



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

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The Revd Johanna Mabey
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Sunday 28th September Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice this Sunday

Aldeburgh	11.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Sarah du Boulay
Aldringham	11.00am	Harvest Festival	Led by Elders
Friston	9.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Nichola Winter
Knodishall	9.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Sarah du Boulay

A message from our Rector, Revd Sarah du Boulay

Dear friends,

I wonder if like me, you find that reading the Bible and your prayer life tends to wander of track from time to time? I am fairly good at doing both most of the time, but I know that if I get too busy or distracted or stressed, or go on holiday, or it's a Tuesday ... well, it all too easily goes 'off piste'.

I use an app on my phone which I find helps a lot in terms of prayer and reading scripture, but sometimes I feel the need to delve deeper into my faith and really wrestle with the questions which haunt us all. There are many different ways of doing this. Rev'd Mary's Bible Study group on Sunday afternoons is a great place. Joining an Alpha Group (there is one starting at

Saxmundham on 2nd October which I would urge you to sign up to) or reading an online blog (such as the one run by my friend Rob, which encourages prayer and discussion amongst his subscribers). There are many more possibilities such as home groups or theology clubs – if these would be of interest, please let me know and we'll do what we can to provide and support. But in the meantime you might like to try:

Saxmundham Alpha sign up - alpha@skc.church

Blog and Discussion Group - <https://apilgrimspath.substack.com/>

With my prayers as always

Sarah

† RIP – Dick Jeffery †

We are sad to announce the passing of Richard Jeffery (Dick). As many of the Aldeburgh congregation will remember him as a loyal stalwart of the church through many years with his beloved late wife Val. Dick was titled church warden emeritus back in 2013 to mark his continuous support to the church. He took on so many other roles in church, such as vergers, church warden, PCC member, car park marshall, and chair of the Friends of Aldeburgh Parish Church.

Dick and Val could regularly be caught having “words” in church whilst preparing for the Sunday services, sometimes rather heated, normally because Dick wasn't doing things quite right. They truly loved each other and were proud to say they had a good argument a day. Dick's choice of hymn at one of the Carnival Songs of Praise was Fight the Good Fight, as he thought that described their marriage the best. They both supported local musicians' concerts at church, but always had a pen on them for their secret leave early code. One would eventually cave in if it wasn't their cup of tea and show **E.T** - that meant let's go home. They celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary just before Val died in September 2021. Rest in Peace Dick, you will be sorely missed.

Dick's funeral will be at Aldeburgh Church on the
10th October at 11am.

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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

Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him. Zedekiah had said, 'Why do you prophesy and say: Thus says the Lord: I am going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it; Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord. And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6.6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Gospel Reading

Luke 16.19-end

‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all

this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.” He said, “Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house-for I have five brothers-that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.” Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.” He said, “No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.”

Sermon by The Very Revd Christopher Lewis, 20th September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

The preacher faced with today’s readings might be tempted to concentrate on the Epistle: St Paul writes to Timothy and asks for prayers for those in authority so that the ordinary people may lead peaceable and godly lives, seeking the truth and following in the way of Jesus Christ. Well; that is telling us to do the right thing, and to pray for those in authority seems especially urgent at the moment.

That, however, is a simple message; there is not much more to say. What is more, it could be a ‘cop out’ by the preacher, for it would be a way of avoiding the Gospel reading which is a bit tricky. The passage does not appear in the other Gospels, only in Luke. What on earth does it mean? Why is it, as it were, ‘set’ for today? Nobody is quite sure. But Jesus is speaking.

How does one summarize it? A very rich man has a manager who is said to be no good. The manager is told to appear before his boss so that the boss can fire him. Before this happens, the manager reflects on what to do, as he would not be much good at other jobs and would be ashamed to be a beggar. He decides to summon his boss’s debtors and reduce their debts, in order to ensure that the manager has them as friends – people obliged to him in the future. Surprisingly, the manager is commended for being shrewd. The interview then takes place and his boss congratulates him for smartness. End of story. We don’t hear whether he gets his job back; I guess he does.

After the parable come a number of sayings which Luke has gathered. They are a help, however, for they must be there because they are on the same wavelength as the parable, namely money and its use, ending with the well-known saying: ‘You cannot serve two masters for you will either hate the one and love other or be devoted to the one and despise the other; You cannot serve God and wealth.’

What might we learn? That the manager is rather a strange kind of example to us in the sense that he is shrewd and realistic, when faced with what to do. He asked his master's debtors to write their bills out minus the commission which was due to him as the agent. So, we, as followers of Jesus, should learn from him and be shrewd and realistic in our preparedness for the Kingdom of God. As it says elsewhere in the Bible (Matthew 10;16), be wise as serpents and innocent as doves: cunning serpents, gentle doves.

The passage implies that wherever there is money there are problems, and you should use money well and be generous with it, whatever the circumstances...don't copy the Pharisees. Wealth is, as it were, a rival to God (for our devotion) so it should be handled with care, used well.

