

New Life



St Mary the Virgin

The Monthly
Magazine for the
Parishes of
St Mary the Virgin,
Fen Ditton,
St Peter, Horningsea
and
All Saints, Teversham

July/August
2026



All Saints



St Peter

50p

**THE PARISHES OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FEN DITTON,
ST PETER, HORNINGSEA AND ALL SAINTS, TEVERSHAM**

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July/August 2026

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Dear Friends

On 7 June we said our fond farewells to Sharon and John. So many people have said how much we will miss them and how much they have appreciated Sharon's warmth and kindness during her three years as our curate. A curate is literally someone who has care – in this case the cure/care of souls – and so it's an especially appropriate job title for Sharon!

Sharon's licensing as priest-in-charge of Buckden will be on the evening of Tuesday 7 July and we are all invited to attend. If you would like a lift, speak to one of the churchwardens who will be able to put you in touch with someone who is driving. This will be one of the first public appearances of Bishop Sarah, our new Bishop of Ely – so that will be special, too.

We sadly have another farewell this month – to our editor, Kerry Sayer. Kerry was kind enough to give us plenty of notice (a whole year) but it has still come round far too quickly and we are so sad that this is her last issue at the helm. We are immensely grateful to Kerry for curating (yes, that word again) *New Life* these past years. And curating is the right word – as a curator is someone who has the skill to edit, select and marshal material to produce an excellent final product, and to do so keeping to deadlines and other parameters. And Kerry has always done that with great dedication, efficiency and – yes – care. We never have panics, the magazine is always on time and what is actually complex and hard work seems to flow effortlessly. We are so grateful.

A major factor in Kerry's decision to step down has been Microsoft's imminent withdrawal of the software that both she and I use, Publisher. This is a real headache (it remains so for me) and does not leave a warm glow in our hearts for our high-tech friends. But I'm glad to say that Barry Eady has agreed to step back into the editor's chair and has already been working on mastering alternative publishing software – which is a huge relief to me...

As I write this England are about to embark on their world cup campaign and the voters of Makerfield could well be having a big say in

who is our Prime Minister. So Harry Kane could be on his way to a knighthood and the mayor of Manchester to 10 Downing Street. On the other hand, both could be heading for shipwreck. Who knows? As Wimbledon approaches perhaps it's good to remember those famous words of Rudyard Kipling displayed before players as they enter the Centre Court –

If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster

And treat those two impostors just the same

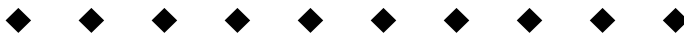
Less often quoted are the words the 'If' is pointing towards (at the end of the poem):

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,

And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

Sincerely

Nick




Upcoming events

The annual **Teversham Church Garden Party** will be held on **Friday 17 July**, from 7pm, at 60 High Street, the home of Martin and Dinah Clemoes. Tickets are £12 – from Martin & Dinah (01223 293885, evenings) or other members of the congregation.

Patrick Craig – who was attached to us for two years whilst training for ministry at Ridley Hall – is to be ordained priest on **Saturday 4 July** at St Albans Cathedral. Do remember him in your prayers.

Our congratulations go to the Venerable **Alex Hughes**, archdeacon of Cambridge, who is to be the next Bishop of Brixworth (in the Diocese of Peterborough). There will be a farewell service at Great St Mary's on **Monday 6 July** at 7pm.



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Our Parishes

If you would like to discuss baptism or thanksgiving for the birth of a child, the reading of marriage banns and weddings, or arrangements for a funeral at any of our churches, please contact Nick, our Rector/Vicar (see inside cover for contact details).

Do you have something to announce, someone to thank or congratulate, or a request to make? If so, send your message to the Editor and see it published here!

Ancient Shepherds' Book Club

We meet at The King's Head, Fen Ditton, on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7.30pm. Please join us there or contact Carol, on 07941 492271, for further details.



