



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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Sunday 9th November Remembrance Sunday



Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice this Sunday

Aldeburgh	8.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Mary Brown
	10.00am	Remembrance Service	Revd Mary Brown
	10.50am	at War Memorial	
	6.00pm	Deanery Worship	Revd Sarah du Boulay
Aldringham	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Revd Sarah du Boulay
Friston	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Revd Nichola Winter
Knodishall	10.50am	Remembrance Service	Very Revd Christopher Lewis

Dear Friends,

As we move towards Remembrance Sunday tomorrow and Remembrance Day on Tuesday, my thoughts have been on the horrors of war, news of which arrives daily from different conflicts around the world. It is easy to despair in the face of this, or to become cynical.

I'm currently reading the novel *Hannah Coulter* by Wendell Berry. It begins when Hannah is a young woman just before the war; she tells of her courtship with her husband who she married just a short year before he was conscripted to fight in the Second World War. She looks back at the innocence of her younger pre-war self: 'You see yourself happy, holding in your arms a good, decent, gentle, beloved young man... who

before long is going to disappear, just disappear, into a storm of hate and flying metal and fire.'

Most of the conflicts and disasters we read about are in places where we are powerless to act. But one way to stand against despair or cynicism is to act for justice in our local communities. God tells us in scripture that doing justice means caring for the most vulnerable in society. When we do this, God receives it as worship. There are many ways we can act to care for the vulnerable around us. In doing so we, the church, can help usher in God's kingdom of justice today.

With love and prayers,
Mary

Collect

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Job 19.23-27a

'O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-end

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Gospel Reading

Luke 20.27-38

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.' Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'

Sermon by Revd Mary Brown, 2nd November – All Saints Day

What is a saint? Our reading from Ephesians gives us a very different understanding of a saint from what our usual cultural understanding might be.

In his letter to the Ephesians Paul says that the saints are those who:

- Have obtained an inheritance in Christ
- Those who have set their hope on Christ
- Those who live to the praise of Christ's glory
- Those who are sealed with the promised Holy Spirit
- Those who are looking forward to their inheritance of redemption
- Those who have faith in the Lord Jesus
- Those who love all the other saints
- That in the saints God's power is at work - the same power that raised Christ from the dead

And he also tells them, remarkably, that saints are those who are part of Christ's glorious inheritance. He prays that they would know 'the immeasurable riches of Christ's glorious inheritance amongst the saints. So saints are also those who Christ gets to inherit.

From this description it sounds amazing to be a saint - but who are those saints?

The word used in the Greek, translated here as saint, actually means holy - a closer translation might be 'holy one' or 'holy ones'.

What makes someone a holy one in Christ, a saint in Christ?

A saint is a follower of Christ who is flawed yet faithful.

Number one - a saint is a follower - Paul says: 'I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus' describing the apostles he says 'we who were the first to set our hope in Christ'

As Paul continues through this passage from Ephesians (and elsewhere in the New Testament) it becomes clear that he is using the word 'saint' to refer to all those who have believed in, hoped in, and chosen to follow Christ. So yes, St Andrew is a saint, he walked away from his fishing nets, walked away from his livelihood, to follow Jesus in his nomadic ministry.

But actually, he was no more a saint than anyone here who has chosen to follow Jesus, to put their faith and their hope in Jesus. If that is you, you are a saint! You might not get to have a capital letter, but you are a holy one in Christ.

A saint is first and foremost one who follows Jesus Christ.

Secondly - a saint is flawed. We might look to those who are officially called 'Saints', who our churches are named after, who have festival days, and think that saints are somehow different from us, closer to Jesus, more connected to God. But throughout scripture we are presented with people who are flawed, who makes many mistakes, some minor, and some catastrophic. Think of Saint Peter who denied Jesus three times in his greatest moment of need. Think of Saint Paul, the writer of this letter to the Ephesians, who prior to his encounter with Jesus on the Damascus Road was spending his time hunting down and imprisoning Christians. We don't know enough about St Andrew to know what his flaws were, but I assure you that he will have had them. If scripture only told the stories of those who had never made a mistake we might find it hard to believe that we could belong amongst the saints of Christ. But in his grace God gives us the gift of scripture showing us how these people were just like us, they made mistakes, they sinned, they were flawed.