The best thing to do I guess, is to combine the two possible meanings of the Gospel passage and reflect on them both. Money then as now, is a fascinating subject. The Pharisees whom Jesus criticized, reckoned that if you were devout and kept the Jewish law, you would get rich as a reward. That is much the same as what is known as 'the prosperity Gospel': preached by some evangelists in the USA.....saying that if you turn to the Lord (and also contribute generously to your church!) you will become rich. Not true of course, but many seem to believe it and when one of the prosperity ministers (Pastor John Gray) gave his wife a Lamborghini – it cost \$200,000 – some time ago, the large congregation applauded. How such behaviour squares with the teachings of Jesus is a mystery.

More in line with the teaching of Jesus (or certainly not against it) is the research on what makes people happy. There are all sorts of things like an interesting job and a happy family, like community and leisure pursuits, but money does not figure much in studies of happiness. Happiness is related to having cash in order to have somewhere to live and enough to eat, but beyond that does not seem to make any difference to happiness. The strangest thing is that most of us know that, by observation, and yet people across the world and through the ages have always wanted a bit more!

Jesus' teaching on the subject of money was radical, hence the great surprise of his disciples. His central question was 'What cuts us off from God?' and his advice to those with money was 'Give it away'. In a world of refugees, of poverty, homelessness and food banks, his advice would be the same today. And in his teaching, the benefit of giving seems not primarily to be to those who received the money, but largely to the giver

who is then less cut off from God. In the light of modern research, also happier. It is a wonderful feature of this country, and of many others, that there is real quiet generosity among all sorts of people, from the most to the least wealthy. The examples which Jesus holds up to us are....children (well, they don't own much) and the poor widow who gave all that she had. On the other hand, landowners, lawyers, priests and tax collectors might be held up as those not to admire. The Good Samaritan, in the parable, plainly had resources, but he used them wisely and generously.

People use the saying 'charity begins at home' to back the view that the family is everything and all you need to do is look after it. So it can be used as a justification for what one might call family selfishness. But, of course, the original meaning is that the family, children especially.... the family learns generosity at home and that is the basis for a happy life, lived in part for the benefit of others.

If this all sounds complex, then there is an easy path in order to get beyond this particular passage of the bible. Most of Jesus' teaching was joined up to a very simple invitation which was 'Follow me', an invitation which was rejected by many at the time and since.... but also taken up by many since and at the time. And if we need another simple invitation, it is to give to food banks, to help refugees, to support such ventures as Leprosy Mission - I mention that as the favourite charity of Canon Arthur Phelps (Arthur of Northfield Court and blessed memory).

Today's Gospel is not as complex as it looks. We need to learn the habit of that time, namely that the big landlord had a manager, an employee who would have had a commission for collecting the rent. But on this occasion he took it off and all the tenants were recipients of his generosity. Seen in the light of other teachings and actions of Jesus, we can begin to see what it means. Be shrewd and realistic about the ways of the world; that is part one. Be wise about money and generous with it; that is part two.

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week
Sunday 5th October
Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Harvest at the Alde Sandlings

Friston and Knodishall have started our Harvest Festival services in the benefice. The teams from all of our churches work so hard to decorate the churches, as you can see with these beautiful displays.

Thank you so much to all.

Friston Parish Church



Knodishall Parish Church



THE ALDE SANDLINGS BENEFICE





Job Vacancy Interim Centre Manager at The Fairfield Centre, Aldeburgh

The Fairfield Centre in Aldeburgh has been the community hub for many years, supplying a venue for many local groups and associations.

An exciting position has become available for the post as centre manager.

This role would give great job satisfaction for the right candidate.

Do you have good organisation skills and self-motivation to take on this role?

And of course a good sense of humour!

Come and join the team to keep the continued work already being done and develop future potential within this vital part of the Aldeburgh Community.

The job entails:

- The day to day running of the centre, including upkeep and management of service provision.
- Managing bookings and liaising with clients on a daily basis.
- Working alongside the Centre Committee and Aldeburgh Church Parochial Council in the running of the centre.
- Establishing good relationships within the town and the local community.
- Advertising the centre and its activities.

The post is for 10 hours a week at a rate £12 per hour from 24th October to 31st December 2025, with potential to continue after this date.

For more information, please see www.aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk or email admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk.

To apply, please send a CV and covering letter to admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk.

Deadline for applications: 10th October 2025

Interviews: 13th October 2025

We look forward to hearing from you!

Servers and Sacristans URGENTLY needed at Aldeburgh Parish Church

We really need volunteers to assist with the Holy Communion services at Aldeburgh. Can you help? Full training will be given, and you can do as many or as few Sunday services as you can manage.

Please speak to a member of clergy or email admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk

† 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/UCLeck8GovYoaYzlgyOEIKZg>

St Edmundsbury Cathedral Facebook Page

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



Job Vacancy

Children and Families' Worker

The Alde Sandlings Benefice

The Alde Sandlings Benefice, in the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, are pleased to announce an exciting opportunity for a children and families' worker based in the four parishes of Aldeburgh, Aldringham, Friston and Knodishall.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a mission and ministry programme for children and families within the benefice, enabling them to develop their faith and participate fully in the life of the church. The role includes overseeing the existing work with children and families across the benefice and may include some youth work. You will work in consultation with the Rector, PCCs and ministry teams.

