



Alde Sandlings Benefice

Aldeburgh, St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church,
Aldringham, St Andrew's Parish Church,
Friston, St Mary's Parish Church
Knodishall, St Lawrence's Parish Church

Priest in charge: The Revd Sarah du Boulay

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Sunday 2nd October **Sixteenth Sunday after** **Trinity**

Services this Sunday for The Alde Sandlings Benefice

Aldeburgh	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Harvest Festival Service
Aldringham	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Knodishall	9.00am	Holy Communion

Message from our priest in charge – The Revd Sarah du Boulay

Dear Friends,

I read Nicky's sermon this week with interest. I think we don't talk often enough about angels – both the celestial kind, and those who walk amongst us here on earth.

I'm particularly drawn to the latter type, as we are currently celebrating several of our church family and their long years of faithfulness and service – Valerie, Rev'd Nicky, Rev'd Derek, Titch, David and Sarah, Dick ... there are others, I'm sure, whose names I don't yet know. This is an opportunity for us to celebrate and bless people around us. To acknowledge the holiness within them, and to say a big 'thank you'.

The saying goes that you never know when you are entertaining angels (taken from Hebrews 13), or if people are just angelic. But God is present in both. Good is present in both. And aren't we fortunate to have them walking amongst us?

With every blessing,

Sarah

Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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.

First Reading

Habakkuk 1.1-4

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save?

Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

Second Reading

Timothy 1.1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your

grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Gospel Reading

Luke 17.5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" '

Readings for Aldeburgh only

Matthew 13:24 – 33

Next week

Sunday 9th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Sermon preached by The Revd Nichola Winter at Aldeburgh Parish Church, 25th September

Genesis 28:10-17
Revelation 12:7-12
John 1:47-51

Words from the Commendation, read at our late Queen's funeral last Monday, and, indeed, at every Christian funeral: 'In communion with all the blessed saints, and aided by the angels and archangels and all the armies of the heavenly host, may thy portion this day be in peace, and thy dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem.'

That final milestone on our journey through life is marked with the aid of angels as they accompany us at our end. Week by week, in our eucharistic celebration we proclaim that we are joining the angels' song of praise. The collect today tells how angels and mortals are constituted 'in a wonderful order.' But just who are we joining when we lift up our song of praise? What is this about a 'wonderful order'?

It was Thomas Heywood, who, in his 'Hierarchy of the Blessed Angels', written in 1635, said, 'Angels were the first creatures God made, created as pure light, ordained with the light to serve God, who is the Lord of Light. They have charge to conduct us, wisdom to instruct us and grace to preserve us. They are the saint's tutors, Heaven's heralds, and the Bodies' and Souls' guardians...'

What is the message we so often hear from angels? 'Do not be afraid.' Angels work continually to keep the channels of communication, illumination and healing open between man and God so that humans can enter into a full relationship with God. So when we raise our voices in holy praise we are joining a goodly company indeed!

In the bible we so often hear how angels were often involved in announcing and raising up deliverers for the people of God as and when they became entrapped in various forms of bondage, slavery and sin. Think of the angels involved when our Saviour himself came to earth. It was Gabriel who prepared Jesus' parents for his birth; angels announced the birth of the Saviour to working folk in the fields, and an angel warned Joseph to flee the wrath of Herod and make himself scarce in Egypt for a time. An angel strengthened Jesus in his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane; angels were present when the stone was rolled away from the tomb, and when Jesus returned to his heavenly Father. Throughout

biblical history angels provide guidance, help and encouragement to God's people. Jacob encounters angels and the Lord himself on his journey from Beersheba to Haran. In Matthew's gospel we hear how Jesus says that children's angels 'always see the face of my Father in heaven' - it was this that gave rise to the Christian concept of guardian angels.