Which brings us to our third 'f'. A saint is faithful. How is it that a saint can be faithful when they are flawed? We see this in Saint Peter's story. His faithfulness is restored when Jesus gives him an opportunity to come back in, to repent. After he denied Jesus, Jesus met him with compassion.

Our reading a few weeks ago was from 2 Timothy 2:13 which said: 'if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself.' That is how saints are able to be faithful, only within God's faithfulness to us.

Only one person in all of history has been without flaws, without sin, without making mistakes, and that is Jesus, who we follow. It is Jesus who is faithful, and in his faithfulness he allows us to be faithful.

Later in chapter 4 of Ephesians, Paul tells his readers to clothe themselves with a new self - a righteous self - a self made holy in Christ Jesus, made a saint in Christ Jesus.

Saints are saints, not because of what they have done, but because of what Jesus has done for them. Because of his holiness, his righteousness, which he gives to us.

Who are the saints? Everyone who follows Christ is a saint.

I wonder how many of you came to church this morning thinking 'I'm a saint'? Well I hope that you will go away knowing that that is true of you, you who follow Jesus, and are flawed, yet faithful. And I hope that as the Ephesians did, you will have great love for one another, your fellow saints.

So, what can we take away from this today?

- First of all that God has made us holy, that that is the gift he offers to us through Jesus Christ.
- Secondly that as we look at the official 'Saints' we can be spurred on to be more like Christ, because they were just as human, just as flawed, as we are.

Lastly, if you don't think you fit that description, if you do not count yourself as a follower of Jesus Christ, perhaps today can be a challenge to accept the great love that God offers to us in Jesus Christ, and to choose today to follow him.

Post Communion

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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/UCLeCK8GovYoaYzIgyOEIKZg>

St Edmundsbury Cathedral Facebook Page

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

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.

Aldringham – St Andrew, Patronal Service
Thursday 13th November at 6pm.
All welcome



Come and join The Alde Sandlings Benefice Choir

This year, we are having a Benefice Choir to join the Crib Service on the afternoon of Christmas Eve, 24th December. Thank you to those who have already said they would like to join and sing for this service. We would also very much like to reach out and invite **YOU**, even if you aren't already part of the choir at the church you worship in. During the service, we will sing two solo carols and accompany the congregation throughout the service. The dress code is Christmas jumpers, or clothing with that Christmassy sparkle. We will have four, one-hour rehearsals at Aldeburgh church on two Thursdays, in November and December at 5.00-6.00pm.

Please email admin@aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk if you are interested (and if you have not already indicated to someone at your church that you would like to). Very best wishes, Gill Thomas.

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 Church Hall – Benefice Review and Discussion - Saturday 8th November at 3pm**
- Aldringham – Patronal Service, Thursday, November 13th at 6pm
- Aldeburgh – Nota Bene Chamber Choir Concert – Sunday 16th November at 3pm
- Aldringham – Advent Carol Service, November 30th at 6pm
- Aldeburgh – Benefice Christingle Service, December 6th at 4pm
- Aldringham – Christingle Service, Tuesday 9th December at 6pm
- CHRISTMAS DATES LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER

† Pilgrims Together †

Pilgrims Online Wednesdays

Wednesday Gathering to Worship, Reflect and Pray

Saturday 15th 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 to any of the Pilgrims events.

Pilgrims at Christmas

Saturday 6th December at 9.30am

Community Breakfast @Parrot

Saturday 20th December at 9.30am

Encounter Café @Parrot

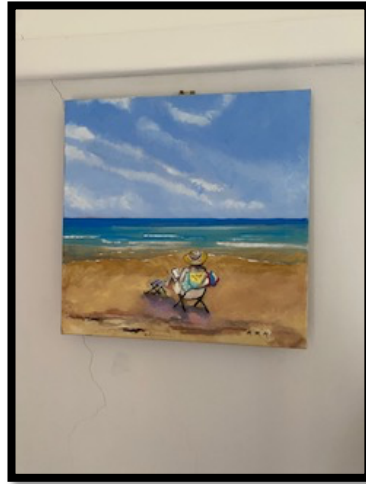
Sunday 21st at 4.00pm

Carols round the Christmas Tree @ Thorpeness

Mary Morgan's Paintings

Mary was a good friend and choir member of Aldringham Church, and she sadly died in August this year. Mary was a talented artist, and her family have very kindly donated a large number of her paintings to St. Andrew's, to be auctioned to raise money for the church. Do come and see the paintings and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles and some music

