

The Herald

Telling you all you need to know in our Benefice March 2018

For general enquiries please

Tel: 01572 812202 (please note answer phone only)

or e-mail cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com

For pastoral matters please contact a member of the Ministry team.



Dear Friends,

I can't believe that it has been a month since we said our goodbyes to Marcus, Jane, Rory, Isaac and Tiffer and we wish them well in their new home and parish and thank you to everyone who took part in the wonderful bring and share lunch – a veritable feast!

We are now in the interregnum – a waiting period, while we advertise for a new minister. It is important to stress

that during this time services etc will go on as usual. Your Ministry Team of Anne, Cathy, John and myself are here for you and can be contacted via the webpage (North Rutland Churches).

As we approach Easter at the end of this month, it is a good time to reflect on where we are going in our own discipleship and how we are going to grow in our faith.

We are now part way through Lent – a time for self examination and reflection. Some will have given up things for Lent and others will have taken on something extra for Lent, and others will be using their time for more reflection, bible reading and prayer. Jesus encourages us in all this (Matthew 6) but tells us that we should not go around boasting of the fact that this is what we have done. It should be between us and God. God has promised us that if we repent of all our wrongdoing and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ, then we shall be forgiven and will have eternal life with Him.

We should all try to be loving and caring for each other, to show God's love in us to others, so that they might come to discover God for themselves.

We come to God through Jesus, so we must try to be more like him; and in all things talk to him in prayer.

Wishing you all God's blessing this Eastertide.

Diane

Home Holy Communion

Do you have, or do you know, somebody who is house bound and would like to receive Holy Communion in their home. If you would like this for them, please contact Colin Johns in person or on telephone No.01572 812221

Lent Lunches at St Nicholas, Cottesmore



Lent Lunches (soup, bread and apple pie with custard,) commenced on Thursday 22nd



February and conclude on

Maundy

Thursday. Cost will be £3. Hot food and a warm welcome await.

Thank God for Mums! and all who care for others

at a special service

at



Cottesmore church
on
Sunday 11th March
@ 9.30 am

- **everyone welcome**
- **flowers**
- **refreshments**

What's on every week

Mon to Fri 08.00 <i>Every week</i>	<i>Morning Bible Study & Prayer, Greetham Church</i> <i>With a cup of tea</i>
Monday 10.30 Weeks 2 & 4	<i>Prayer Meeting in Cottesmore Church</i> <i>For more info please contact Di Toy on 812355</i>
Monday 14.30 <i>Weekly term time</i>	Barrow Home Group <i>Duncan Ball (812428)</i> <i>cduncanball@gmail.com</i>
Monday 19.00, <i>Weekly</i>	<i>Hand Bell ringing Cottesmore Church 7pm</i>
Tuesday 08.30	<i>Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church</i>

<i>Weekly</i>	
Tuesday 09.30 - 11.00 <i>Term time only</i>	<i>Sparklers toddlers group</i> <i>ALL WELCOME</i>
Tuesday 10.00 <i>Every week</i>	<i>Holy Communion at Gainsboro' Ct</i> <i>Refreshments served afterwards</i>
Wednesday 09.15 <i>Every week</i>	<i>Morning Prayer in Exton church</i> <i>Contact Bernadette Wallace 812956 or 0785 848 4918</i>
Thursday 09.00 <i>Weekly</i>	<i>Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church</i>
Thursday 19.30 <i>Weekly term time</i>	<i>Bible Fellowship</i> <i>Contact Anne Adamson on 812816 for more info</i>

Closure of Cottesmore Churchyard Extension.

Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Secretary of State for Justice, acting on an application by the incumbent and churchwardens, to apply to the Privy Council for an Order requiring the discontinuance of burials in the above churchyard.

Provision would be made for the following exceptions: -

- a. in any vault or walled grave in the churchyard, burial may be allowed but every coffin in such vault or grave must be separately enclosed by stonework or brick work properly cemented;
- b. in any existing earthen grave in the churchyard, the burial may be allowed of the body of any member of the family of the person or persons previously buried in that grave, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave; and

- c. in any grave space in which no interment has previously taken place, the burial may be allowed of any person for whom, or any member of the family for which that grave space has been reserved and appropriated, with the exclusive right of burial there, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave.

