



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 16th November Second Sunday before Advent

Services in The Alde Sandlings Benefice this Sunday

Aldeburgh	8.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Sarah du Boulay
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Revd Mary Brown
Aldringham	11.00am	Service of the Word	Led by the Elders
Friston	9.30am	Service of the Word	Led by Elder Marie Szpak
Knodishall	9.30am	Service of the Word	Revd Sarah du Boulay

Dear friends,

On Sunday last we had a contemporary deanery worship service, held at Aldeburgh but welcome to all from across the deanery. We sang a variety of traditional hymns and more modern worship songs, and had a band which consisted of 4 members of clergy from across the deanery, plus one very brave member of our congregation. We sang, we prayed, we listened, we worshipped, we laughed, and we had a wonderful time together. What struck me most however, was the amount of joy which abounded – and has continued amongst those present after the event.

Meeting again with my clergy colleagues today for a meeting, we were still flying high from Sunday evening. It is a real privilege to be amongst friends, and to 'do' life with them, including spending time with God. And quality time spent doing this does then spread throughout the rest of our lives and

weeks. This is something which also came up in our benefice afternoon on Saturday – the desire to spend more time together as friends and as members of the family of God. We talked a lot about coffee mornings, wine and cheese evenings, praise and pimms, house groups etc, so do think of ways we can simply enjoy being a benefice together, and watch this space!

With my prayers as always

Sarah

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.

First Reading

Malachi 4.1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Gospel Reading

Luke 21.5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.' They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them. 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Sermon by Revd Nichola Winter

9th November – Remembrance Sunday

The gospel passage today (our second reading on this Remembrance Day) makes for challenging reading. Little comfort for those who have lost a much loved spouse or partner, as a result of war, illness or in the normal course of events. How are we to take it, to pick out the love, comfort and hope we yearn to discern from the words of our Saviour? The Sadducees do not believe in the resurrection, but they are cunning. Their question is designed to trick Jesus - this simple teacher, preacher and healer who has such a simple beginning. Who does he think he is, outwitting those of so much greater learning and standing in the community? But Jesus, in his answer, distinguishes between the current age and the age to come. We're often told that the Kingdom of God is in the here and now - but I sometimes find that hard to believe. With all that is going on in this country, in the world - one has to hope that this isn't all there is. We have to have hope that there is a greater place for us. It is a mystery - one of those things that, it is not given to us in the here and now fully to comprehend it. In his letter to the Thessalonians, Paul writes

'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.'

And, perhaps this provides some clue as to why we continue with the dignified, moving traditions of Remembrance. We must remember - we must never forget and we must always hold on to the hope that God has better plans for us. In today's confused and confusing world there can be the suspicion that, in the seemingly desperate drive for diversity and inclusivity the basic meaning of Remembrance gets lost. We bring to mind those who fought for their country; those who gave up their lives; those who returned with damaged bodies and minds; those who didn't return at all. Is there a danger that this remembering will just become lost as a stuffy tradition in the minds of those growing up today?

I was reassured when, turning to some light reading, I came across a novel published recently by the Irish author, Evie Woods. Her story tells how, in the course of making a new life in France, the central character visits the Glade of the Armistice, near Compiègne. She writes movingly of how this visit opens up to her just how much had been lost and destroyed by two world wars. Standing at the spot where an internment camp had been, from which many had been shipped to labour camps, she writes:

‘I felt numb with shock. This place seemed so peaceful; it was impossible to imagine such traumatic events had taken place here. The stark realisation affected me deeply.’

She goes on to ask her tour guide how he can bear to keep coming to this spot and he replies,

‘People need to remember... otherwise their deaths and the thousands of people who sacrificed their lives trying to protect them will have been for nothing.’

We have to remember. In these days of ‘cancel culture’ there is the danger that much could be lost - heroes of old no longer recognised, lives of notable characters rewritten and reinterpreted in the light of so called ‘woke’ values. Paul’s words remind me of one of my favourite passages from Jeremiah, where the prophet writes:

‘Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.’

We cannot simply afford to discard the old ways - we need to learn from them, from the horrors, the faults, the mistakes - but we cannot simply cast them out altogether. It seems that the Sadducees get hold of the wrong end of the stick. They want to interpret the resurrection in terms of their own insight - or lack of it. Jesus tells them that

‘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... they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.’

As is often the case the gospel reading demonstrates how God’s future plans, his bringing of transformation as the new age begins, comes about in the most unlikely of ways. We don’t need to be scared or anxious - we can be comfortable with this mystery. In the meantime we need to remember and we need to look forward in trust, hope and faith.

Concluding with more words from Paul: ‘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.’

Post Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

† 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>

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.

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 – 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

6.30pm (open from 6.10)

Saturday 6th December 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.

All are welcome to any of the Pilgrims events.

Pilgrims at Christmas

Saturday 20th December at 9.30am

Encounter Café @Parrot

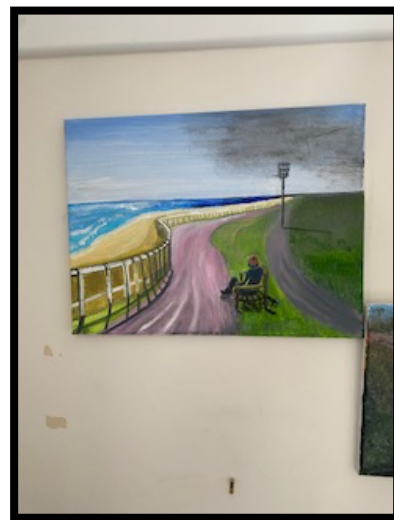
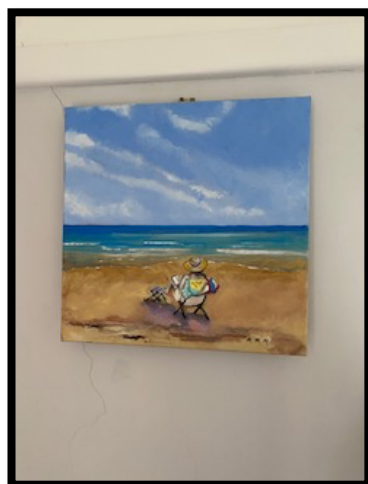
Sunday 21st at 4.00pm

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).



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



Next Week
Sunday 23rd November
Christ the King