Sunday November 16th at 5pm at Aldringham Church



The paintings will be displayed in the church from Sunday afternoon (November 16th) and on Monday morning and there will be a silent auction running from 5pm on Sunday to 12 noon on Monday 17th so come and bid for your favourite (or favourites).

Deanery Contemporary Worship & Prayer

Sunday 9th November at 6pm at Aldeburgh Parish Church

An opportunity for an informal time of worship and prayer. We will have a band of guitars, drums etc to sing along to modern music. Songs by Matt Redman, Tim Hughes, Rend Collective, Phil Wickham, Hillsong & more. All welcome to come and join us for this uplifting joyful service.

Next Week

Sunday 16th November

Second Sunday before Advent



CHRISTMAS DATES AT THE CHURCHES OF THE ALDE SANDLINGS BENEFICE

ALDEBURGH PARISH CHURCH

Saturday 6 th December	4.00pm	Benefice Christingle Service
Saturday 13 th December	10.00am	Christmas Messy Church
Sunday 21 st December	6.00pm	Christmas Carol Service
Christmas Eve	10.00am	Holy Communion
	3.30pm	Crib Service
	11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas
Christmas Day	11.00am	Christmas Holy Communion Service

ALDRINGHAM PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 30 th November	6.00pm	Advent Carol Service by Candlelight
Wednesday 10 th	6.00pm	Carols on the Green
Sunday 21 st December	11.00am	Christmas Carol Service
Christmas Day	11.00am	Christmas Morning Family Service

FRISTON PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 14 th December	6.00pm	Christmas Carol Service
Christmas Day	9.30am	Christmas Holy Communion Service

KNODISHALL PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 21 st December	3.00pm	Village Carol Service at Knodishall Village Hall
Christmas Day	9.30am	Christmas Day Service

WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS

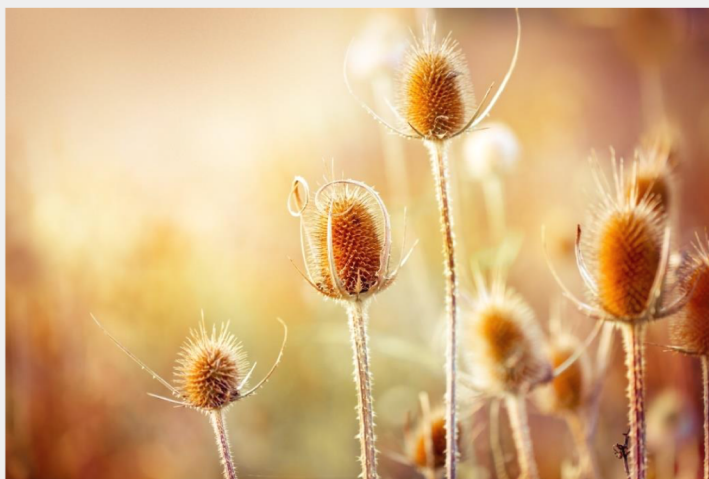
Please visit Alde Sandlings Website -

www.aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk for all other service times



A muse of one's own

A concert of sacred and secular choral music by women composers



Nota Bene Chamber Choir

Bringing high quality a cappella choral singing to the heart of Suffolk villages

Conductor – Janette Ruocco

3pm

Sunday November 16th 2025

St Peter & St Paul, Aldeburgh IP15 5DU

Mass in A minor – Imogen Holst

Two love songs - Kristina Arakeylan

I Syng of a Mayden - Zoe Dixon

Rebecca Clarke, Louise Farrenc, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange,
Miina Härma, Janette Ruocco, Anna Thorvaldsdottir

Free admission with a retiring collection

