



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

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Sunday 17th November Second Sunday before Advent

Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice this Sunday

Aldeburgh	8.00am	Holy Communion	Prebendary Derek Johnson
	10.30am	Morning Prayer	Led by Elder Fran Smith
Aldringham	11.00am	Service of the Word	Led by Elder David Gordon
Friston	10.00am	Holy Communion	Very Revd Christopher Lewis
Knodishall	9.30am	Service of the Word	Led by Elder Ros Macallister

A Message from Rev'd Mary Brown

Dear Friends,

Last weekend we marked Remembrance Sunday with special services in all four of our churches, with people from every parish coming along who might not usually attend church services. One joy of being part of the Church of England is that we are officially here for everyone who lives within our parish boundaries, whatever their personal attitude towards the church, or God. Days like Remembrance Sunday provide us with an amazing opportunity to reach out to those beyond our usual congregations with the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ.

As we come towards Advent, Claire is producing our annual Christmas Cards which detail all of the special services happening throughout Advent across the Benefice. Please do start praying now about who you could invite to come to a carol service, Christingle, the crib service, pop-up outdoor carols, or one of our midnight or Christmas Day services. Consider dropping off one of the Christmas Cards with neighbours and friends. It would be wonderful to spread the real Christmas joy of Jesus Christ as far as possible this Advent.

With love and prayers,

Mary

The Alde Sandlings Saturday Gratitude

A recap for all the positive news and love that God has shown us in the benefice this week. We have much to be grateful for.

- Aldeburgh** This year the Remembrance Service began in church and then processed down to the war memorial. This was a blessing to our regular congregation as well as to the wider town. Around 450 people gathered at the war memorial.
- Aldringham** Were once again blessed with a live rendition of the Last Post and Reveille from a local musician. This makes such a difference to the service and those gathered for it.
- Friston** We are grateful for all those who do the flowers for church, working hard to make St Mary's a beautiful place of welcome.
- Knodishall** We are grateful for all those who clean and maintain the church, using their time and energy to keep St Lawrence's a welcoming place of worship.
- Pilgrims** Are giving thanks for our extended Pilgrim family at Aldringham Court Care Home. We delight in our monthly gatherings with residents, family, friends and staff, times of sharing stories, prayer and praise. A true blessing for all involved.

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Daniel 12.1-3

At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10.11-14 15-18 19-25

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God', and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh) and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Gospel Reading

Mark 13.1-8

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but

the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Sermon by Revd Mary Brown at Aldringham's Remembrance Sunday Service

The First World War was originally referred to as the Great War. It was expected to be the war to end all wars. And yet, only 21 years later, not even a generation, the hopes of a lasting peace were dashed, and the world was once again at war. Communities which had barely begun to heal were torn apart again, griefs were rekindled, fears re-lived. Men whose families had rejoiced at their return set out to fight another enemy.

With our distance from these events it can be hard to really imagine, or clearly remember, what it was like for those who went to war, and for those left behind. But all of us are likely to have some personal experience of the ripple effects of the tragedy of war, especially the Second World War. Not enough years have passed for such horrific events to reach the limit of their impact on individuals, families, nations, cultures. Many of us here today will have experienced the long term effects of war, perhaps on yourselves as people who were evacuated as children or lost a close relative, or on our parents, our grand parents, or others close to us in a way that impacted us.

Today on Remembrance Sunday we mark this. We gather to remember, to remind ourselves of the impact of war, and to honour those who died. We hope that in remembering, our desire to work towards peace will be renewed and refreshed.

Our gospel reading today reminds us of Christ's call to follow him. We are told how Jesus went to the Sea of Galilee *'proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."* And how in response to this call, these men left everything, turned their lives upside down, and followed Jesus.

Soon we will be in the Advent season and we will start hearing the familiar Advent readings, including Isaiah 9 verse 6, which foretells Jesus' birth - *'For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'* It is into this kingdom that Jesus was

calling these Galilean fishermen, and it is into this kingdom that he calls each one of us today. Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

As we gather to remember the loss of war, we are reminded of the gift of peace that Jesus offers us.