Any representations about the proposed closure should be sent to the Coroners and Burials Team, Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ (quoting reference OPR/075/377) within 21 days of this publication.

Kairos Prison Ministry Mission



Stocken Prison March 12th-16th 2018

Dear friends

Kairos is a Christian Mission which goes into prisons to show the transforming love of Jesus Christ to inmates. Kairos is a five day programme which explains and demonstrates the Christian faith in action. Through the Bible, personal testimony and unconditional love, inmates come to understand that they can be forgiven, accepted and transformed through encountering Jesus. The impact of Kairos on inmates is miraculous and reoffending rates in prisoners who have been on a Kairos programme are almost non-existent. The impact is so significant that prison authorities and the government are now actively inviting Kairos teams into UK prisons to work with groups of inmates. Last year a team went into Stocken Prison and at the end of the week 16 inmates made a commitment to Jesus and their lives were visibly transformed. This month a team of 25 of us are returning to Stocken to work with another group of men. One of the ways in which love for the men is shown is by people outside baking cookies which are then taken into the prison for the mission week. Every single inmate, officer, member of staff receives at least one batch of cookies, whether they are directly involved in the mission or not.

We have committed to produce 10,500 cookies this year to support and 'feed' the mission. Although you may not feel called to go into the prison, you can show your support by baking a batch of 35 cookies using the attached recipe. We really need your help in backing this mission and this is a way of putting faith into action and reaching out to the lost, the last and the least, just as Jesus would do.

Can you let me know asap if you would be prepared to bake for Kairos? Cookies would need to be delivered to one of the following locations:-

3, Great Lane, Greetham Saturday 3rd March between 2 and 6pm
Greetham Church Sunday 4th March between 9.30am and 12 noon.

Many thanks - in advance! -for your support.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact Cathy Dyson
01572 812497 07970568305 cathydyson@outlook.com



Sparklers Toddler Group – . For parents, grandparents and carers of preschool children. We meet during term time on Tuesday Mornings between 9.30am – 11.00am in Cottesmore Church.

A warm welcome awaits with crafts, refreshments, lots of varied play/toys and singing. £1 per family.

Contact Bernie Wallace Tel: 01572 812956 or

Maureen Hubbert Tel: 01572 813061

Good Friday cross walk will take place as usual on March 30th.

Meeting at
7-45am to walk
churches in our
is welcome to
or the whole
approximately 15
reach Greetham
service about

Clipsham Church
around the
Benefice. Anyone
join us for part of
walk,
miles, we aim to
church during the
2-45pm. This is a

great opportunity to share our faith and a fantastic fellowship, chatting as we walk.

Approximate timing are:

Clipsham 8.00,

Stretton 8-45,

Thistleton 10.00

Barrow 11.15

Cottesmore 12.00

Exton 1.15

Greetham 2.45

After the service finishes we move to the Plough, Greetham for welcome refreshments.

Anyone needing further information can contact me on [07738 955319](tel:07738955319) or davidperrin2171@aol.com.

Thanks.

David Perrin

Churchyard Conservation Scheme

Hedgehogs, Bush Crickets and King Alfred's Cake!

Did you know that Bishop Donald is Patron of our diocesan Churchyard Conservation Scheme? He has been encouraging all the churches in the diocese to develop management of churchyards for the conservation of wildlife, balancing this with the peace and beauty which churchyards provide. Caring for God's creation is an important part of our calling as Christians.

A variety of wildlife is a sign of a healthy environment for us to live in, and churchyards have a significant role to play in this, particularly as they usually have unimproved grassland (ie free from fertilisers and chemicals). With the help of the Rutland Natural History Society, we have produced an impressive (but by

no means exhaustive) list of the wildlife found in our own churchyard, available to view on our website (Cottesmore section). It includes some interesting and more unusual species that tend to be overlooked, such as lichens, plant galls and King Alfred's Cake (a fungus). There are various insects, plants and animals, including Speckled Bush Crickets, a hedgehog and a roosting kestrel. A visitor from Sussex who was looking round our church was especially interested to hear about the treecreeper we had spotted. We aim to produce further periodic counts as time goes by. It will be interesting to see if we can increase the health of *our* environment, hopefully with the help of just a few simple changes! We have already put up a bird feeder and a nestbox!