Wed, 1st July, 7.30pm, 'Growing up Barefoot' by David R Bradshaw

Wed, 5th August, 7.30pm, 'Beloved' by Toni Morrison

Wed, 5th September, 7.30pm, 'The Names' by Florence Knapp

Safeguarding vulnerable people in our parishes

Everyone who has a role in the church has to undergo safeguarding training – whether you are on the PCC, or a Churchwarden, or LLM or incumbent. The training is specific to the role you have. Some people think it's a lot of fuss; however, hardly a week goes by when the media does not report a terrible story of a child or young person having been assaulted or abused or groomed by a person they thought they could trust, or a vulnerable adult has been persuaded to give large sums of money to someone who has offered to "help" them. The Church of England is currently running a campaign called *It's not Just Policy, It's Personal*. The campaign's title is intentional. At the centre of every safeguarding concern is a person who has taken the difficult step of disclosing harm or risk. This campaign reminds us that safeguarding guidance and codes of conduct are not just simply statutory processes to be followed. Creating a safe space for people to report, and how we respond to them, matters.



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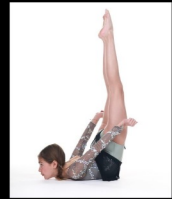
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Progress Report on the work to St Peter's Horningsea

In mid June, as I write this, the new limecrete floor is almost dry and therefore almost ready for the next stage when the pammments can be laid. However, the contractors have not yet heard if the pammments are ready! Pammments are 9 inch square clay floor tiles, made to order in Burwell from local Burwell clay. They take about three months to make. We have suggested that when the tiles are laid down the outline of the shape of the wall that was uncovered (probably Norman, possibly Saxon) could be marked some way on the tiles.

Meanwhile the work to make the access to the Tower has progressed well. New ladders, handholds and balustrades are in place. The louvres have been repaired and replaced and bird protection netting is ready to be installed. At the request of a parishioner, we are looking into putting a swift nest box in the tower – behind the louvres but in front of the netting. The netting has to be small enough to stop birds entering but big enough to allow the bats to enter.

Work has not yet started on repairing the rotten wood on the bottom of the 15th Century pews.

The timetable for completion of the project is still late August/early September, when we can look forward to having services in St Peter's once again.



Strawberry and Rhubarb Jam

As it's that time of year, maybe a strawberry jam recipe would come in handy – this makes about one jar and uses up small amounts of both strawberry and rhubarb.

8 oz rhubarb chopped into even pieces

8 oz strawberries hulled and halved/chopped (small are best)

1 tbsp lemon juice 1 tbsp water 12 oz granulated sugar

Simmer the rhubarb very slowly with the water and lemon until the rhubarb is soft. Add the strawberries and sugar and simmer gently for another few minutes until the sugar dissolves. Bring to a full rolling boil and test for setting after 5–10 minutes, then pot and seal.

A Paean of Praise and Thanks to Kerry, retiring Editor of “New Life” Magazine

As regular as clockwork the prompt reminders came,
Deadlines for “New Life” articles faithfully the same
Sometimes a little leeway kindly granted for delaying
Or the important notice that really needed saying.
Updates on the building plans and history in the making,
Recipes for chutney and every kind of baking.
The functional and erudite, the humorous and the Mouse Makes.
The Coffee Pot announcements and visions of the traybakes,
The travelogues and poems, the Gardening Club report,
The Book Club and the adverts for the tradesmen we have sought.
200 Club, a must to check! Which one of us is winner?
The numbers bought help boost church funds so nobody’s a sinner!
Upcoming dates and services are vital to join in
So we get them into “New Life”, diary dates for kith and kin.
The Vicar’s monthly homily with kindness and deep thought,
Helping us to understand God’s World that seems so fraught.
The most essential back page with its Sunday Service plan
So that worshipping is noted, we’ll get there if we can.
So, Kerry, nine years long you edited this load.
You encouraged, praised and guided us in every writing mode.
Thanks for patience and for kindness through the thick and through
the thin.
Like the Good Lord above us, you could always fit us in!

*Written on behalf of “New Life” contributors past and present and
“New Life” readers everywhere.*

Mim Garner



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2026

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5th Mar Village Hall
2nd Apr Village Hall
7th May Village Hall
4th Jun Village Hall

2nd Jul Village Hall
6th Aug Village Hall
3rd Sep Village Hall
1st Oct Village Hall
5th Nov Village Hall
3rd Dec Village Hall



'I dearly loved the Red Lion'

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The Guardian, February 2018

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James Knappett 2* michelin
The Telegraph August 2021



Over the last two years

The Red Lion in Soham has been lovingly restored by Peter Leonard to bring the building back to its former glory.

Lucy Jarman (formerly of The Old Fire Engine House in Ely) has now opened the Red Lion as a restaurant, serving a rustic menu of Mediterranean and British food, using seasonal and local produce. Private dining available and an event space which seats up to 80 people.



