



Welcome to the Christmas edition of our Newsletter

Important message from Rev Anthony Oram

Dear Friends,

In light of recent developments and the announcements coming out of Westminster currently, and because winter is once again upon us, I think it's best we review the wearing of masks in church.

I would like to reintroduce the wearing of masks in services. That is, when you are inside the building - before, during and after the services. If you are planning on attending a service tomorrow, please would you bring a mask to wear. I'm sure we can work out a suitable way of having teas together, but please do be aware of social distancing as a good preventative measure.

We do this to keep each other safe, so if you feel at all unwell, please remain at home and don't come to services.

With hope and peace,

Anthony

Christmas Season – events

Wishing you every blessing for Christmas and a Happy New Year!



CHRISTMAS SERVICES			
Saturday December 18	17:00 PM 18:00 PM	Carol service Carol service	Thistleton Clipsham
Sunday December 19	9:30 AM 15:00 PM 16:00 PM 18:00 PM	Holy Communion Carol service Carol service Carol service	Cottesmore Exton Stretton? Greetham
Monday December 20	19:30 PM	Carol service	Cottesmore
Wednesday December 22	16:30 PM 18:00 PM	Pony Club Carol Service Blue Christmas	Exton Greetham
Friday December 24 Christmas Eve	16:00 PM 17:00 PM 21:00 PM 23:30 PM	Nativity service Carol service Holy Communion Midnight Communion	Cottesmore Burley Cottesmore Greetham
Saturday December 25 Christmas day	9:00 AM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM	Christmas service Christmas service Holy Communion Holy Communion (BE) Holy Communion (BE)	Thistleton Cottesmore Exton Stretton? Clipsham
Sunday December 26		NO SERVICES	

Advent Course led by Rev Anthony Oram



Zoom link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7582487832?pwd=ZUk0Omtz4qHteVjuU1a6QoliCj3...>

THE LEPROSY MISSION - USED STAMPS AND COLLECTABLES



I am trying to help raise much needed funds for the above charity which has its headquarters in Peterborough. They are able to raise cash on used stamps of any country and I have placed a collecting box in Greetham church (please leave a border of no more than 5ml), or if you have a large quantity I will collect. They also accept postcards (posted or unused), coins and bank notes (of any country), medals, cigarette cards and tea cards. Please deliver to me at Horseshoe cottage, 3 New Field Road, Exton or contact me if you need a collection.

Patricia Hagger
01572 813118

The Big Quiz 2021



Anne Adamson writes: Many thanks to everyone who helped us support Tearfund at the Big Quiz Night at Cottesmore Church. We spread out all over the building, ran out of gift aid forms and had a really fun and encouraging evening. The total to be sent to Tearfund is now into 4 figures.

If you missed this year's quiz, it is still available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jb556E8tgxY>

Find out more about Tearfund at https://www.tearfund.org/about_us

All profits will go to support people living in poverty overseas.

Operation Christmas Child - Shoebox Appeal



I have delivered 24 boxes and donations totalling £40 so now they start the next part of their journey. Thank you so much to all who contributed, let's hope and pray that our gifts, along with many others will bring joy to thousands of children.

Patricia Hagger

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

FAREWILL

Leaving a gift in your will to your local church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support its mission and ministry in your community. Making a will and keeping it updated is the only way to make sure your wishes are carried out after your death, giving you peace of mind that you can continue to support the family, friends, and charities you love.

This autumn, the Church of England has partnered with **Farewill**, the National Will Writing Firm of the Year 2020, to offer an online will writing service, which you can do from the comfort of your home in less than 30 minutes. **Farewill's** specialist team are available to help you over the phone or live chat 7 days a week, 9am-7pm.

N.B. There are a limited number of wills available on a first-come-first served basis.

There is no obligation for anyone to leave a gift in their will to their church. However, if you decide that you can, your gift - great or small - will make a real difference to your church's life for future generations.

To take advantage of this offer you can go to the Farewill website here:

<https://farewill.com/peterborough-diocese>

- By participating in this will writing scheme, your details will not be shared with the Church of England.
- If you use the Church of England will writing scheme, there is no obligation to leave a gift to a church in your Will. Your loved ones should always come first.
- If you do choose to remember your local or a favourite church, thank you. Every gift, great or small will make a real difference to that church and its mission and ministry in your community for future generations.