Jesus said 'repent and believe the good news' - the good news that the kingdom of God is near, and we are each invited to become part of it. The kingdom of God is a kingdom unlike any other we have known. It is a kingdom of peace and joy and hope and love. When Jesus calls us to follow him, as he did these first disciples, he calls us to give up our lives as we know them, to choose to put down our own aims and agendas, and swap them for God's agenda. And this is what we see happening in our reading from Jonah. The people of Nineveh - which historians argue was one of the most violent kingdoms in the ancient near east - heard Jonah's call to repentance, followed it, and changed their lives, as the reading says they '*turned from their evil ways.*'

As we gather to remember the evil of war, we are called to repentance, to turn our lives to Christ and to live for Him not for ourselves.

Our reading from Hebrews tells us how Jesus brought His Kingdom near, and how he made a way for us to live in it. The writer compares Jesus, our Great High Priest, to the high priests of the earthly temple in Jerusalem. Those high priests had to repeat the sacrifice year on year. Jesus offered himself as the sacrifice for sin 'once for all'.

I started by talking about the First World War being seen as the war to end all wars, and yet it wasn't. The writer to the Hebrews tells us that Jesus' sacrifice of himself on the cross, was the sacrifice to end all sacrifices.

Jesus' sacrifice of himself on the cross was the final blow in his war against sin and death, and with it he won the victory. Victory over death, victory over sin, victory over all forms of suffering. Jesus' victory was confirmed when he rose from the dead, and then ascending to heaven where, as our reading tells us, he stands 'in the presence of God on our behalf'.

This is the good news that Jesus calls us to believe. That we are invited to repent, to turn our lives around, and to follow Jesus, the Prince of Peace, into his Kingdom of Peace.

But we don't need to look far to see that today wars continue, violence continues, mothers still say goodbye to sons, and daughters, not knowing if they will return. Though the victory is won, and Christ has defeated

death, we live in the now and not yet. We know the battle is won, but we are waiting for the peace to be established. This is what the final line of the reading from Hebrews is about: 'Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.'

Those who have followed Christ into his kingdom are those who are eagerly waiting for him, waiting for the day when wars will cease, when suffering will be no more, and as we heard in our reading last week - when God himself will wipe the tears from our eyes.

As we gather to remember the sacrifice of those who died in war, we are reminded of the sacrifice that Christ made for us, giving himself over to death on the cross so that we might be saved in him.

We have talked about the ripple effects of war, that despite our distance from the First and Second World Wars, we still feel their effects on our families, communities and nations today. Wars shape people and places for years after they have ended.

The good news is that Jesus' kingdom also has ripple effects, it also shapes individuals, families, communities and nations, but unlike war, Jesus shapes our lives for good.

So let's all hear Jesus today as he says to us 'the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'" And if you feel unsure about what that good news is, I'd love to invite you to come to the Alpha course which will be running here in Aldringham starting in the new year. Please come and talk to me about it at the end, or look out for details in Pew News and posters.

Post Communion

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lest we forget ...

If you haven't seen it yet, as we approach Remembrance Sunday, St Andrew's at Aldringham have once again created their 'Field of Remembrance' honouring the men of the parish who have given their lives in the service of their Country over the years.



The unique display of a biography of each of those being remembered has been created to remember the fallen as sons of the parish and not just names in a book.

Why not take a walk around the churchyard and look at the 'Field of Remembrance' which will be on display from 4th to 19th November.

After this the biographies are on permanent display inside the church in the parish 'Roll of Honour and Book of Remembrance'.

† 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>

† Morning Prayer across the Benefice †

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

Monday – Aldeburgh & **Friston

Tuesday – **Knodishall

Wednesday – Aldeburgh

Thursday – Aldringham

Friday – Aldeburgh

** Weather permitting, we are prayer walking around Friston and Knodishall. Please speak to Revd Sarah and Revd Mary for more info.

£££ Ways to donate to our churches within the £££

Alde Sandlings Benefice

Your donations REALLY mean so much to us. If you would like to donate this Christmas, please click on the link below.

No matter how small your donation is, it helps us keep our doors open, support our ministry and mission, and to help preserve our church buildings. **THANK YOU SO MUCH**

Just click on the link to support any of our churches -

<https://www.aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk/ways-to-donate-to-the-churches-within-the-alde-sandlings-benefice/>

The Alde Sandlings, Dates for your Diary

- Alpha 11 week Course starting 11th September – 6pm-8pm in the Church Hall. Every Wednesday thereafter.
- Prayer Warriors' Group – Last Tuesdays of the month, starting 24th September 6-7pm in Aldeburgh Church – All welcome
- Benefice Bible Studies Group 1 – Sunday 6th October 3-4.30pm, then every first Sunday of the month at The Rectory, Friston
- Benefice Bible Studies Group 2 – Tuesday 8th October 7-8.30pm, then will run monthly at The Rectory Friston
- Advent Carol Service by Candlelight – Aldringham Church, 1st December at 6pm
- Fun Quiz at Knodishall Village Hall – Friday 6th December at 7pm
- Benefice Christingle Service – Aldeburgh Church, Saturday 7th December at 4pm

All Christmas Dates to follow soon!

