



## **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 15<sup>th</sup> October Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**



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

Aldeburgh	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Prayer
Aldringham	11.00am	Harvest Festival Service
Friston	10.00am	Holy Communion
Knodishall	9.30am	Morning Prayer

### **A message from our Priest in Charge, Revd Sarah du Boulay**

Dear Friends,

So, the nights are drawing in, and it seems that finally the weather is catching up with the fact it is Autumn. Season of mist and mellow fruitfulness indeed. Actually, in Keats poem (To Autumn), we are reminded that Autumn is a season of great promise, where the produce ripens, harvest is happening, and we see the fruits of our labour realised at last.

We are currently enjoying spending more time with Coldfair Green and Aldeburgh primary schools, taking assemblies, welcoming both schools to Knodishall and Aldeburgh churches respectively and celebrating harvest

festivals. We are also looking forward to Christmas – to nativity plays, carol services and to welcoming our Aldeburgh Montessori Nursery School to church to learn more about the Christmas story.

We also have two Messy Church days, the first of which is this morning, when we look forward to welcoming families to play and to learn more about God together. A season of great promise indeed. If you'd like to get involved in any of the children's or youth work we do as a benefice, please do let me know – it's so much fun, and we are always on the look out for the young and young at heart!

With prayers,

Sarah

### **Collect**

O God, for as much as without you  
we are not able to please you;  
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit  
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
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**

#### **Exodus 32.1-14**

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, 'Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' Aaron said to them, 'Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mould, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.' They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have

acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” ’The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.’ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, ‘O Lord , why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, “It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth”? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.” ’And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

## **Second Reading**

### **Philippians 4.1-9**

I Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Matthew 22.1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

### **Sermon by Revd Celia Cook, Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity, 8<sup>th</sup> October at Aldeburgh**

The landowner went to a lot of trouble to plant a vineyard. He took time and thought and care, making sure that it was protected with a fence, had the means to produce wine with a winepress, but also that the labourers would be protected too – with a watchtower. He cared about the land, and he cared about the labourers. He was clear about the tenants’ responsibilities – leasing it out to them and trusting them to manage it while he was abroad. All they were required to do, was to produce a harvest for him. The tenants’ response is a shocking betrayal of that trust, care and generosity. They not only renege on their contract; they do it in such a violent and deceitful way. There is no negotiation – can we do a deal 80/20 or even 50/50? They want it all for themselves. So they use extreme and disproportionate force to attack and kill the landowners’ servants, not once but twice, and then, when the landowner makes the decision to trust them once more, they show him nothing but contempt, and shockingly murder his son. Jesus asks the religious leaders what they

feel would be a fitting punishment for the tenants, which they both naively and triumphantly give in an equally shocking lack of self-awareness; Jesus then reveals the intended subjects of his parable and their condemnation for rejecting not only God's commandments, but Jesus himself – the cornerstone of God's Kingdom.

It is a truly shocking story – perhaps the only way Jesus was going to get through to a group of people in authority, who had become blind to their true calling to love and serve others rather than extort and abuse. We may not have murderous intent; we may not extort and take advantage of others. But we do have responsibilities like the tenants in the story. We are all stewards of God's creation, called to till and sow, to care for the planet, for God's creatures. We are all God's children, called to love him and our neighbour as ourselves.

God created our beautiful world with time and thought and care. He entrusted humankind as stewards - tenants – to produce a harvest. We have not always been good tenants.

Jesus came to be with us on earth and spent time and care and thought teaching us how to love one another and our neighbours as ourselves. We have not always been good neighbours.

We face many existential crises today, within our world, our society and as individuals. Our future is precarious and uncertain. It would be easy to give up; to turn our face to the wall or to take what we can and ignore the opportunity to share in the responsibility to put things right. But as Christians we have hope – and that hope in life after death can spur us on as Christian Aid so brilliantly coined in a catchphrase: to believe in life before death too. For in caring for and celebrating all that we have been given on earth, we are modelling/pointing the way to God's Kingdom to come and encouraging others to take that step of faith too.

Jesus told them: 'the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruit of the kingdom'.

So what are the fruits of the kingdom that we should be producing?

Well, he doesn't explicitly say in this encounter, but I wonder whether the fruits of the Spirit, which Paul lists in Galatians are as good as any place to start.

The fruits of the spirit are:

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control...

As the body of Christ we are not expected to produce all of these individually – the disciples certainly never managed that! - but corporately, freely, acknowledging that we all have a vital role in bringing in the Kingdom in a world of pain and suffering and fear. We also are not expected to find the strength from within ourselves to produce this fruit. It is the Holy Spirit who prompts and guides us, empowering us to be transformed more and more into the likeness of Christ.

So I want to encourage you to pray each day that God will show you just one fruit that you might produce – that will make a difference. You might feel called to love someone who seems rather unlovely to others. You might be called to bring joy in the most hopeless of situations.

Perhaps it's peace between a warring community, family or group of friends. Maybe you have the opportunity to produce the fruit of patience and stick at a vital community project when everyone else has given up. Or kindness in the face of hostility at work. It might be generosity towards a person or charity, when the cynics tell you, that you are throwing good money after bad. Showing faithfulness in a difficult relationship or with a failing organisation. Gentleness towards someone so fragile, they fear engaging with anyone except you. Or finally – displaying self-control, which means you forgo your own needs in order to meet the critical needs of a stranger, with the same time and thought and care, which God has been lavished on us as his precious children.

