



### **Welcome to the June edition of our Newsletter**

As I was pondering on an introduction for the Newsletter, I came across Henri Nouwen's reflections on the role of the Holy Spirit in our day-to-day lives and I really couldn't think of anything more appropriate.

*The Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised to his followers, is the great gift of God. Without the Spirit of Jesus, we can do nothing, but in and through his Spirit we can live free, joyful, and courageous lives. We cannot pray, but the Spirit of Christ can pray in us. We cannot create peace and joy, but the Spirit of Christ can fill us with a peace and joy that is not of this world. We cannot break through the many barriers that divide races, sexes, and nations, but the Spirit of Christ unites all people in the all-embracing love of God. The Spirit of Christ burns away our many fears and anxieties and sets us free to move wherever we are sent. That is the great liberation of Pentecost.*

(Henri Nouwen - A Cry for Mercy: Prayers for the Genesee)

We would very much appreciate your comments and feedback which can be sent to Julie Leefe at [Cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com](mailto:Cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com).

### **Prayer in the Park for our Climate (Tear fund)**

Jane and Duncan Ball are inviting you to join them for a prayer walk on Saturday June 5 at 4 pm starting from Cottesmore church (meet at the porch).

Prayer in the Park is a prayer event uniting people and churches across the UK. We'll be celebrating the beauty of God's world, repenting of the damage we've done to creation that is also hurting people living in poverty, and seeking God's heart for a fairer world that works for everyone.

See this for more details:

[Prayer in the park - Tearfund](#)

## Recovery from the Pandemic (Rev Anthony Oram)

Services of Celebration and Reflection in response to the Pandemic are being held in Greetham on June 27 and in Cottesmore on July 4 (both at 9:30 AM).

### After a crisis

Some excellent input and resources that have come my way over the past few months have suggested that there could be three key steps that help bring us – as church communities – out of the pandemic crisis in as healthy a way as possible.

Not surprisingly it's alliterative – with three Rs.

Firstly, we need to **respond** to what has happened to us. Through dialogue together and times set aside for reflection on what has been good and what has been bad; what we want to take with us from it and what we should leave firmly behind.

Secondly, we need to focus on **recovery** as a goal together. Surprisingly, we, as the church, are not that good at dealing with the wrong things in us. Yet if it is one thing, the testimony of the Cross is that we can nail those bad things to it. As he hung there, Jesus took all the bad stuff on himself on the Cross and as he died and was taken down all that was put on him stayed there on the Cross. With God's help we can deal with what has happened to us during this crisis to enable us to look forward.

Having done that, we can then think about **reconstruction**. That's the what, where, when, and how of regrouping as the Body of Christ and a priesthood of believers.

### What's coming up soon

Please check the benefice web site for more details

<https://northrutlandchurches.org.uk/calendar/page1/>

In brief:

- **Cafe Church (Cottesmore)** - At last we are able to get back into the church to meet up for a chat over a slice of cake to start with and later as the rules are relaxed, we'll have tea and cake and eventually, proper Afternoon Teas. We'll start on Thursday 3rd June at 3pm and then take it from there as we are allowed. Hope to see all our lovely patrons again. Pam
- **Greetham Fete** will be held on July 10
- **St Nicholas, Stretton** is hoping to reopen at the end of August (delay in the delivery of the flooring means delay to the reopening).

### Tech help

Most of us are unaware of how much effort goes into producing online services and content. Many of you have really appreciated these services which have allowed you to join in with worship when it otherwise would have been impossible. These online services will probably have to stop in September as Rev Anthony, who has faithfully compiled the services (video editing) won't be able to continue with the regular live services as well as compiling online services. However, if there were a

volunteer or two with or without an IT background to help it would be possible to continue. Please contact [cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com](mailto:cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com) for more information.

## CONTACTS

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Web site      [www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk](http://www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk)

Facebook      <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Cottesmorebenefice>

## Services in June and July

June - July 2021		Services in North Rutland Churches	
Sunday June 6	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday June 13	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday June 20	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Holy Communion Morning Service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday June 27	9:30 AM 9:30 AM  11:15 AM	Morning service Holy Communion and Celebration & Reflection service Holy Communion	Cottesmore Greetham  Exton
Sunday July 4	9:30 AM  9:30 AM	Holy Communion and Celebration & Reflection service  Morning Service	Cottesmore  Greetham
Sunday July 11	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM  11:15 AM	Morning service Morning service Morning service followed by village picnic. Holy Communion (BCP)	Cottesmore Greetham Thistleton  Clipsham
Sunday July 18	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM	Holy Communion Morning service Reopening service*	Cottesmore Greetham Stretton
		* To be confirmed	

Please check with your local church or web site [www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk](http://www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk) for any changes

Covid precautions - social distancing, mask wearing etc will continue for a few more weeks.

## What's on regularly in our churches

	What's on regularly in the benefice
Monday 10.30 Weeks 2 & 4	Prayer Meeting (Cottesmore) currently meeting on Zoom For more information, please contact Di Toy on 01572 812355
Monday 14.30 Weekly term time	Barrow Home Group – now meeting in person at The Willows, Barrow Contact Duncan Ball 01572 812428 or email <a href="mailto:cduncanball@gmail.com">cduncanball@gmail.com</a>
Monday 14.30 Weekly	House group meets every week on Zoom. Contact Jackie Gauntley 01572 868291 or <a href="mailto:jackiegauntley@hotmail.co.uk">jackiegauntley@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Monday 19.00 Weekly	Hand Bell ringing Cottesmore Church 7pm Contact Pat Hoyles, 01572 813034
Tuesday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Tues 09.30 - 11.00 Term time only	Sparklers toddlers group – Cottesmore – restarting in September ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 19.30 Weekly	House group meeting on Zoom Contact Steve or Julie Bertuzzi email <a href="mailto:Steve.bertuzzi@medasun.com">Steve.bertuzzi@medasun.com</a> or <a href="mailto:julie.bertuzzi@medasun.com">julie.bertuzzi@medasun.com</a>
Thursday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Thursday 09.15 Weekly	Morning Prayer (Exton) meeting on Zoom - contact <a href="mailto:Bernie.wallace@btinternet.com">Bernie.wallace@btinternet.com</a>
Thursday 19.30 Weekly term time	House group currently meeting on Zoom Contact Anne Adamson on 812816 or email: <a href="mailto:annecadamson@aol.com">annecadamson@aol.com</a>
Saturday 10.30 – 13.00 Weekly	Saturday café at Thistleton Church