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FEN DITTON GARDENING CLUB

June is when club members head off on their annual garden trip. Normally we would book a coach and visit a garden outside of the County. Planning for the trip this year coincided with the unrest in Iran. With the uncertainty of fuel prices at the time, members in their majority voted for the committee to organise more local trips.

So in June we've had a garden trip BONANZA, with visits to multiple gardens. These included Duxford Mill and 6 other gardens as part of the National Garden Scheme, Kings College Gardens including a tour of the private Fellowes Garden, a private garden in Fen Ditton and Cambridge Botanicus including an exclusive tour for members. They have been very enjoyable visits, wondering around looking at all the magnificent Summer blooms on display.

On Sunday 14th June, three committee members held an information stall at the Abbey People Big Lunch. Not only did we spread the word on the club, but also had a nature inspired printing activity for the children to do. This was a first for the club and it was good to talk to lots of people about the Gardening Club, the upcoming Village Show and to see the pleasure of the children drawing and printing. In July we will have a Summer Picnic and then we will be taking a hiatus as we gear up for our next big event, which is the Village Show taking place on Saturday 12th September.

This year the show will be at the new, bigger venue of Fen Ditton Community Primary School, with longer hours open to the public. Not only will we have all the usual mix of categories from Fruit & Vegetables, Flowers, Handicraft and Photography for adults, we also have a new Children's Photography category!

It is free to enter any category and is open to members and residents who live in CB5 8 or any child who goes to Fen Ditton or Marleigh Primary Schools. For details on this years show categories visit <http://fdgc.uk/show.htm>

Hope to see you soon! *Amy Cudmore (Chair)*

Dates for your diary

Saturday 12th September Fen Ditton Village Show

Tuesday ? October AGM

Tuesday ? November Making the Best of Small Gardens

For all enquiries about Fen Ditton Gardening Club including membership, please visit <http://fdgc.uk> or email c@fdgc.uk.

We can also be found on Facebook/Instagram at **FenDittonGardeningClub**



Fen Ditton Gardening Club

VILLAGE SHOW 2026



SAT 12 SEPT



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Save Honey Hill update

Save Honey Hill continues to work quietly in the background. Since the major decisions last year, SHH has been monitoring the proposals for the draft Local Plan, the proposals for the new Unitary Authority and the proposals for the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation, all of which may have a more or less significant impact on north Cambridge including Horningsea, Fen Ditton and Teversham. We have responded to consultations and maintained contact with Anglian Water. We were particularly pleased to receive a letter from Anglian Water to confirm that they had decided not to relocate from Cowley Road, but to focus on modernising at the existing site and the Water-beach pipeline. They will keep SHH updated as to progress on both of these and we will continue to monitor and to use opportunities which arise to put forward our views and vision. In the meantime, if anyone would like to join SHH to contribute to this effort please do contact Jennie Pratt (chairman) or Charles Jones (vice chairman).

FEN DITTON 200 CLUB

The lucky winners for **July**:

£50 Nick Moir (77)

£20 Owen Johnson (106)

£10 Kim Brown (19)

£10 Michael Ambrose (154)

£10 Charlotte Waters (82)

The lucky winners for **August**:

£50 Imogen Vitali (10)

£20 Sarah Beeson (95)

£10 Jackie Ambrose (199)

£10 Tim Sansom (105)

£10 Laurice Suess (49)

Fifteen Years of *The Cross and The Cosmos* *Trevor Thorn*

From time-to-time various people in our parishes have been kind enough to show interest in my writings and paintings (thank you): so with a conspicuous anniversary just passed, I thought it might be good to share a bit of their story.

In March/April of 2011 ‘blogging’ was a word that meant nothing to me. But during that period, a friend told me of a narrow-boater who had discovered that it was possible to post stories of her river experiences on the internet, to something called a ‘blog’ (web-log) and that a

considerable number of people had shown interest in what she had written.

Having by then written a small collection of poetry about Faith and Science, which, because of its very niche focus, was unlikely to find a conventional publisher, 'blogging' felt an idea worth exploring.

So I purchased the book '*Blogging for Dummies*' and by the beginning of June I felt I knew enough to explore whether any of the things I had written would be of interest to others. So on 16th June 2011, *The Cross and The Cosmos* went live.

Fifteen years later, the blog has had well over half-a-million page views and has been viewed in more than 120 countries.