Church communications!

Very soon we are going to begin transferring the church records of contact details from the individual churches to a new central online communications package for the benefice – “iKnow Church”. If you are on email, you will be invited to login to the new system and create a personal profile if you would like to. Only you and the administrator will be able to see your details. The email Newsletter distribution, advertising church events and church calendar will all be moving over to the new system in the coming weeks. For more details contact Julie Leefe on julieleefe@live.co.uk. People without email will receive letters in the coming months inviting them to allow their details to be registered on the new system. (GDPR compliant)

Feedback

We would very much appreciate your comments and feedback which can be sent to Julie Leefe at Cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Printing copies for friends and family

If you know of a neighbour or a family member that doesn't use email, why not print them a copy of this newsletter (the PDF version is best) so they don't miss out on news and church information?

Important News from the National Churches Trust

We have launched a national debate looking at The Future of the UK's Church Buildings. With an increasing number of churches and chapels facing closure, the debate highlights the community, economic, heritage and spiritual benefits of churches. This is a chance for Dioceses, County Trusts, and churches to say how their local church can be saved for future generations.



The Future of the UK's Church Buildings debate is backed by Michael Palin, Vice President of the National Churches Trust. He said:

"The UK has over 39,000 church buildings. The restrictions of COVID-19, resulting in reduced funding and fewer worshippers, has clouded the future for many of them. Yet churches remain a vital and much-loved part of the UK's history and heritage

and we can't let them fall into neglect and disuse. There is hope. More and more churches are adapting to the modern world and the needs of their communities, providing not just spiritual comforts but a range of valuable services to local people such as foodbanks and youth clubs. If you care as much as I do about the future of these much-loved buildings, do get involved with the National Churches Trust debate about 'The Future of Churches' and help shape their future."

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/futureofchurches>

St Nicholas Church & Community Centre

Ideal Christmas gift!

MUGS FOR SALE



Bone China Mugs - £9.00 each

To celebrate the forthcoming re-opening of the church as a Church and Community Centre we have commissioned some bone china mugs.

Each mug has a picture of the church on the front and writing on the back – see picture above

The drawing was done by Tim Seal, who used to live in the village.

All profits go to the Church and Community Centre

The mugs are 8.5 cms high, 7.5 cms diameter, hold 300ml fluid and are dish washer proof

To order your mugs please contact Penny Isaacs
penny@pennyisaacs.com 01780 401 676 / 07879 337 714

Tea Towels with the same picture will be available shortly

CONTACTS

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For Pastoral matters the readers are:

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Web site www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk

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

<https://www.facebook.com/North-Rutland-Churches-102279675438456> -
North Rutland Churches Facebook page

December 2021		Services in North Rutland Churches	
Sunday December 5	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Morning service Our World service (Jenny Welbourn – Compassion)	Cottesmore Greetham
Monday December 6	18:30 PM	Patronal service – St Nicholas	Thistleton
Sunday December 12	9:30 AM 9:00 AM 11:15 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Breakfast service (service at 9:30 AM) Morning service Holy Communion (BCP)	Cottesmore Greetham Exton Clipsham

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	What's on regularly in the North Rutland Churches
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	Monday Home Group meeting at The Willows, Barrow Contact Duncan & Jane Ball, 01572 812428, or email cduncanball@gmail.com
Monday 14.30 Weekly	House group meets every week on Zoom. Contact Jackie Gauntley 01572 868291 or jackiegauntley@hotmail.co.uk
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 soon? ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 19.30 Weekly	House group meeting on Zoom Contact Steve or Julie Bertuzzi email Steve.bertuzzi@medasun.com or julie.bertuzzi@medasun.com
Thursday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Thursday 09.15 Weekly	Morning Prayer (Exton) meeting on Zoom - contact Bernie.wallace@btinternet.com
Thursday 19.30 Weekly term time	Thursday evening home group resumes in September, 7.30 pm. Contact annecadamson@aol.com for details.
Thursday 2 – 4 pm Monthly - every third week	Cottesmore church - Everyone is welcome to enjoy delicious sandwiches, cakes, scones, and good company.
Saturday 10.30 – 13.00 Weekly	Saturday café at Thistleton Church