

Ambassador

November 2020



Parish magazine of the Roughton Benefice - comprising Roughton, Bessingham, Felbrigg, Sustead, Metton and Hanworth with Gunton

www.roughtonbenefice.uk

45p

Who's Who in our Benefice

Rector: Vacant

[Patron: The Bishop of Norwich]

Rural Dean:

The Revd Canon Christian Heycocks,
The Vicarage, 10 North Street,
Sheringham, NR26 8LW

Readers

None

Bessingham

Contact: Nina Chapman 01263 577782
[now under the guidance of the Diocesan
Churches Trust]

Churchwardens

Felbrigg

Mary Llewellyn 01263 513072
Hilary Kirkland 01263 514380

Hanworth with Gunton

Richard Harbord 01263 768732

Metton [None]

Roughton

Helen Mortimer 01263 511132
Dave Wiltshire 01263 768104

Sustead

Priscilla McDougall 01263 577247
Glenn Davenport 01263 768877

Hon Assistant Minister

Revd Stephen J G Seamer
Please contact Mr. Seamer for
information in the first instance for
Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals.
Telephone: 01263 768125

Prayer Group Co-ordinator

Helen Mortimer 01263 511132

Mothers Union

Simone Hume 01263 711346

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Advertising Manager required

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Ron Mortimer 01263 511132
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Safeguarding Officer for Child and Vulnerable Adults:

To be advised

Alternatively:

Sue Brice 07958 377079
The Bishop's Adviser for Safeguarding

Roughton Church School

Church member Governor

David Wiltshire 01263 768104

Rector— Vacant

Clerk to the School Governors

Donald Mayes 01263 761392

Robert Brown Trust - Trustees

Helen Mortimer 01263 511132

David Wiltshire 01263 768104

Dorothy Kendall 01263 820973

Clerk to the Trustees

Jane Blackburn 01263 833512

November letter for Ambassador magazine, Roughton Benefice 2020

Dear readers,

Some of you may remember me from helping out in the Roughton Benefice where needed. The different churches and their congregations have been an important part of my life. Now I am semi retired but still Chaplain at Kelling Hospital.

November, a month of remembering: Halloween, All Saints, All Souls, Bonfire Night and remember the dates to post before Christmas!

We also remember looking back to March when the freedom before the virus lockdown was taken for granted. There were services in most churches, singing hymns, no masks, plans for parish and social gatherings, family reunions and much more. In these dark days of November the words 'look on the bright side of life' sometimes seem hollow.

As Christians we can also look ahead to Christmas. It may be differently celebrated but the message is the same and always will be. Jesus was born as a vulnerable baby in a turbulent world. He came to bring hope and a new way of loving God for all people where ever they were. Soon we will be hearing carols. My favourite is Sing lullaby. "Hush, do not wake the infant king: angels are watching, stars are shining over the place where He is lying: sing lullaby".

Once, when going through a difficult time in my life, my father showed me these words from Psalm 84 verses 6 and 7 "Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well and the pools are filled with water: they will go from strength to strength and everyone of them will appear in Zion". Of course at the moment we have plenty of water here but in the Far East, filled wells were like gold dust,

So my message for this month is keep safe and keep positive! Avoid the temptation of looking back and look forward with hope. In this way you too will go from strength to strength. Blessings are around us, they really are! The sun may not be shining but the pools are filled with water.

Janet Stewart.

Weekly Readings

As a church we follow the lectionary of the Church of England. For the coming month the readings are:

1 November Fourth Sunday before Advent

Reading 1 Micah 3:5-12
Psalm 43
Reading 2 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

8 November Third Sunday before Advent

Reading 1 Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
Reading 2 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

15 November Second Sunday before Advent

Reading 1 Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90: 1-8 [9-11] 12
Reading 2 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel Matthew 22:15-22

22 November Sunday Next before Advent

Reading 1 Ezekiel 34:11-16
Psalm 95: 1-7a
Reading 2 Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

29 November First Sunday of Advent

Reading 1 Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20
Reading 2 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel Mark 13:24-37

If you want to follow the readings as we use them you can find them in the NRSV (The New Revised Standard version) of the Bible. If you do not have this translation to hand you can find it online at <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/> or <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/>.

