

Prayer Diary

Today is the start of Christian Aid Week. Let us use this week to reflect and pray for greater justice and equality in the world, for good sustainable development to benefit the most disadvantaged communities and for effective response to the challenges of extreme poverty and the effect of global conflict and climate change. We also pray each day for those who are unwell and for all in our own prayers.

Sunday 10th May - *The Sixth Sunday of Easter*

- 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.
- Christian Aid's work in the Middle East, including Palestine/Israel
- All in Wroxham Road & Chapel Lane, Coltishall

Monday 11th May

- Christian Aid's development work in Asian countries.
- All in Rectory Road and Church Close, Horstead

Tuesday 12th May – *Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952*
Gregory Dix, was a British monk and priest of Nashdom Abbey, an Anglican Benedictine community. He was a noted liturgical scholar whose work had particular influence on the reform of Anglican liturgy in the mid-20th century.

- Christian Aid's development work in Europe including the Ukraine and poor communities in this country.
- All in Cromer Road, Hainford and Stratton Strawless

Wednesday 13th May

- Christian Aid's development work in Latin America
- All in Mill Road and Mayton Avenue, Frettenham.

Thursday 14th May – *Ascension Day*

'Hail the day that sees him rise. Alleluia!

- Christian Aid's development work in Africa
- All in Kings Road and College Close Coltishall.

Friday 15th May – *Matthias the Apostle*

- Apart from his appointment by the apostles, recorded in Acts, to replace Judas, and the record that he was part of Jesus' wider disciple group nothing more is recorded in scripture about him. Tradition says that St. Matthias planted the faith in Cappadocia and on the coasts of the Caspian Sea, residing chiefly near the port of Issus. (both in modern Turkey)
- Christian Aid's emergency work as part of the Disasters Emergency Committee.
- All in Tungate Close and Causeway Drive, Horstead

Saturday 16th May - *Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877*

Caroline was an English humanitarian and Roman Catholic known mostly for her support of migrant females and family welfare in Australia.

- Our worship tomorrow, in Hainford and Coltishall and all involved in leading and facilitating our services.
- The campaigning and educational work of Christian Aid
- All in Shorthorn Road and Bracken Close, Stratton Strawless

THE COLTISHALL GROUP OF PARISHES

Serving the communities of Coltishall with Gt Hautbois, Frettenham, Hainford, Horstead and Stratton Strawless



10th May 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Services Today

9.30am Morning Worship, Hainford Church,
11.00am Holy Communion – Horstead Church
4.00pm Rogation Service – Frettenham Church

Monday 11th May

9.00am Morning Prayer, Horstead Church

Tuesday 12th May

9.00am Morning Prayer, Hainford Church
2.00pm Mill House Service for residents and staff

Wednesday 13th May

9.00am Morning Prayer, Coltishall Church
10.00am Midweek Holy Communion, Coltishall Church
12.30pm Church room lunch (book with Joan Milligan)

Thursday 14th May

9.00am Morning Prayer, Stratton Strawless Church
12.00noon Funeral of Sarah Smith, Hainford Church
7.00pm Ascension Day Holy Communion, Horstead Church

Friday 15th May

Joanna to Community Changemakers Day at Haveringland Church. A free conference for all those involved in running rural churches. Includes free lunch. Lift available. Booking essential: www.communitychangemakers.org.uk

Saturday 16th May

Rev'd Joanna's Rest Day

Next Sunday

17th May 2026 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.30am Morning Worship – Hainford church
11.00am Holy Communion – Coltishall church

Readings: Acts 1.6-14, John 17.1-11

The APCM has been postponed due to late accepting of the accounts for some PCCs. Could you please put the new date of Thursday, 21st May in your diaries. 7pm at the Church Room in Coltishall. All welcome.

The annual report and accounts will be available 2 weeks prior to that meeting and will be circulated to all on the mailing list with hard copies available to look at in our churches.

Would you like to become a member of the PCC or a Deanery Synod Rep for your church? The please talk to Rev'd Joanna... or any member of the current PCCs

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE BENEFICE

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Collect

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us
to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

1st Reading: Acts 17.22–31

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we too are his offspring."

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

Gospel reading: John 14.15-21

¹⁵ 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Post Communion prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.

This week is **Christian Aid Week**, and our Prayer Diary focus this week.

Please consider donating to this Charity, who lift people out of poverty and hardship by providing training and employment opportunities through locally trusted partners. There are envelopes in our churches, or you can give online. Please return your filled envelopes to church.

Dates for your diary

**Sunday: 4pm 10th May Rogation Sunday
Service of Blessing for the growing crops
Frettenham Church**

**Thursday: 7pm 14th May Ascension Day
Service of Holy Communion
Horstead Church**

**Thursday: 7pm 21st May APCM
Coltishall Church Room, Rectory Road, Coltishall**

**Saturday: 10.30am 23rd May
Pilgrimage from Horstead to Coltishall**
Reflecting and praying for our parishes and communities as we walk from Horstead to Coltishall, via St Theobalds, Great Hautbois, with shortcuts for the less mobile. Refreshment stop midway, with lunch at the Red Lion afterwards. Wheelchair/ buggy friendly (with some adaptation)
Please speak to Rev'd Joanna for full details and for booking of refreshment stops!

**Sunday: 10am 31st May
Benefice Holy Communion
Stratton Strawless Church**

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Sarah Smith, Treasurer and faithful member of All Saints', Hainford died on Sunday 19th April. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends at this sad time.

Sarah's funeral will take place at Hainford Church at 12 noon on Thursday, 14th May 2026, followed by refreshments at the St Faith Centre. All welcome.