Here are some things you can do in your patch:

- Build a compost heap, for reptiles and small mammals.
- Plant hedges, trees, herbs, providing cover and food for birds/mammals.
- Provide bird, bat and insect boxes, plus log piles.
- Leave small plants and lichens on walls/monuments.
- Remove grass cuttings from mown areas to encourage wild flowers.
- Make a 5inch hole so hedgehogs can access your garden.

Happy wildlife watching! Jane & Duncan Ball

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 3rd March

1.00 – 3.00pm

**At St Nicholas Church, Main Street,
THISTLETON**

30p admission, children free

**Clothes, jigsaws, books, toys, household goods,
bric-a-brac etc**

Refreshments

This is the first jumble sale in Thistleton for many years – possibly the first ever – so we have gathered a good selection of quality items Proceeds in aid of Friends of Thistleton Church (Registered Charity 1167538)

OPEN SUNDAY

You are invited to St Mary's Church, Greetham on Sunday 11th March at 9.30am (until 10.30)



What can you expect?

- A warm welcome
- A delicious breakfast
- Relaxed environment
- Fantastic live music

It's church, but it's not what you think!

**Good Friday Messy Church
in
St Nicholas, Cottesmore
Friday 30th March (10am – 12pm)**

Drop in when you like for as long as you like

Selection of Easter themed crafts



Come along with friends and family of all ages and enjoy finding out about the Holy Week and Easter story through craft activities.

Refreshments served throughout



Services in our Benefice for March 2018

Thurs 1st	1200	Lent Lunches	Cottesmore
Sunday 4th	0800	Holy Communion	Greetham
	0930	Morning Service	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning Service	Greetham

	1115	Holy Communion	Stretton
Tues 6th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Thurs 8th	1200	Lent Lunches	Cottesmore
Sunday 11th Mothering Sunday	0930	Morning Service	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning worship with 0900 breakfast	Greetham
	1115	BCP Holy Communion	Clipsham
	1115	Morning Service	Exton
Tues 13th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Thurs 15th	1200	Lent Lunches	Cottesmore
Sunday 18th	0930	Holy Communion	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning Praise	Greetham
	1115	Morning Service	Stretton
Tues 20th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Thurs 22nd	1200	Lent Lunches	Cottesmore
Palm Sun 25th	1030	Benefice Service	Greetham
Tues 27th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Maundy Thursday 29th	1200	Lent Lunches	Cottesmore
	1900	Benefice service with Holy Communion	Thistleton

Good Friday 30th	0800	Cross Walk, Clipsham to	Greetham
	1000	Good Friday Workshop	Cottesmore
	1000	Matins & Litany	Clipsham
	1200	Devotional Service	Greetham
Easter Sunday April 1st	0545	Dawn Service	Greetham
	0930	Holy Communion	Cottesmore
	0930	Holy Communion	Greetham
	11.15	Holy Communion	Clipsham
	11.15	Holy Communion	Exton
	11.15	Holy Communion	Stretton

Websites

Benefice: www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk

Greetham: www.greethamchurch.org.uk

For all information re the Herald and to send any items for inclusion by e-mail, please use the benefice office address - cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Please leave anything in writing in the Cottesmore tray at the back of St Nicholas Church.

For the April edition of the Herald, please may I have items by Friday 16th March - earlier due to Easter. Thanks. Val.

Prayer for Kairos

Please pray for the mission team and the men at Stocken Prison who will be following the Kairos programme in either or both of the following:

Join a Prayer Vigil at Greetham Church on Wednesday 14th March
8-9am

In your own daily prayers

Mission Dates: Monday 12th March – Friday 16th March