church buildings costs money. We are therefore extremely grateful to all our donors. Please consider contributing as a part of your faith commitment. You can find out more about how to give on our website at: www.boxriverbenefice.com/support-us/, ask a church warden, minister, our administrator or follow the directions on our notice boards. You can also give during any service or when visiting church; please place your offering in the giving plate, alms box or use the card reader (if there is one in the Church).

**Sunday, 19th April
Easter 3**

**Sunday, 26th April
Easter 4**

Associate Priest: The Ven. James Ridge
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Day off: Saturday

Priest with PTO: The Revd Diana Garfield
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Lay Minister: Maggie Cogan
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Benefice Administrator: Liz Potter
Benefice Office, Mary's House,
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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

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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.
Whether you have worshipped with us for many years or are visiting for the very first time, we are delighted to share this time with you. May this be a place where you can pause, breathe deeply, reflect, and find renewal. If you are new to the Benefice—or returning after some time away—please do introduce yourself to a member of our Ministry Team. We would love the chance to welcome you properly.**

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, 19th April

Easter 3

9.30 am – Sunday Eucharist (Edwardstone)
11.00 – Sunday Eucharist with Choir (Boxford)

Readings

Acts 2:14a. 36-41
Luke 24.13-35

Hymns

19 – All my hope on God is founded
66 – Bind us together Lord
76 – Break thou the bread of life TUNE 2
310 – In Christ alone

Tuesday, 21st April

Anselm, 1109

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

Wednesday, 22nd April

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

Sunday, 26th April

Easter 4

11.00 am – Sunday Eucharist (Newton)
11.00 – Family Worship (Boxford)

Readings

Acts 2:42-end
John 10.1-10

Hymns

86 – Christ is made the sure foundation
141 – Father, hear the prayer we offer
138 – Faithful shepherd feed me
15 – All hail the power of Jesus name TUNE 1

Tuesday, 28th April

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

Wednesday, 29th April

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

Friday, 1st May

10.30 am – Coffee Morning (Lt Waldingfield)

Sunday, 3rd May

Easter 5

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat, 16th May, 10.00 am – Coffee Morning (Boxford)
Sat, 16th May, 4.00 pm – Quartet Concert (Boxford)
Tues, 19th May, 2.00 pm – Afternoon Tea (Mary's House)
Wed, 20th May, 10.00 am – Coffee Morning (Newton)
Sun, 7th June – Open Gardens at Boxford
Sun, 21st June – Open Garden at Lt Waldingfield

EASTER IN THE BOX RIVER BENEFICE - THANK

YOU: This Easter, our churches were filled with light, hope, and the warmth of a community celebrating the risen Christ. Thank you to everyone who joined us in worship, and to our ministry team, Churchwardens, PCC members, musicians, readers, intercessors, sides people, cleaners, flower arrangers, refreshment providers, and all who worked quietly behind the scenes. Your care and commitment made each service possible.

TODAY: As we continue our journey through the Easter season, we are invited to pause and recognise the many ways Christ meets us in the ordinary moments of our lives. In a world that often feels noisy, uncertain, or overwhelming, we are reminded that God's steady, attentive care is a gift. The Shepherd does not rush us; he walks with us. He does not abandon us; he seeks us out. He does not demand perfection; he offers peace. Many of us know what it is to walk through seasons of confusion or change, and many of us long for the reassurance of a familiar voice calling us onward. Easter reminds us that Christ is already beside us on the road, already breaking bread with us, already leading us toward hope. As spring continues to unfold around us—buds opening, birdsong returning, light stretching a little further each evening—we are invited to notice the quiet signs of God's renewing love. Whether we gather for worship, share in fellowship, prepare for upcoming musical events, or open our gardens to neighbours and visitors, may we do so with hearts attentive to the risen Christ who walks with us still.

ELECTORAL ROLL: Each year, every parish in the Church of England carries out a review of the Church Electoral Roll. This is an important part of our parish life, helping us keep our records up to date and ensuring that everyone who wishes to take part and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is able to do so, the Electoral Roll is the official list of lay members of the church. As part of the review, we will update the roll by removing names of those who have moved away or died and add new names of those who wish to join. If you are already on the roll, you do not need to reapply this year. If you would like to join the roll, or if you're unsure whether you are already on it, please contact the Benefice Office in the first instance.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

(APCMS): Our churches will be holding their Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCMs) in May. They are an important moment in the life of the church, offering a chance to look back with gratitude, look forward with hope, and take care of the practical responsibilities that support our shared ministry. The meeting receives the annual reports on the parish's mission, worship, finances, and fabric; elects members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC); and formally notes the number on the Church Electoral Roll. Anyone on the Church Electoral Roll is entitled to attend and vote at the APCM, visitors are welcome to be present, though only those eligible may vote.

APCM Dates are: -

All Saints' Church, Newton – Monday, 11th May at 10.00 am
St Bartholomew's Church, Groton and St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone – Sunday, 17th May at 11.00 am at St Mary the Virgin, Edwardstone
St Mary's Church, Boxford – Sunday, 17th May at 12.30 pm
St Lawrence's Church, Little Waldingfield – please contact the Benefice Office for further information