Craft Workshop, Mother's Union, Village halls and WI

These organisations have all suspended their activities because of the coronavirus, they will resume as soon as possible. They can be contacted via the usual contacts.

If you want someone to pray with (by phone) please feel free to ring a churchwarden, numbers on page 2.

Bags 2 School:

Make space for that new spring/summer wardrobe! We will be having another Bags to School event on Friday 6 November. Your kind support for this event will be very much appreciated.

The school will again be collecting good quality clean clothes, hats, scarves, ties, shoes (in pairs and tied together), belts, cuddly soft toys, bed sheets, pillow cases, duvet covers (not duvets, pillows, blankets), handbags, that can be resold. Goods collected are sold by weight so the more we collect the more money we can raise for the school. If you have any items you would like to donate they can be given to Dave Wiltshire at any time or arrangements made for collection (just call Dave on 01263 768104). Alternatively, they can be taken to school not later than 9:00am on the morning of 6 November. Items donated may be placed in ordinary bin bags. The collection point is the cycle rack in the school car park.

Rev Robert Brown Trust

(Charity No. 234865)

Through the generosity of the Rev. Robert Brown Trust Fund set up in 1694, The Trustees are able to offer limited funds to help residents of Roughton over difficult periods. Applications can be made at any time of the year and will be treated in strictest confidence.

For more information or to make an application, please contact the Clerk of the Trust – Jane Blackburn on 01263-833512.

Although applications for grants can be made at any time of the year. It has been traditional to give grants out before Christmas and the winter months to help with extra expenses incurred this time of the year.

If you need a little extra help or know someone who does, the application forms this year will be in the church porch. When completed, please post through the Benefice Office door, which is situated down The Rectory drive. (Do not post through the main door)

Roughton Benefice, Diocese of Norwich

[comprising the parishes of Bessingham, Felbrigg, Gunton and Hanworth, Metton, Roughton and Sustead]

A resolution of all the Churchwardens of the Benefice taken on the behalf of the Parochial Church Councils:

The following pattern will begin from Sunday, July 19th until further notice:

There will be ONE Service held every Sunday in ONE of the church buildings in the Benefice:

Please see notices and last page of this magazine

All morning services will now begin at 10.30AM.

July 2020. This notice to be displayed on all church notice boards in the Roughton Benefice.

Giving to your Church

The bank details for each of our Churches are shown below.

One of the best ways to give regularly to your Church is to create a standing order with your bank. If you do online banking this can be set up on your computer without leaving home. If you don't have internet banking you will need to go into your bank. I suggest that you speak with them first in order to ensure you have whatever details they require to set up a standing order.

Account Title	Bank Sort Code	Account Number
St Andrew's Church Metton PCC	30-94-34	00356489
Roughton PCC	20-03-26	90757322
Hanworth Church PCC	30-94-34	00296028
Sustead Parochial Church Council	30-94-34	00378156
Felbrigg Churchwardens	20-03-26	20367192

Please ensure your Church has your details to claim back tax on your payments

The Book of Lamentations

According to the local newspapers, a Felmingham farmer recently said that it has been a challenging growing season for crops. It began with ceaseless rain in autumn and winter, meaning that many crops struggled to establish their roots. This was followed by a prolonged dry spell in spring – including East Anglia’s driest May on record – and a heatwave in the summer. It meant that by the autumn wheat yields were down by 15%. Winter barley and winter oilseed rape were down 20% on five-year averages. On top of all our concerns over the pandemic, climate change and Brexit, this has not been a good harvest year.

It also looks at the time of writing that there will be no Harvest Festival service in Gunton this October – perhaps for the first time in centuries. The word ‘*lamentations*’ comes to mind. In the Old Testament there is a book with the same name. The Church of England, usually refers to those readings during Holy Week, but now they seem to have a more universal relevance.

