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

Rector: The Revd Sarah du Boulay
Email: revd.sarah@btinternet.com
Tel: 01728 582213

The Revd Nichola Winter
Email: njwinter@whd.co.uk

Curate: The Revd Mary Brown
Email: revd@mary-brown.co.uk
Tel: 01728 467454

The Revd Johanna Mabey
Email: rev.johannamabey@gmail.com

Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice – Sunday 15th November 2026

Aldeburgh	8am 11am	Holy Communion CW2 Holy Communion	Prebendary Derek Johnson Revd Celia Cook
Aldringham	11am	Family Service	Revd Mary Brown and Elders
Friston	9.30am	Service of the Word	Led by Elder Marie Szpak
Knodishall	9.30am	Service of the Word	Led by Elder Ros Macallister

A message from Revd Sarah du Boulay

Dear friends,

We have a proud tradition of Remembrance Sunday services and events on Remembrance Day itself here in our benefice. Today, I'd like to share with you one of my favourite poems about this season, and the importance of it for us all. It is called 'The Parable of the Old Man and the Young' by Wilfred Owen (1893 – 1918):

So Abram rose, and clave the wood, and went, And took the fire with him, and a knife. And as they sojourned both of them together, Isaac, the first-born spake and said, My Father, Behold the preparations, the fire and iron, But where the lamb for this burnt offering? Then Abram bound the youth with belts and straps, And builded parapets and trenches there. And stretched forth the knife to slay his son. When lo! an angel called him out of heaven, Saying, Lay not a hand upon the lad, Neither do anything to him. Behold, A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns; Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him. But the old man would not so, but slew his son, And half the seed of Europe, one by one.

With prayers as always

Sarah

Readings for Sunday 15th November 2026

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.

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end

Be silent before the Lord God!
  For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
  he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
  and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
  those who say in their hearts,
‘The Lord will not do good,
  nor will he do harm.’
13 Their wealth shall be plundered,
  and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
  they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
  they shall not drink wine from them.
14 The great day of the Lord is near,
  near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
  the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,

a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

5 Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25:14-30

14 Jesus told his disciples this parable: ‘For it is as if a man, going on a
journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; [15]to one
he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to
his ability. Then he went away. [16]The one who had received the five talents
went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. [17]In the
same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. [18]But
the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the
ground and hid his master’s money.

[19]‘After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts
with them. [20]Then the one who had received the five talents came forward,
bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five
talents; see, I have made five more talents.” [21]His master said to him, “Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few
things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your
master.”

[22]‘And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you
handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” [23]His
master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter
into the joy of your master.”

[24]‘Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying,
“Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow,
and gathering where you did not scatter seed; [25]so I was afraid, and I went
and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.”

[26]‘But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you,
that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? [27]Then
you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return
I would have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent
from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29]For to all those who
have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those
who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30]As for this
worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth.”’

✝ 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/UCLecK8GovYoaYzIgyOElKZg

St Edmundsbury Cathedral Facebook Page
https://www.facebook.com/stedscathedral

Sermon by Revd Sarah du Boulay
Remembrance Sunday 2026

Today, we are gathered on this Remembrance Sunday at what feels a particularly solemn moment. We look backwards to our history, and we look outwards to the world as it is today. And quite honestly, can we really argue that we are in a much better place, as far as conflict and suffering go? The global horizon feels heavy and fractured. Devastating conflicts continue to rage across Ukraine, Gaza, the wider Middle East, Sudan, and dozens of other regions. Modern technological anxieties and skyrocketing defence budgets threaten global stability, but it feels as though the cry of the ordinary person, the refugee, and the hungry are largely ignored.

For years we spoke of 'never again' as a historical vow – from our world wars, through genocide in countries such as Rwanda – this has been our refrain. But today it feels like a timid and fragile plea. Today we remember especially the millions who have given their lives for a peace we are still desperately trying to safeguard. It feels hard and it feels heavy and it often feels scary.

But our Bible readings today don't offer us cheap comfort – instead they feel God-given as they meet us precisely where we are: in our grief, our urgency, and our search for an enduring hope.

