



## **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

Email: [revd.sarah@btinternet.com](mailto:revd.sarah@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01728 582213

The Revd James Marston

Email: [marstonjames@hotmail.com](mailto:marstonjames@hotmail.com)

Tel: 01728 688451

The Revd Johanna Mabey

Email: [rev.johannamabey@gmail.com](mailto:rev.johannamabey@gmail.com)

The Revd Nichola Winter

Email: [njwinter@whd.co.uk](mailto:njwinter@whd.co.uk)

## **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

### **Services this Sunday for The Alde Sandlings Benefice**

**Aldeburgh**                      **10.30am**    **Benefice Holy Communion  
(Followed by refreshments  
and cake in the Church  
Hall, in place of the bring  
and share lunch)**

### **Message from Revd Sarah du Boulay**

Dear Friends,

I'm finding it hard to believe that I have been serving amongst you all for a whole month. And what a month it's been! 16 morning prayer services, 6 Sunday services, 1 Evensong, 1 evening service, 3 funerals, 7 wedding couples, 2 PCCs, seemingly hundreds of meetings, visiting parishioners, deanery chapter, getting to know my fellow ministers around the benefice – both CofE and other denominations, a heatwave, a huge fire, becoming Trustee, Governor and Honorary Member, countless cups of tea and biscuits and cakes....

I feel very blessed to be your vicar. You have all welcomed me into your lives with such generosity and love. I'm so excited by what God has already been doing, and what He will do through us in the future. I preached last weekend about the need to pray expectantly. Because God is certainly on the move in Alde Sandlings!

This week we have our benefice service at 10.30 at Aldeburgh Church, where we will be saying 'Farewell' to Rev'd Sheila Hart, as she leaves us for the sunny climes of Saxmundham. Do join us for the service, and for coffee and cake afterwards – everybody is very welcome.

With continued prayers,

Sarah

**† 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

**Collect**

Lord of all power and might,  
the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name,  
increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness,  
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
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**

### **Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14; 2.18-23**

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

## **Second Reading**

### **Colossians 3.1-11**

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Luke 12.13-21**

Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

### **Sermon preached by The Very Revd Christopher Lewis at Aldeburgh 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Trinity 6; Luke 11; 11-13

Where do you go if you want to learn the truth and learn of God? If you ask that question in thoughtful circles, some will answer 'Go to church' or perhaps 'Go to the top of a mountain', 'Go to see this person or that', maybe 'Go to Glastonbury'. Yet one answer which is rooted firmly in Christianity is 'Don't go anywhere; be where you are and know God there'. He is there; your kitchen is as sacred as anywhere else and so is your heart. On no account go to Jerusalem, for the experience might divert you from the crucial insight that here ...around you and within you is the truth.

For example, in the very activities of a normal everyday life (maybe family life) is the love which gives us knowledge of the love of God. He may not be exactly like a father or mother in all respects, certainly not like some of them/us - but it gives a fair idea. My text is from today's Gospel - Jesus asks: 'Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?' If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! That is Jesus, teaching his followers about love and prayer by speaking of ordinary human experience.

Such teaching depends on faith in God as creator: a creator who leaves his stamp and pattern on his world in its beauty, and in people's behaviour. God comes to us as his own people: as children like his own Son.

If we were in any doubt about the office, kitchen, workshop, garden as the place of revelation, we need only to reflect on Jesus' incarnation to show that the life which we lead is sacred. We are created in the image of God, each valuable to him. In Christ that image of the unseen God is perfected; he shows us what God is, in his creation. That's the root of much teaching about right behaviour. Treat each person as valuable and as having dignity, for each is a child of God.

We went on holiday once to Poland. The Sunday morning was peaceful and happy. The part of Poland south of Kraków is beautiful, with lovely patterns of small fields on the hills. We went to church in a village and in Poland people know how to go to church. It was a sunny day and we had been on a long walk in the Tatra mountains the day before: creation, incarnation, bread, wine. The divine mingling with and revealing the human.

But ...on that Sunday afternoon, we visited Auschwitz – not far away. How do you cope with that in a sermon on 'if your child asks for an egg, will you give a scorpion?' I will not try to describe Auschwitz, but merely make a simple observation on our Sunday morning, followed by the Sunday afternoon. Did the afternoon contradict the morning? Well.... yes, it did. How did the quiet pastoral morning connect with the afternoon? In the morning, God alongside his people, in their hearts and in their homes: the hearts and homes in which we learn of the meaning of love: ourselves made in God's image. Then the afternoon proving beyond doubt that there are no limits to the horrors which we, as a human race, are capable of, when we ignore God.

The idea of seeing God among us, with everything basically OK with the world, cannot cope with world wars, Rwanda massacres, Ukraine. Nor can any other neat theory. All that we can perhaps do is to tell the story of horror and then tell another story – that of Good Friday, putting them alongside each other. And then, having told the stories, cry out to God about the human sin which ignores God. The truth is too jagged for much else.