When the title *The Cross and The Cosmos* occurred to me, I didn't quite appreciate that it really does encompass every thing I feel inspired to write about, so I have ranged far and wide in my verse. Interestingly, the most widely read of all my posts (over 4000 page views) is about a piece of technology that has become familiar to almost all of us. It is a hymn called '*With My Phone in My Hand*' which can be sung to the tune *Nettleton (Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing)*.

You can find more songs, hymns and poems at <https://crossandcosmos.blogspot.com>

With My Phone in My Hand

In my hand I hold vast knowledge
of God's awesome universe:
from it I can seek out beauty
or deep darkness, hate and worse.
Focus me, Lord, on the Godly,
help me seek out truth not lies:
give me strength to shun distractions
that cause harm if I'm unwise.

Give me prudence when I'm spending,
help me to resist excess
that results in landfill fodder,
or in debt that brings distress.
Help me never to be spiteful
even when my anger's raw.
Let me not become beguiled by
evil threads that foment war.

Help me keep in mind the workers
risking life that I might be
well-connected by my touch-screen
to vast networks globally.
Help me question whether justice
flourishes or is suppressed:
see if families of those workers
thrive and grow, or are oppressed?

If I'm prone to chase trendsetters
help me, please to recognise,
when I click their lifestyle platforms
they'll be geared to monetize?
So to caring sites, Lord, guide me:
sites which help me understand
that great mystery, that great wonder:
You love me – ***just as I am.***



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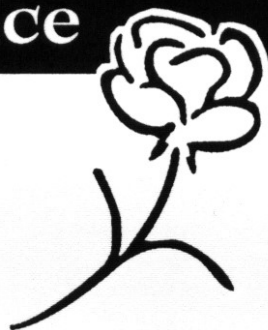
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Thoughts on the Prophetic Voice and our new Archbishop

A few weeks ago I was one of four theologians asked to Canterbury by our new Archbishop, Sarah Mullally. She wanted us to help her to think about what it might mean to have a 'prophetic voice' in the public sphere. Should an Archbishop speak like a prophet? And what would it look or sound like if she did?

I was greatly impressed by her quiet presence, her thoughtfulness, and her attentiveness to those in the room. She talked about how her priorities as Archbishop are to embody calm, continuity, and 'long-form' communication. Not a flurry of activities and initiatives; not a torrent of sound-bites and a running commentary on this, that, and the other via social media posts. She would prefer to wait, digest, and write a longer piece for a newspaper than sound off straight away. She deserves our support in that ambition.

In case it is of interest to New Life readers, I attach here the notes on the prophetic voice that I shared with the Archbishop before we met. One of the reflections that emerged during the day is that an Archbishop's job might be to be a 'sage' at least as much as to be a 'prophet'. As Jewish friends of mine remind me, sages are meant to know the writings of the prophets well, and just when and what to quote from them when encouraging wise judgement, but it is not necessarily their job to add to them!

Decades ago, I gave a series of Holy Week Lectures at The College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, Yorkshire in which I talked about three 'vocations' that the Church has. They were a vocation of presence, description, and thanksgiving. Each in its way is about appropriate attention to context. The last one is about an appropriate disposition to context too (a disposition to be grateful for the resources we find in our contexts, and to try to offer them to God in praise and to others in blessing). Another way of putting this is to say that thanksgiving acknowledges that God is the ultimate context for all our relationships, thought, and action.

Many years later, I realised that one could perhaps map these three vocations onto the traditional 'threefold office' of Christ which the Church is privileged to share: kingship, prophecy and priesthood.

My favourite image of (good) 'rule' (kingship) is wise farming. It seems instructive that the philosopher-king of Ecclesiastes draws most of his best lessons from observing farmers, and that Jesus is, like his ancestor David, a shepherd-king. Rulers, like farmers, need to be present: embedded in place, close to the land they till, knowing the needs and ways of their livestock intimately.

Priests are there to help the people make a eucharistic offering—an offering of thanksgiving—of all the ordinary stuff of their daily lives. Which leaves prophets, whose vocation, I suggest, is description.

It might seem that the call of Christians who rightly and prophetically seek to challenge the powerful should direct all their resistance at the decisions they make. There is undoubtedly a place for that. To concentrate on decision-making has some odd results, however. For example, if the

focus of attention is a decision in a situation, the situation itself can appear objective: 'I know the rules of this board game; now my job is to act'. With the rules of the game I take for granted, I know what I'm up against and the process of making a decision becomes a test of ability to see a number of moves ahead. The rules and the shape of the board are fixed, as in chess. And if situations are viewed like that, then the world in which the situations arise seems fixed too. We know the facts and the facts don't budge.