When the end of the world comes it is angels who have been tasked with judgement and the administration of justice. The reading from Revelation presents this dramatic picture of Michael and his angels fighting and overcoming evil in the end times. As Jesus tells Nathanael, his followers will see the amazing spectacle of angels ascending and descending on the Son of God; it will be the angels who will 'gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other' (Mt 24:31.) Angels will then assist with the final judgement under the guidance of the Archangel Michael, whose name means 'like unto God'. Michael is understood to be the Captain-General of the heavenly hosts. It is Michael who will sound the trumpet at the resurrection; receive the immortal spirits when they are released from death and weigh them in the balance. Michael heads the hosts in that cosmic battle in which we're all engaged to a greater or lesser degree. Twenty years ago, at my Michaelmas ordination, I knelt at the feet of the Bishop in our cathedral at Bury St Edmunds. Above and around me was a complex structure of builders' scaffolding - nothing particularly angelic about it but a timely reminder that we are all 'works in progress' as we journey through life. An important part of our prayer life needs to be that aligning of ourselves with God and the angels in the continual struggle against evil and all that pulls us out of true relationship with God.

Today we celebrate Michael and all angels. Michaelmas is one of the quarter days marking a turn towards the darker half of the year. We none of us knows what the coming months hold in store but God has promised that He is with us to the end of the age. The message of the angels is, 'Do not be afraid.' May our hearts be filled not with fear but with joy.

Words by Christina Rossetti:

I go from earth to heaven, a dim uncertain road,
A houseless pilgrim through the world unto a sure abode:
While evermore an Angel goes with me day and night,
A ministering spirit from the land of light,
My holy fellow-servant sent to guide my steps aright.

Post Communion

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

NOTICES

Coffee Morning at Aldringham Parish Church

The Friends of St. Andrews are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 8th October in the Church from 10am - 12noon.
All the usual stalls and refreshments. All welcome.

† Morning Prayer across the Benefice with Revd Sarah †

Revd Sarah will be bringing the benefice together in prayer each morning from 9 -9.30am. People are very welcome to join Sarah, no regular commitment required, just pop along when you wish.

Monday – Friston

Tuesday - Knodishall

Wednesday - Aldringham

Thursday - Aldeburgh

Harvest Festival Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice

Aldeburgh – 10.30am - 2nd October

Aldringham 11am – 23rd October

Thank God for the Harvest

† Church of England and Diocese Online Worship †

There are many online services you can view from the Church of England and our cathedral. Here are some links below.

Church of England website

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online/weekly-online-services>

Church of England Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/thechurchofengland/>

Church of England YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLecK8GovYoaYzIgyOEIKZg>

St Edmundsbury Cathedral Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/stedscathedral>

Food Banks at the East of England Co-op

Foodbanks provide a valuable service to those in need in our communities. The Aldeburgh Co-op and Solar in Leiston are doing a grand job in collecting food donations, which are collected regularly and distributed. So please look out for the various collection baskets.

Youth Club – We need your help!

The Youth Club is back! 7pm to 9pm on Monday evenings during term time for 10–14-year-olds. We are thankful that the Youth Club is as popular as ever. We **really need** some more volunteers to help on these evenings. There is a rota in the west porch that you can add your name to, if you can help (after the summer holidays) or you can contact Fran Smith at admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk

Weekly Benefice Newsletter

If you would like something added to the weekly newsletter that is relevant to the Benefice, please do let Claire know and we will do our best to include it the following week.

All requests by 4pm on Thursday please

† Pilgrims Together on Wednesdays on Zoom †

The worship starts at 6.30pm (Zoom call opens from 6.10pm) and the call is then left open after the worship time for people to catch up. People are welcome to email pilgrimstogether473@gmail.com to receive a copy be added to our mailing list or for the Zoom links.

Saturday Community 15th October Good News Faith Cafe @ The Outside Inn, Parrot Pub 9.30 - 10.30

A time for conversation, a hot drink and a croissant. A time to share and offer our thoughts and stories. Acts of kindness within the Outside Inn and taken out into the outside world.

Lunchtime Classical Concert Series

Aldeburgh Parish Church

Tuesday 18th October at 12noon

The highly successful series of the 2022 Classical Concerts organised by **Save the Children** in collaboration with Nadia Lasserson continue.

The third concert will take place on Tuesday 18th October at 12 noon with trios for Clarinet, Cello, and Piano.

Masumi Ogura (Clarinet)

Janet Coles (Cello)

Nadia Lasserson (Piano)

All Welcome