We can afford this coming week, to offer the fruits of his Kingdom through our time and thought and care to a world in need.

### **Post Communion**

Holy and blessed God,  
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son  
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:  
may we honour you, not only with our lips  
but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Harvest at The Alde Sandlings Benefice**

Do come and join us for our Harvest Festival Services this year

**Friston – 17<sup>th</sup> September at 10am**

**Knodishall – 24<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am**

**Aldeburgh – 1<sup>st</sup> October at 10.30am**

**Aldringham – 15<sup>th</sup> October at 11am**

***Let's give thanks with a grateful heart!***

**YOU ARE ALL MOST WELCOME**

## **A HUGE THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS**

**Thank you to all that donated food items at Aldeburgh. They have been distributed to the local food banks and Leiston Primary School for their supporting families in need campaign. We received a lovely thank you letter from them. It reads:**

*To the members of St Peters and St Paul's Church, Aldeburgh  
On behalf of the Leiston Primary School families, we want to extend our sincerest gratitude for your very generous donations. This will have a significant impact on helping individuals and families in need. We want to thank you for helping us make a positive change. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.*



## **The Friends of St. Andrews Coffee Morning**

Saturday 28th October in the Church from 10am - 12noon. There will be all the usual stalls including Books, Cakes, Bric a Brac, Jewellery, Refreshments and more.

In aid of the Church Fabric Fund.

All Welcome.

## **Ride and Stride Update – Aldeburgh**

We have raised an amazing £2,275. People have been very generous.

We had eight riders/striders this year, plus me as Recorder, on the hottest day of the year! **THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!** Fran Smith

### **† Worship at The Alde Sandlings †**

We are asking for volunteers to deliver prayers of intercession during the services at any of the churches you worship in. The prayers can be written by the person delivering them, they can be taken from a book, or they can be written by someone else, i.e. a member of the clergy. Training can be given. Any member of the congregations can take part in the service in this way. If you would like to deliver the prayers, please either speak to a member of clergy, church warden or email [admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk)

### **Would you like to come forward for Confirmation?**

Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptised. If you were baptised at a christening when you were a child, your parents and godparents made these promises on your behalf. As a young person or adult, you may be ready to affirm these promises for yourself and commit your life to following Jesus Christ. At a confirmation service, you make these promises for yourself. Your friends and family as well as the local Christian community will be there to promise to support and pray for you. There will be some confirmation meetings giving you the opportunity to discuss your lifetime journey of faith coming up in the benefice. If you think this would be something that you wish to explore further, please speak to a member of clergy or contact [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**

### **† Fairfield Centre Prayers - Café Church †**

Every third Sunday of the month at **4pm**.

Relaxed and informal with tea, toast, activities, chat and worship.

**All ages very 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](mailto:pilgrimstogether473@gmail.com) to receive a copy or be added to our mailing list.

The weekly Wednesday Zoom link is:

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

Meeting ID: 376 110 700 - Passcode: 028069

### **Saturday 21st October Community 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 and good news within the Outside Inn and taken out into the outside world.

### **Saturday 4th November 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.

### **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>

### **Aldeburgh Choir**

Do you like to sing? Come and join our church choir.

Our services are every Sunday at 10.30am. We also hold special extra services at Christmas and other events in the church calendar. The choir plays an essential role to our worship. So, the more the merrier, even if you are just visiting us. Want to give it a go?

Contact: [admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk) For more information.

## † 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/UCLeckK8GovYoaYzIgyOEIKZg>

St Edmundsbury Cathedral Facebook Page

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

## £££ Ways to donate to our churches within the £££ Alde Sandlings Benefice

Your donations REALLY mean so much to us at this challenging time. 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/>

## † 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 – Friston

Tuesday - Knodishall

Wednesday - Aldringham

Daily at Aldeburgh, Monday to Saturday

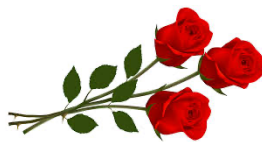
## **The Alde Sandlings Benefice**

**All Souls - Remembering Our Loved Ones  
Service on Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 6.00pm**



**An opportunity to call to mind those who we love but  
see no more. Say a gentle prayer and light a candle.  
Everyone will be most welcome.**

*May God give you  
his comfort and his peace,  
his light and his joy  
in this world and the next.*



**Please do join us at either:**

**Aldeburgh Parish Church,  
Aldringham Parish Church or  
Friston Parish Church**

**Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 6.00pm**

**Next Sunday, 22nd October  
Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

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

Invites you to **HARVEST**



**COME AND LISTEN TO THE  
'OPEN THE BOOK' STORY TELLING TEAM.  
THERE WILL ALSO BE LOTS OF HARVEST  
CRAFT MAKING & MUCH MORE FUN  
FOR ALL AGES**

**at the CHURCH HALL  
SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER  
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](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk)**

# **Lunchtime Classical Concert Series**

## **Aldeburgh Parish Church**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023**  
**at 12 noon**

### **Nadia's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

### **Concert with Friends**

The highly successful Lunchtime Classics Concert Series in aid of Save the Children continue in 2023.

Helen Stanley (Violin)

Belinda Shave (Cello)

Robin Soldan (Flute)

Nadia Lasserson, Philip Mountford and

Marion Arbuckle (Piano) & MORE.....

Programme includes Mozart Piano Concerto K449 in Eb, and works by Schubert

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

**ALL VERY WELCOME**



**Save the Children**  
**100 YEARS**

#### **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 – [admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk)