

Prayer Diary

Our prayer focus this week is Local Organisations meeting in or serving our communities, and especially those providing support and hospitality. We also pray each day for those who are unwell and in our own prayers.

- Our Bishops Graham, Jane and Ian.
- Our Rector, Revd. Joanna Haywood, our 'ministry team', churchwardens and PCC's that under Joanna's leadership and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Christ's Church in this benefice may grow in faith, service and witness.
- The Horstead Centre, the staff and all the children who visit.
- All in Church Street and Close and the Maltings, Coltishall

Monday 23rd February *Polycarp Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155* We thank God for the life of this Church Father and his writings that give insight into the life of the early church.

- Wroxham and Aylsham Food Banks
- All in Norwich Road, Horstead

Tuesday 24th February

- Coltishall & Horstead Lunch Club
- All in 'The Wilderness' and Parish Road, Stratton Strawless

Wednesday 25th February

- Coltishall and Horstead Good Neighbours Scheme.
- All in Well Green and Well Green Close, Frettenham

Thursday 26th February

- All those who meet in the Tithe Barn, Horstead and Hainford Village Hall
- The residents of Hall Lane, Hainford

Friday 27th February – *George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633*
'Teach me my God and King in all things thee to see and what I do in anything, to do it as for Thee.'

George Herbert was an English Parish Priest whose poetry, some turned into popular hymns, has been a source of spiritual nurture for many.

- All those who meet in Coltishall Village Hall
- The residents of High Street, Station Road and the North Walsham Road, Coltishall

Saturday 28th February

- Our worship in Hainford at 9.30am and the Coltishall All Age Worship at 10am.
- All those who meet in the Church Room
- The residents of Green Lane, Horstead

THE COLTISHALL GROUP OF PARISHES
*Serving the communities of Coltishall, Frettenham
Hainford, Horstead and Stratton Strawless*

22nd February 2026

First Sunday of Lent

Services Today

9.30am Morning Worship, Hainford Church
11.00am Holy Communion, Tithe Barn, Horstead

Monday 23rd February

9.00am Morning Prayer, Horstead Church

Tuesday 24th February

9.00am Morning Prayer, Hainford Church
3.00pm Interment of Ashes, John and Violet Bone
Stratton Strawless Church

Wednesday 25th February

10.00am Midweek Holy Communion, Coltishall Church
followed by coffee at the Red Lion Café
12.30pm Church room lunch (book with Joan Milligan)

Thursday 26th February

Rev'd Joanna out all day at Diocesan MAT AGM
9.00am Morning Prayer, The Beeches, Stratton Strawless
10.30am Coffee, followed by Lent Course at 11.00am
Coltishall Church Room. All welcome.
Further details from Lucy, Sylvia or Rev'd Joanna

Friday 27th February

Rev'd Joanna rest day

Saturday 28th February

9.00am Morning Prayer, Frettenham Church

Next Sunday

1st March - Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am Holy Communion, Hainford Church
10.00am All Age Worship, Coltishall Church Room

Readings:

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17, John 3.1-17

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CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE BENEFICE

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Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

1st Reading: Romans 5.12-19

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Gospel: Matthew 4.1-11

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.²He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴But he answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." '

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,
"He will command his angels concerning you",
and "On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '

⁷Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." '

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,
"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him." '

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Post Communion prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and
living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please note.....

Coltishall and **Horstead** Sunday services are moving from these very cold churches for the rest of January, February and until the middle of March.

Coltishall services will be in the **Church Room**, Rectory Road, Coltishall and **Horstead's** in the **Tithe Barn**.

Please contact Rev'd Joanna if you've any questions. There will be coffee or tea served from 10.30am before the 11.00am services. Do join us.

Wednesday morning communion services will continue in Coltishall church. It's a shorter service and blankets are provided, followed by a warming cup of coffee in the Red Lion Café.

starting Thursday 19th February 2026

Weekly Lent Group meeting at 11am (coffee from 10.30am) in Coltishall Church Room to think, discuss and pray as we 'Draw Near' during Lent, following the Church of England's book/app. For more details: Lucy Care or Sylvia Coward

It's not too late to join in!

Or are you wanting to read a new book for Lent?

Rev'd Joanna recommends:

- *Meeting God in John: David Ford*
- *Transfiguration – 50 pilgrim steps: Rob Marshall*
- *At Home in Lent - An exploration of Lent through 46 objects: Gordon Giles*
- *The Grace-filled Wilderness: Magdalen Smith*
- *My Sour-Sweet Days – George Herbert and the journey of the soul: Mark Oakley*

Save the Date

Saturday, 28th March 2026, 10.30-12.30

Messy Easter @ Tithe Barn, Horstead

Do you have children? Know any? Bring them along!
Would you like to serve on the team putting this event on?
Speak to Rev'd Joanna!

If you love bringing the love of Jesus to children, consider joining us as we offer Experience Easter, an interactive way to explore the Easter story, to children from our local schools in Hainford and Coltishall churches. Again speak to Rev'd Joanna. Dates in the two weeks from 16/3/26. Safeguarding is really important as we show God's love, so all on team will be expected to do safeguarding training, and have a DBS (arranged by us).