

**The Wilford Benefice - Rendlesham Cluster**  
**The Parishes of Rendlesham ~ Eyke ~ Bromeswell ~ Wantisden ~ Tunstall**

**Clergy Contacts:**

**Team Rector: Rev'd Mandy Reynolds**  
 revmandy.rendlesham@yahoo.com  
 01394 447844  
 Mandy's usual day off is Friday



**Assistant Curate: Rev'd Gregory Gooch**  
 RevGreg24@gmail.com  
 07544066812  
 Greg's usual day off is Saturday

**NEXT SUNDAY - 21st December**  
*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

9.30am	St. Gregory, Rendlesham	Family Carol Service
11am	St. Felix Rendlesham	Holy Communion
2pm	St. Felix Rendlesham	Carols and Lessons

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Monday:**

10.30am - Funeral in St. Felix, Rendlesham  
 7-9pm - St. Felix Church in Use

**Tuesday:**

10:15am-11.30am - Cafe & Top-Up Shop at St. Felix  
 5-6pm - Open Church at St. Felix  
 6.30-8.30pm - St. Felix Church in Use

**Wednesday:**

2pm - Ladies Group in back room @ St. Felix  
 3.30-4.30pm - Rendlesham School Christmas Art  
 Exhibition in St. Felix Church

**Friday:**

8.50am - Eyke School Service in All Saints, Eyke  
 3.30pm - Christmas Tree Service in All Saints, Eyke

**FOR PRAYER**

- We pray for the Top-Up Shop at St. Felix Church - for all its customers and for all the volunteers who serve in this important ministry.
- We lift up to God all those who are unwell at this time, and ask for God's peace and comfort to be with them.
- We pray for the family of Alan Harrow whose funeral takes place on Monday,

**Contacts -**

- Revd Kathy Wilson - The Place by the Water - [theplacebythewater@gmail.com](mailto:theplacebythewater@gmail.com) - 07884 373799
- Benefice Safeguarding Officer - Charlotte Gooch - [wilfordbeneficesafeguarding.com](http://wilfordbeneficesafeguarding.com)
- Benefice Administrator - Linda Cooper - [contactwilfordbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:contactwilfordbenefice@gmail.com)
- Please send items for the website and church calendar to David Jordan on [david@webspider.org](mailto:david@webspider.org)
- Please send items for the pew sheet to Rev Greg.

**NOTICES & DIARY DATES**

**Brass Band Carol Concert - Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the Brass Band Carol Concert on Thursday night. It was a tremendous evening of uplifting Christmas music and festive refreshments. We were pleased to raise about £200 for St. Felix Church and £100 in refreshments for which the money will be donated to local charity - Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue (SULSAR).

**Don't forget...** There's a **Carols by Candlelight** service at **St John's in Wantisden** this afternoon at 3pm!

**Looking Ahead:**

- **Sunday 28th December - 10.30am - Christingle Cafe Church at St. Felix**

**Supporting 'The Leprosy Mission'**

Over Advent we would like to work towards raising funds to support the work of The Leprosy Mission to enable us to donate enough money to train a nurse specialised in Leprosy treatment- this costs £185. Please support if you are able as we journey through Advent together. We are SO close to achieving our target, so thank you to for all of your generosity so far. Lynn will also be selling Christmas cards in aid of The Leprosy Mission each Sunday over the coming weeks.

**Alone at Christmas?**

Rendlesham Care Centre will be opening their doors on Christmas Day for anyone who might be alone this Christmas and would like to join them for lunch and company. If this is something you are interested in, or know someone who this might be useful for, then please let Rev Greg know so he can inform the RCC in advance for catering purposes.

**Christmas Tree Service at All Saints Eyke**

On Friday at 3.30pm there will be a short Christmas Tree Service at All Saints Eyke where families from Eyke School have been invited to come and admire the Christmas Trees that have been put up and to come together for a short service and carols before heading off on their Christmas break. However, all are welcome to come along and admire the beautifully dressed church and sing a few carols to get the weekend off to a Christmasy start.

## Readings for 14<sup>th</sup> December ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent ~ Purple

### Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### Isaiah 35:1-10

*A reading from the book of Isaiah chapter 35 beginning at verse 1*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' <sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water. the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. <sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with

singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*This is the word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God*

### Psalms 146: 4-10

<sup>4</sup> Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;  
<sup>5</sup> Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever;  
<sup>6</sup> Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger.  
<sup>7</sup> The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;  
<sup>8</sup> The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous;  
<sup>9</sup> The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Alleluia.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the  
beginning is now and shall be forever  
Amen**

### James 5: 7-10

*A reading from a letter to James chapter 5 beginning at verse 7*

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup> Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*This is the word of Lord  
Thanks be to God*

### Matthew 11:2-11

*Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew  
Glory to you O Lord*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' <sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." <sup>11</sup> Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you O Christ*

### Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**