But is this true? More powerful than even the best player is the person who says what the rules of the game are. And more powerful than the most important decision-maker is the person who tells her what the situation is. Without a good description, a good decision is hard to make. And objective descriptions are hard to come by: every description has an angle. Every decision reflects, and can magnify, an angle.

Perhaps the really powerful people in our lives are those we rely on to describe the world to us. It's worth considering childhood: those who tell us 'how things are', who offer us a vision of the world, who spend hours expanding our imaginations with information and stories about other societies and other times. We rely on parents, on teachers, on news reporters and editors, on friends. Of course we are able to use our own eyes and ears to find out about the world. And there are plenty of philosophers, past and present, who urge us to look and listen for ourselves rather than depending on seemingly second-hand reports. But to encourage us to dissociate ourselves from those who describe the world is irresponsible. If we manage to fool ourselves that no-one is influencing us we no longer pay attention to who is telling us what we think are facts.

Prophets look at what everyone else looks at and see something different and more going on. They therefore become (re)describers, on the basis of their distinctive insights.

Having said that, I want to qualify it. It might suggest a model in which the Church in its prophetic mode offers grandly authoritative redescriptions of contemporary situations from on high. 'Here's how it really is.' Or: 'these are the actual rules; play by them'. The declarations of the prophets (like the parables of Jesus) are interesting because they are descriptive, and often transformatively descriptive, but not in that top-down way. They furnish and equip a collective imagination, out of which people exercise their own new kinds of judgement. The success of their oracles will largely be a consequence of whether they open new ways forward, out of what others follow them in recognizing as an impasse or a rupture in the social settlement.

There is a big difference between the 'rules of the game', and 'what move I choose to make'. The rules of the game are usually invisible to us, like the water in which we swim. Individuals do not write or rewrite them from a position outside the game.

Nevertheless, the frameworks in which our most basic presuppositions are at work are also capable of evolving. They are not static or fixed. The rules can shift. What usually happens is that a problem with our rules-of-the-game (our basic presuppositions) emerges when the world of deci-

sions that is based on them (our decisions about which moves to make) breaks down. Sometimes this feels like crisis or even catastrophe. Sometimes most of us don't notice it until things have got very bad.

What marks prophets out is that they do notice it, and usually before the rest of us. They are those who spot when one world of meaning is giving way and being replaced by another.

This does not make them 'predictors' (for prediction deals in continuities). Prophets focus on discerning changes in the underlying rules of the game. There are often equipped for this task of discernment by virtue of being marginalised or having minority status. (In the present Western European context, this can increase the chance that Christians will have prophetic things to say.) But they can by their utterances reequip a collective imagination. They see what is going on, and (though often only partly able to describe it) they announce it. And that can change the moves that the rest of us make.

Good descriptions of the present situation are essential. Catastrophizing is common today, but it is not the same as prophesying. One key prophetic message is 'fear not'. How can such a prophetic word be offered today in way that meets people's (especially younger people's?) desire to contribute meaningfully and constructively to a future world? People need opportunities, and roles they can play, in the service of this. *Ben Quash*



All in the month of...

It was:

250 years ago, on 4th July 1776 that the US Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress.

Also 250 years ago, from 12th July 1776 to 4th October 1780, that the British explorer Captain James Cook made his third and final voyage.

175 years ago, on 10th July 1851 that Louis Daguerre, French photographer and artist, was born.

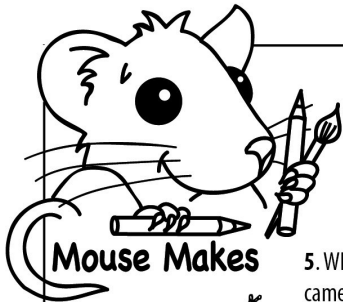
90 years ago, on 24th July 1936 that the speaking clock telephone service was launched in the UK.

60 years ago, on 30th July 1966 that the 1966 FIFA World Cup final took place. England beat Germany 4–2.

50 years ago, on 20th July 1976 that NASA's Viking 1 lander successfully landed on Mars, and sent back the first photographs from the surface of Mars.

30 years ago, on 5th July 1996 that Dolly the sheep was born. She was the first cloned mammal at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh.