Our first reading began with a desperate cry. The writer of this psalm doesn't offer a timid plea or polite, distant prayers. Instead he cries out:

"Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me!"

Psalm 70 is a prayer for when we are feeling our most vulnerable. For when our enemy is at the gates and we are desperate for survival. Millions of people around our globe today are trapped in crossfires, hiding in bomb shelters, or waking up to the sirens of war and they need our help. When we pray for peace we need to pray with the urgency of Psalm 70. We need to pray for international humanitarian law to be upheld where instead it is being ignored. We need to pray for corridors of aid to be opened and safeguarded. We need to cry out on behalf of a world that often feels stuck in a cycle of conflict.

This psalm gives us permission to be desperate before God. It reminds us that our eternal help does not come from the strength from chariots, or in our case in missiles or defence budgets. Our civic duty on this day is not just to look backward with gratitude and pride, although that is undoubtedly true. We must also look outwards and upward to the needs of the world today and acknowledge that we cannot fix them on our own. As Christians we pray to God who we believe is our Deliverer

However, all this fear and unrest has consequences. When war becomes a permanent fixture on our screens and in our lives, a dangerous things happens to us – we see this time and time again as people become desensitised. War becomes so commonplace it loses all meaning to those of us who have little or no direct experience. The other thing that happens often is that people fall into the depths of despair over the state of the world.

In our second reading, Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, saying:

“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.”

Remembrance Sunday is inherently a day of grief. We grieve fallen soldiers. We grieve civilian casualties. We grieve broken dreams of worldwide peace. We grieve the millions of lives cut short by the atrocities of past and present wars. But Paul draws a sharp line between two types of grief: Grief without hope and grief with hope.

Grief without hope is a despair that believes violence wins, death has the final word, and humanity is doomed to destroy itself. But grief with hope is different. It is still a sorrow that weeps bitterly for the brokenness of the world, but it knows that this broken world is not the end of the story. As Christians, our remembrance is anchored in the hope of the resurrection and so our grief becomes defiant. We refuse to accept that violence and death get the final word.

Paul gave the church in Thessalonica a bit of a kick and a reminder of what has been promised in the Gospels. This passage finishes with him telling people to 'encourage one another with these words'.

So how do we do this? How do we encourage a desensitised, despairing and anxious community, whilst respecting and honouring those who have gone before? I suggest there are three things we can do, right here, right now, irrespective of whether or we not have a Christian faith of our own.

1) We need to work towards building peace locally. Singlehandedly, none of us can rewrite global foreign policy or influence the geopolitical status. But we can focus on our community. We can concentrate on what unites us, and reject division, scapegoating, gossip and bad feeling. Together, we are stronger.

2) We need to actively pray for and support our leaders. Both nationally, internationally and locally. For their 'seat at the table' and that their powers will be used for the good of the world and the community, both corporately and individually. That the weakest and most vulnerable in society are valued and respected. That power is not abused and that we come together for the good of all.

3) We need to hold fast to the reality that the ultimate trajectory of history is not destruction, but reconciliation. That is what we give thanks for today and what we aim for in our present and our future. that is that aim. That is the promise.

So let us pray today and in the future for peace, not as a passive wish, but as a reality that can and will happen. That we never let our hearts grow cold or cynical towards suffering and that we continually demand justice and goodwill.

As we stand for the silence today at 11am, let us lay down our anxiety, remember the fallen, and commit ourselves fresh to the service of the Living God. The darkness is real, but the light of Christ is coming - and the darkness will not overcome it.