This ‘Book of Lamentations’ recalls the siege and eventual destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians in 596 BC. Its population endured horrible deprivation (Lamentations 4:4, 5, 9). The Temple was destroyed and the city’s population was marched across the Middle East into captivity. It was a disaster of epic proportions which challenged the prophet Jeremiah to ask where was *Yahweh*, the God of Israel in all that. Jeremiah (650s – c570 BC) the ‘weeping prophet’ also wrote the preceding Book which was named after him. He was described in much detail emphasising his importance in Jewish history and also to us.

Beginning with the reality of disaster, Lamentations concludes with the bitter realisation that the Jews had broken the Covenant which Abraham made with *Yahweh*, so they feared that they had been finally rejected (Chapter 5:22). The prophet acknowledged that their suffering was a just punishment, but they knew that *Yahweh* had a choice over whether to act in that way and at that time. Hope arose from the recollection of His past goodness which justified a cry to God to deliver His people but they were not confident that He would. It was felt that repentance might not persuade God to be gracious, since He is free to give or withhold grace as He chooses. Nevertheless, it also acknowledged that the mercies of *Yahweh* never end and are renewed every morning (3:22–33).

Towards the end of his ministry, Jesus also lamented the lack of faith in his people knowing that there would be those who would be bent on his destruction when he would have to make the ultimate sacrifice (Luke 13:31, 33 and 34; 19: 41-44);

‘Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets and stone those sent to you. How long have I longed to gather together my children . . . yet you stand in my way. So be it. You can keep your Temple. I promise you shall not see me till the time comes when you say, blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord’.

Despite all that, he left us with a New Covenant (John 14:6) – where Jesus said. *‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me’.* In that, we can hold on to eternal hope.

Richard in Gunton.

The picture on the cover is the sculpture at the British Memorial commemorating over 22,000 service personnel lives lost on D-Day and in the battle for Normandy, at a field overlooking “Gold Beach” at Vers-sur Mer, France. The memorial which also commemorates the loss of life amongst French civilians is due to open in early summer 2021

The Ambassador needs a new Advertising manager

This is an important position in the production of the Ambassador newsletter as our advertising needs to expand. Some benefice magazines have 6 or 8 pages of advertisements which draws in a considerable income.

If you are interested please contact Ron Mortimer on 01263 511132 or email at roughton.ambassador@gmail.com

Disclaimer:

The views expressed by individuals in this Magazine are not necessarily the views of the group of Churches in this Benefice. Advertising in this magazine does not imply an endorsement or promotion of the advertisement, nor its content, products or services. Errors and omissions, whilst regrettable, may occur. Please advise the Editor and appropriate action will be taken

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Email: arianelomax@icloud.com

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cromerelectrical@yahoo.com



National Trust

Felbrigg Hall



regrets that owing to the dangers of the Coronavirus the facilities of the house and gardens are closed until further notice.

The park and the car park are open.

Please pre-book your car space online at
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/felbrigg-hall-gardens-and-estate>
or phone 0344 2491895

Entry fee applies, free to National Trust Members

General Enquiries Tel. 01263 837444

Registered Charity No 205846

NOVEMBER 2020

Services

1 November Fourth Sunday before Advent

10.30 am Morning Service BCP **Sustead**

8 November Third Sunday before Advent

10.30 am Benefice Remembrance CW Roughton
& Morning Service

15 November Second Sunday before Advent

10.30 am Communion Service CW Hanworth

22 November Sunday Next before Advent

10.30 am Morning Service CW Felbrigg

29 November First Sunday of Advent

10.30 am Morning Service CW Felbrigg

REMEMBRANCE AT FELBRIGG

The Parish council have, regrettably, made the decision not to have a service of Remembrance on Felbrigg green this year, although fresh wreaths will be laid.

Gunton and Metton church buildings will remain closed for the time being. Everyone attending public worship is asked to give very careful attention to public instructions to follow social distancing and other regulations for the health and safety of all worshippers.