Happy 100th Birthday Trixie Keable

Trixie Keable (Aldeburgh) will be 100 years old on Monday 18th November 2024 (thank you to those who have signed her card). God willing, she will be attending the service at 10:30am on Sunday 17th November at St Peter and St Paul's Aldeburgh and would invite those who know and remember her to join her for a piece of birthday cake in the Church Hall immediately after the service.

Marianne Fellowes (Daughter)

† **History of our Churches within The Alde Sandlings**

Canon John Giles has written a very informative piece on the Piper Window at Aldeburgh Parish Church (attached with this newsletter). Have you researched any parts of the history of the church building, or fabric etc that you worship in? Share it with us?

Thank you John!

There is a Britten's Birthday Red House Open Day on the 22nd November – Click on link below for more details.

<https://www.brittenpearsarts.org/events/britten-birthday-the-red-house-open-day>

Prayer Groups

There will be two **benefice monthly Bible Studies Group**. One group will have its first session on Sunday 6th October, and will run every first Sunday of the month from 3-4.30pm. The second group will have its first session on Tuesday 8th October from 7-8.30pm which will run monthly. This will be hosted by Revd Mary at the Friston Rectory.

Prayer Warriors Group

We will meet monthly on the last Tuesday of the month from 6-7pm in Aldeburgh Church, beginning on 24th September.

You are all most welcome. If you would like to join either, please contact Revd Mary to be added to the list.

† Home Visits †

Not everyone can get to church as they were once able to, due to an illness or reduced mobility. We fully understand that this can be incredibly isolating for some. If you, or you know of someone that would like a home visit from one of our Elders, please do let us know.

Or if you would like home communion, please do let a member of clergy know. Please contact them directly or email

admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk and we will do our utmost to arrange a visit.

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.

<https://www.eastofengland.coop/community/foodpoverty/foodbank-support>

Advent Carols by Candlelight Service

at Aldringham Parish Church on Sunday 1st December at 6pm.

Let's start the magic of Christmas at Aldringham.

ALL WELCOME

† 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 16th November Encounter, Pilgrims' Faith Cafe @ The Outside Inn, Parrot Pub 9.30 - 10.30

Come and join us for coffee, tea & croissants; chance to explore questions about faith, chance to reflect, to listen & share thoughts.

All are welcome.

Saturday 7th December Community Breakfast 9.30 @ The Parrot

A delicious breakfast bap and coffee / tea combo for **£7** is on offer at the Parrot, chance to catch up with each other and community news.

All are welcome.

FUN QUIZ - Friday 6th December, 7pm at Knodishall Village Hall

The last "Fun" quiz to be held this year to raise funds for St Lawrence Church. As 13 tables have already been booked, there are 3 tables left to "sell". So if you want to come along on Friday 6th December at Knodishall Village Hall for an evening of fun, laughter, good food, good company, spot prizes - oh, and to answer a few questions - then please phone Pat on 01728 832653 to book your table. Maximum of 6 per team, £7.50 per person, supper provided but bring your own drinks.

Quiz starts promptly at 7pm. Come and join in for a fun night.

Benefice Christingle Service

Come along and join us for this year's Christingle service. One for all the family. This will be held at Aldeburgh Parish Church on Saturday 7th December at 4pm.

ALL WELCOME

**ALDEBURGH PARISH CHURCH
ST PETER & ST PAUL'S**

Invites you to **CHRISTMAS**



**COME AND LISTEN TO THE CHRISTMAS STORY
THERE WILL ALSO BE LOTS OF CHRISTMAS
CRAFT MAKING & MUCH MORE FUN
FOR ALL AGES**

**at the CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER
10am till 12 Noon**

ALL WELCOME

**NO CHARGE. JUST PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU
ARE COMING, SO WE HAVE ENOUGH MATERIALS.**

**Please email Fran Smith at
admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk**

**Sunday 24th November
Sunday Next before Advent**