✝ Pilgrims Together ✝

Pilgrims Online Wednesdays

Wednesday Gathering to Worship, Reflect and Pray

6.30pm (open from 6.10) - Zoom link

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/376110700?pwd=Q0Q3TUNya08zVGNoUkl2aUc5a0hVZz09

All are welcome to any of the Pilgrim's events

£££ 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, 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/

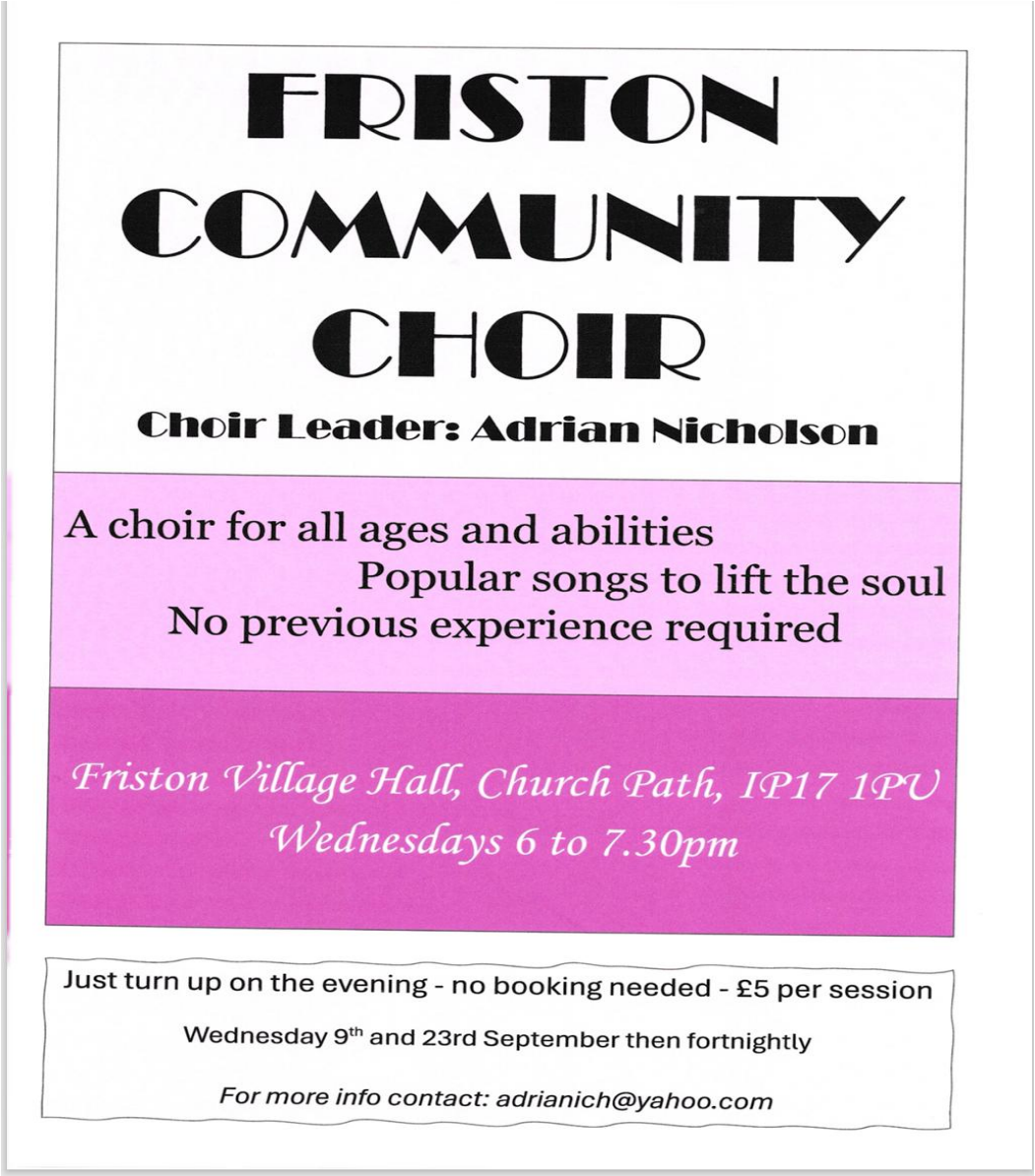
Food Banks at the East of England Co-op

Foodbanks provide a valuable service to those in need in our communities. The Aldeburgh & Leiston Co-op supermarkets 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

✝ Home Visits ✝

Not everyone can get to church as they were once able to, due to an illness 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 aldesandlingsbenefice@outlook.com and we will do our utmost to arrange a visit.



🎉 FUN QUIZ NIGHT! 🎉

Come along for a fun evening at Knodishall Village Hall!