20 years ago, on 15th July 2006 that Twitter, the online micro-blogging service, was launched.



Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?
Luke 18:25



8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7

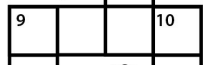
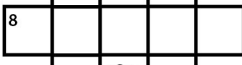


9 across. In what creature's mouth was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27

CREATURES



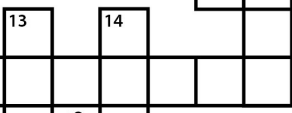
9 down. What lives in holes?
Matthew 8:20



10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?
Deut 7:20



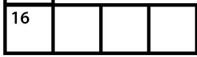
12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?
Luke 3:22



13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7



11. What animals eat crumbs from under the table?
Matthew 15:27



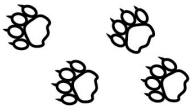
14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13



15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30



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A poem for holiday out and abouts

Spotted in an old church in
deepest Somerset, by a chap
called Ted Ward:

When 'ere I see a little church
I always pay a visit

So when at last I am carried in
The Lord won't say 'Who is
it?'

THE THREE PARISHES SERVICES FOR JULY 2026

<p>5 July <i>5th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am All-age Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Church closed for public worship during building works</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4.00pm Village Service</p>
<p>12 July <i>6th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am Holy Communion</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am Holy Communion</p>
<p>19 July <i>7th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 10.30am All-age Café Church</p>		
<p>26 July <i>8th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>			<p style="text-align: center;">10.30am United Holy Communion</p>



ST MARY'S
FEN DITTON






ST PETER'S
HORNINGSEA



ALL SAINTS
TEVERSHAM

THE THREE PARISHES SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2026

<p>2 August <i>9th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	 <p>ST MARY'S FEN DITTON</p> <p>10.30am Holy Communion</p>	 <p>ST PETER'S HORNINGSEA</p> <p>Church closed for public worship during building works</p>	 <p>ALL SAINTS TEVERSHAM</p> <p>4.00pm Village Service</p>
<p>9 August <i>10th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p>10.30am Holy Communion & Baptism</p>		<p>10.30am Holy Communion</p>
<p>16 August <i>17th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p>8.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 10.30am All-age Café Church</p>		
<p>23 August <i>12th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>			<p>10.30am United Holy Communion</p>
<p>30 August <i>13th Sunday after Trinity</i></p>	<p>10.30am United Holy Communion</p>		

Dates for your diary in Horningsea

On **Saturday 4 July** Horningsea Residents Association have organised Village Day from 3pm on the Village Green – with a nod to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in America. There will be bouncy castles, tug of war, village games, refreshments including a cook your own barbeque, and music.

On **Saturday 11 July** in Horningsea Village Hall there will be the 70th Annual Show. Schedules have been distributed to every household but extra schedules and entry forms can be obtained from www.horningsea.net/horningsea-horticultural-show. Doors open for viewing at 2.30pm, prize giving and auction of goods from 3.30pm.

The Vikings are coming! – During the weekend of **Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September** a Viking reenactment group will follow in the footsteps of their ancestors who, in the year 870 came up the river Cam and attacked the Saxon Minster in Horningsea! They will be arriving in a longboat, called The Bear, and will camp on the field between the Church and the River. During the weekend there will be displays of Living History possibly including axe throwing, archery, wood carving, weaving, calligraphy, Viking cooking ... Viking funeral rites ... and some skirmishes as well as the attack on the church. Details of the programme will be circulated and publicised nearer the time but write the date in your diary now!

Also Saturday morning **12 September** the Bell Ringers will hold “open bell ringing” and invite anyone interested in finding out more about the ancient art of ringing to come and have a go. Come and ring and warn the village of the imminent arrival of the Viking enemy! And, as if that is not enough for one weekend – Historic Churches Ride & Stride also takes place. This event encourages people to cycle, walk or ride horses between local churches to raise money for Historic Churches. Visitors taking part in Ride & Stride will also be welcome at the other activities taking place that weekend.

Finally, on **Tuesday 15 September** at St Peter’s (evening), in the style of Radio 4’s programme “In Our Time” Rev’d Nick Moir will moderate a discussion between Rosalind Love (Elrington and Bosworth Professor of Anglo-Saxon, UofC), Rory Naismith (Professor of Early Medieval English History, UofC) and Lesley Abrams (Emeritus Professor of Early Medieval History, University of Oxford) on the history of the Saxon Minster and the Viking raid of 870.