Elie Wiesel, all of whose family died at Auschitz, put the starkness in story form: 'One of the Just Men came to Sodom, determined to save its inhabitants from sin and punishment. Night and day he walked the streets and markets protesting against greed and theft, falsehood and indifference. In the beginning, people listened and smiled ironically. Then they stopped listening: he no longer even amused them. The killers went on killing, the wise kept silent, as if there were no Just Man in their midst. One day a child, moved by

compassion for the unfortunate teacher, approached him with these words: “Poor stranger, you shout, you scream, don't you see that it is hopeless?” “Yes, I see” answered the Just Man. “Then why do you go on?” “I'll tell you why. In the beginning, I thought I could change man. Today, I know I cannot. If I still shout today, if I still scream, it is to prevent people from ultimately changing me.” (Quoted in Mursell G. 'Out of the Deep – Prayer as Protest', DLT 1989 p 169)

That expression of pessimism about human nature is understandable. For the Christian, in the light of Easter, it is too harsh. Yet Christians need to remember that the motive for Auschwitz arose in a most cultured country, much informed by a kind of Christian religion. So we need an acute morality, personal and political, which you just do not get if your strongest belief is in a God to whom you are only nearest in your garden.

Reflecting on that Sunday, I am driven to hold (no - to force) the morning and the afternoon together: a.m. and p.m. The church full of happy people in the lovely countryside ...and the camp. The Creator has indeed left – and he leaves - his stamp and pattern on us and on the world ... and we praise him for that. In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks to us: On the whole, when a child asks for an egg, we give an egg, not a scorpion... a fish not a snake. What a wonderful world it is! What is more God has sent his Son, who not only had a hand, as it were, in the creation, but also came to live our kind of life and to prove that it can be lived fully and well. We can learn of God through its patterns and processes. Learn of God in your very family.

And yet...I began with the question: where do you go to learn the truth and to learn of God? My partial answer is given by that Sunday experience: there was the morning and there was the afternoon on the first day. The search cannot stop with the wonders of the world and with human experience of family life at its best. It is driven on to face the very worst also: the consequence of ignoring and desecrating God's image in fellow human beings - the power of human sinfulness and the need for God's help through us human beings. Christianity cannot stop at the mysteries of creation. It is driven on to the Cross with its jaggedness and unanswered questions. For Jesus and for us, that is the route to Easter. Amen

### **Post Communion**

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,  
ever giving himself that the world may live:  
may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion  
that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his  
love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

## NOTICES

### † 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  
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### Dates for your Diary

5<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> August 10am – 2pm – Friday Markets at Aldeburgh

7<sup>th</sup> August 3pm – Pet Service at Aldringham Churchyard

14<sup>th</sup> August 6pm – Carnival Songs of Praise next to Moot Hall

### † 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.

### The Kingfisher Ensemble Sunday 14th August – 4pm

(the grounds of the church of  
St Mary the Virgin, Friston)



A welcome return for this very popular ensemble with a summer programme of light classics and popular music.  
Retiring collection in aid of St Elizabeth Hospice.

## **Lunchtime Classical Concert Series Return**

Aldeburgh Parish Church

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 12 noon

**Save the Children** are collaborating with Nadia Lasserson to continue the series of hour-long concerts in 2022.

**Nicholas Marshall (Baritone)**

**Nadia Lasserson (Piano)**

*To include Romantic works by Schubert and Tosti*

Looking forward to welcoming you all. Admission is free- with a retiring collection for Save the Children

## **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](mailto: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**

## **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.

## **† 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](mailto:pilgrimstogether473@gmail.com) to receive a copy, be added to our mailing list for the Zoom links.

## **Pilgrims @ The Meare Thorpeness**

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July Pilgrims @ The Meare: Outside F2F Worship Gathering 10 am (Bring your own chair!) Celtic style worship of the Iona Community, Sundays in July, and August, on the grass next to the Boating Lake just beyond The Meare Cafe.



**Saturday 6th August Pilgrims Community Breakfast and Local Ramble starting 9.30 @ The Parrot**

As before, a delicious breakfast bap and coffee / tea combo for £6.50 is on offer at the Parrot, before we head out to explore local paths.

Come just for breakfast and a catch-up with folk, come for just the ramble or come and enjoy both. (You don't need to book in advance, you can decide on the morning.)

To help with timing, if coming only to ramble then we generally head from The Parrot around 10.30am. Please do invite friends along.

**Alde Sandlings Benefice Friday Markets in August**

This August we will have two Friday markets on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm. The proposed stalls are as follows: BBQ, Vegetables, Plants, Fruit and Flowers, Cakes and Savouries, Jams etc, Craft Stalls, General Bric a Brac. Tombola and Games.

All the churches in the Alde Sandlings are invited to have their chosen stalls to raise funds for the churches.

Please contact [admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk) if any church members of the Alde Sandlings Benefice would like to have a stall.

Toys, prizes for the tombola, jewellery, scarves, small items of furniture, curtains, kitchenware, and good quality bric a brac needed.

Cakes and produce too (please bring on the day)

**The 2022 Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 9am-5pm**

The Annual Sponsored Ride and Stride is a national event, and every second Saturday in September cyclists and walkers all round the country are out making money for their local county Churches Trust.

If you would like to take part, you can either walk, cycle or be a recorder on the day, or of course, you might like to

sponsor one of the team, please either:

Email [admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk) and Claire will pass on your details to the team organiser at each church.

Or see the organiser at the church you worship (Fran Smith, Aldeburgh, David Copp, Aldringham, Simon Ive, Friston)

**Animal Service at Aldringham  
7<sup>th</sup> August at 3pm**

Bring your pets along and your Teddy Bears too.

All creatures great and small are welcome.

A collection will be taken for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)