🗓️ Friday 4th December

🕖 7.00 pm start

🎟️ £8 per person

Gather your friends and put your thinking caps on for an enjoyable evening of quizzing and good company!
Teams of up to 6 people
Food provided
Please bring your own drinks
Hurry – the last few tables are remaining!
To book your table, please phone Pat on 01728 832653.
All proceeds in aid of Knodishall Church funds.

🌟 EXCITING NEWS FOR ALDEBURGH! 🌟

BBC CHORAL EVENSONG – A SPECIAL OCCASION AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S CHURCH

We are delighted to announce that **BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong is coming to St Peter and St Paul's Church, Aldeburgh!**

This is a wonderful and very special opportunity for our church and our local community to be part of a BBC Choral Evensong recording, bringing the beauty and tradition of this much-loved service to listeners across the country.

MONDAY 30th NOVEMBER
3.30pm – 4.30pm
St Peter and St Paul's Church, Aldeburgh

We would love to see the church filled to capacity for this exciting occasion, so please do come along, bring your friends and family, and help us give the BBC a really warm Aldeburgh welcome!

Please arrive by 3.10pm to allow time to be seated and ready before the recording begins promptly at 3.30pm.

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME – PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Let's make this a truly memorable occasion for our church and community.

ST MARTIN'S VOICES

O RADIANT DAWN



A concert of words and music reflecting on the journey through Advent, including works by Benjamin Britten, Imogen Holst and James MacMillan.

ST MARTIN'S VOICES
DIRECTED BY **ANDREW EARIS**

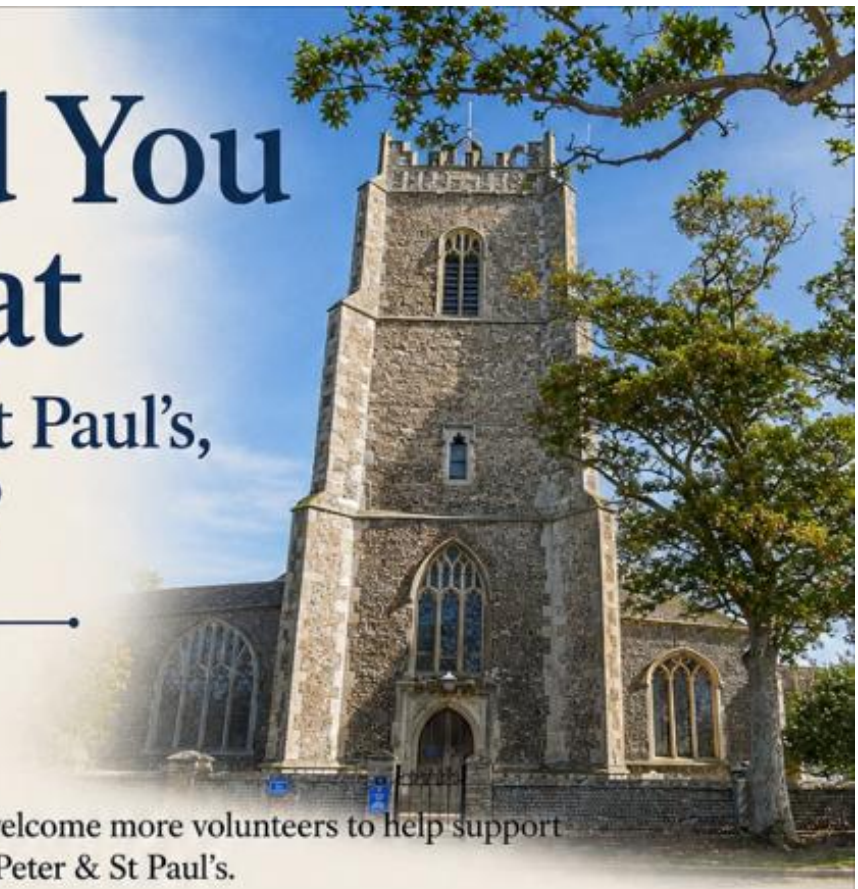
MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER AT 7PM	ALDEBURGH PARISH CHURCH	TICKETS £15 (£12.50 CONCESSIONS)

Tickets via QR code from St Martin's Voices website
Aldeburgh Parish Church, Victoria Rd, Aldeburgh IP15 5DY

stmartinsvoices.com/aldeburgh

Could You Help at

St Peter & St Paul's, Aldeburgh?