This is a full-time role (37.5 hours per week) with a salary of £30,000 per annum, plus agreed expenses. Own transport essential. Formal training in children's ministry preferred.

For more information and an application pack, please contact:
Rev. Mary Brown: admin@aldeparishchurch.org.uk - Closing date: 30/09/2025

Safeguarding: conditional offers will be made pending the successful completion of an enhanced DBS check.

Always wanted to sing?

Why not join Friston Community Choir!

Held fortnightly on Wednesdays 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Friston Village Hall, Church Path, Friston IP17 1PU

£5 per session. For more info email

Briony Sones: fristonvillage@gmail.com **ALL WELCOME**

£££ 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-church-within-the-alde-sandlings-benefice/>

† 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

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

Ideas for Aldeburgh Church's Card Corner

Calling our talented children to design a Christmas Card for Aldeburgh Church to sell this Christmas. It can be of baby Jesus, the Nativity or of Aldeburgh Church, or Christmas at Aldeburgh.

So spread the word and ask your neighbours, grandchildren and friends to get creating.

Please send a photo of your entry to

admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk

Christmas Card Designs to be sent by the 31st October.

The judges will choose the best and a prize will be given to the winner along with a copy of the card.



ALDEBURGH PARISH CHURCH

ST PETER & ST PAUL'S



Invites you to **HARVEST**



**COME AND CELEBRATE HARVEST AND THE
AUTUMN SEASON. THERE WILL ALSO BE LOTS
OF HARVEST CRAFT MAKING & SOME VERY
SPECIAL GUESTS WILL ALSO BE JOINING US
FOR ALL AGES**

**at the CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER
10am till 12 Noon**



ALL WELCOME



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

Please email

admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk



Evensong Services

Last Evensong's are in September,
returning in spring 2026.

Sundays at 4pm (*plus some others!*)



Brick Church

A short talk, a song, lots of creating around a theme using Lego (we'll provide the Lego)

Where: St Johns, Saxmundham

When: 4pm-5pm

28/9, 25/1/26, 24/5

Wild Church



Outdoor crafts and activities, and a reflection.

Where: usually at Kelsale Church

When: 4pm-5pm

22/2/26, 28/6

SUNDAY MAYHEM

Games, crafts, fun, songs and a short talk.

Where: St Johns, Saxmundham

When: 4pm-5pm

23/11, 22/3/26, 26/7

Don't forget our **Light Party** on 31/10,
Wild Church Does Christmas on 13/12
and our Easter Holiday Club too!



www.skc.church

The Friends of St Andrew's Church Aldringham Coffee Morning – Saturday 11th October 10.30am-12.30pm

You are all invited to come along to Aldringham's friends' autumn coffee morning. Plenty for everyone to browse.

Hats, cakes, books, new and nearly new rail, Bric-a-Brac, Jewellery, Tombola and refreshments will be served.

In aid of the fabric fund at St Andrew's Church.

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>

The Alde Sandlings, Dates for your Diary

- Morning Prayer throughout The Alde Sandlings Benefice Weekly at 9am - Aldeburgh – Every Monday – Wednesday and Friday. Aldringham – Every Thursday – Friston – Every Monday Knodishall – Every Tuesday.
- Aldeburgh – Harvest Festival Service, October 5th at 11.00am
- Aldringham Friends' Coffee Morning – October 11th 10.30-12.30pm
- Aldeburgh – Messy Church – October 25th 10-12 noon
- Aldeburgh – Benefice All Souls Service, November 1st at 6pm
- All Benefice – Remembrance Day Services, November 9th at 10.50am
- Aldeburgh – Contemporary Worship Deanery Service - November 9th at 6.00pm
- Aldringham – Patronal Service, Thursday, November 20th at 6pm
- Aldringham – Advent Carol Service, November 30th at 6pm

If you would like to donate any dry produce (tins, pasta, packets of dry foods) for the Harvest Festivals (no unopened packages) please do take them to the church you worship in. There will be a box at the back of the church at Aldeburgh for you to place your items in.

† Pilgrims Together †

Saturday 4th October Community Breakfast 9.30 @ The Parrot

As before, a delicious breakfast bap and coffee / tea combo for £7.50 is on offer at the Parrot. Please do invite friends along.

Following the Pilgrim breakfast event, friends may then choose to organise their own walk locally.

Pilgrims Online Wednesdays Returns

Wednesday 8th October Gathering to Worship, Reflect and Pray
6.30pm (open from 6.10)

Saturday 18th October 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.

All are welcome to any of the Pilgrims events.

**Lunchtime Classical
Concert Series
Aldeburgh Parish Church**

**Monday 27th October
at 12 noon**

The highly successful Lunchtime Classics Concert
Series in aid of Save the Children continue into Autumn 2025,
with the return of:

Helen Stanley (Violin)
Nadia Lasserson (Piano)

A Celebration Concert to include works by Bach,
Mozart and Beethoven

**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