Our church is looking to welcome more volunteers to help support the life and ministry of St Peter & St Paul's.

There are opportunities to serve in a variety of ways, including as a sacristan, server, welcomer, flower arranger, cleaner, choir member, or in other practical roles around the church. Some roles require a little training, but support will always be provided.

Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, your time and gifts would be greatly appreciated. Serving is a wonderful way to support our church family and play a part in the life of our church.

Sacristan | Server | Welcomer | Flower Arranger | Cleaner | Choir Member | Other Practical Roles

If you'd like to find out more—with no obligation—
please contact Jodie, Benefice Administrator,
who will be happy to put you in touch with the relevant team.

aldesandlingsbenefice@outlook.com

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."

— 1 PETER 4:10

Joy at Christmas

Carols, Songs, Music and Poetry

To Celebrate Christmas

Presented by

Joy Marsh

and

Gill Thomas - Pianist

On Saturday 12th December 2026 3pm

at

St Andrews Church

Aldringham IP16 4QT



Donations to:

St Andrews Church

Brain Tumour Research

FOLLOWED BY

FESTIVE REFRESHMENTS

Save the Children
100 YEARS

Lunchtime Classical Concert Series

Aldeburgh Parish Church

Monday 4th January 2027, 12 noon

The highly successful Lunchtime Classics Concert Series in aid of Save the Children continues in 2027.
Admission is free, with a retiring collection in support of Save the Children.

All are very welcome



What's On Across The Alde Sandlings Benefice

Weekly Worship

Morning Prayer at 9am

Monday
- Aldeburgh

Tuesday
- Knodishall

Wednesday
- Aldeburgh

Thursday
- Aldringham

Friday
- Aldeburgh

Holy Communion Service every Wednesday at 10am
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 22nd November at 11am
Patronal Festival Service
Aldringham Parish Church

Sunday 29th November at 9.30am
Benefice Holy Communion Service
Friston Parish Church

Sunday 29th November at 6pm
Advent Carol Service
Aldringham Parish Church

Monday 30th November at 3.30pm
BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong recording
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Monday 30th November at 7pm
O Radiant Dawn, St Martin's Voices Concert
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Friday 4th December at 7pm
Quiz night
Knodishall Village Hall

Saturday 5th December at 4pm
Christingle Service
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Sunday 6th December at 3pm
Benjamin Britten Thanksgiving Service with Britten Pears Arts
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Saturday 12th December, 10am – 12pm
Christmas Messy Church
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Saturday 12th December at 3pm
Joy at Christmas concert presented by Joy Marsh and Gill Thomas
Aldringham Parish Church

Sunday 13th December at 6pm
Carol Service
Friston Parish Church

Sunday 20th December
Carol Services
11am Aldringham Parish Church
3pm Knodishall Village Hall. The British Legion Band are providing music for the carols. Mulled wine and seasonal nibbles will be served afterwards.
6pm Aldeburgh Parish Church

Christmas Eve at 3.30pm
Crib Service
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Christmas Eve at 11.30pm
Midnight Mass
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Christmas Day Services
9.30am – Knodishall and Friston
11am – Aldeburgh & Aldringham

Sunday 27th December at 11am
Benefice Service
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Monday 4th January at 12pm
Concert in aid of Save the Children
Aldeburgh Parish Church

Friday 15th January at 7pm
Quiz Night
Aldeburgh Church Hall

Safeguarding at The Alde Sandlings Benefice

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church. If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary, report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.

The Alde Sandlings Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Fran Smith-safeguarding.aldesandlings@outlook.com

You have been sent this newsletter as you requested to be included in the weekly distribution. If you ever wish to stop receiving the newsletter, please do email aldesandlingsbenefice@outlook.com