

The Herald

***Telling you all you need to know in our
Benefice
March 2019***



It is with great pleasure that we introduce ourselves to you in the Cottesmore Benefice churches as your new Rector and his wife!

We moved here in the first week of January, and what a great way to start the year! Despite the short time we have been here we already feel welcomed and at home with you. Thank you for all you have done individually and collectively to make us feel that we have indeed made a very good decision to join you here! It is wonderful to be meeting so

many people, each with a different story of God's leading and provision.

We have arrived from Hull, in East Yorkshire, where we were lucky enough to serve curacy during the City of Culture and so enjoyed the rich wealth of art, music and creativity that Hull has

to offer. Before Hull, we lived in Beverley, a market town nearby, where our two boys went to school and where I was a primary school teacher. Tessa worked for the Diocese of York in secondary schools, running a mentoring project for 'on the edge' students. Our boys are now living in Wilmslow and Derby, and we love having them home whenever they appear, despite the accompanying bags of dirty laundry!

As we start this new chapter of our lives with you, we know enough of how God works to trust that he has a plan and purpose here, and that he invites us all to collaborate with him in it. We are excited to see how that will unfold, keeping our eyes on him, spending time listening to him and each other, and finding ways to extend his love. We are very glad that we are in it together, and we look forward to getting to know you better as we make our home with you here.

Anthony and Tessa

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 telephone:
01572 812221*



Decision Making: Seven Steps for Making Good, Christian Choices

by Mike Bennett

We are shaped by our decisions. Some have life-or-death consequences, while others are less important. How can Christians make better decisions?

Steps for making good decisions

Whatever type of decision we face, there are biblical principles that can help us make better decisions. For example, when a Christian recognizes a bad habit or faces a moral choice, he or she can apply God's command to always choose His way: "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him" (Deuteronomy 30:19-20).

So, where does the Christian decision-making process start?

1. Direction from God. As Christians, our overall direction in life is determined by our commitment to God, and we must remember to ask Him to direct our lives. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

How does God direct us? Through the wisdom He gives us in the Bible and through wise biblical counsel from His servants.

2. Define the problem or opportunity. When our problem seems fuzzy, it can be very difficult to come up with a solid solution. Sometimes it can be helpful to look at the problem from many angles in order to clearly define it. What caused the problem to erupt at this time and in this way? Who is affected by it? If other people are involved in causing the problem, why? What do they get out of it? If your decision is an opportunity, what exactly do you get by choosing

it? What do you lose if you don't choose it? **3. Dig out the relevant information.** We have already discussed looking for the related passages in the Bible. We also need to search out the pertinent facts about the specific problem or opportunity. Many search tools are available in our information age, and it can be helpful to explore everything from the library to the Internet. Look for reputable sources with relevant expertise. Be sure to put all the information you gather through the filters of fact checking and biblical truth.

Taken from "Life, hope and truth.com"

More next month - Val

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.

For more information please contact

Bernie Wallace Tel: 01572 812956

or

Maureen Hubbert Tel: 01572 813061

What's on every week

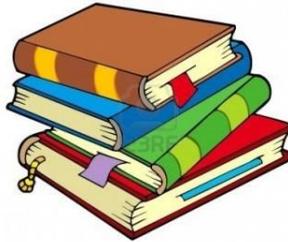
Mon to Fri 08.00 Every week	<i>Morning Bible Study & Prayer, Greetham Church With a cup of tea</i>
Monday 10.30	<i>Prayer Meeting in Cottesmore Church</i>

Weeks 2 & 4	<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 14.30 <i>Weekly</i>	House group meets every week in various homes. <i>Contact Cathy Dyson for more details. 01572 812497 07970568305</i> <u>cathydyson@outlook.com</u>
Monday 19.00, <i>Weekly</i>	<i>Hand Bell ringing Cottesmore Church 7pm</i>
Tuesday 08.30 <i>Weekly</i>	<i>Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church</i>
Tues 09.30 - 11.00 <i>Term time only</i>	<i>Sparklers toddlers group</i> ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 19.30 <i>weeks 1 and 3.</i>	Cottesmore house group <i>Contact Dave Perrin, 01572 813662</i>
Wednesday 09.15 <i>Every week</i>	<i>Morning Prayer in Exton Church</i>
Thursday 08.30 <i>Weekly</i>	<i>Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church</i>
Thursday 19.30 <i>Weekly term time</i>	<i>Bible Fellowship Contact Anne Adamson on 812816 for more info</i>
Friday 19.45 <i>Weekly</i>	An ecumenical house group open to everyone. <i>Contact Cathy 01572 812497 07970568305</i> <u>cathydyson@outlook.com</u>

Dates for your diary



**Coffee and Cake
&
Nearly New Book Sale**



**Saturday 23rd March
10.00 – 12.00**

St Nicholas Church, Cottesmore

Proceeds to Church funds

Lent Lunches at Cottesmore



Lent Lunches begin on Thursday 14th March, for six weeks, ending on Maundy Thursday. This year our charity is the East Midlands Emergency Response Team - started by Dr Grey from the Oakham surgery.

Lunch is a choice of soups with a roll, followed by apple pie or crumble and custard, with unlimited tea, coffee or soft drink. Everyone is most welcome, so come along and support a very vital service. No charge, but donations are welcome



Giving to charity: Tearfund

If you have some unallocated planned giving or are looking to support a good charity working in the third world, keep reading! Tear fund have launched a new Matched Giving Appeal. The UK government will double donations to this appeal – until Friday 17 May, up to £2 million

Donations to this appeal will help Tearfund transform lives around the world where the need is greatest. Match funding from the UK government will be used by our partners in Pakistan to tackle waste and plastic pollution, provide sustainable livelihoods and improve the living conditions in some of the country's poorest slum communities. You can donate on line via www.tearfund.org If you wish to donate by cheque, then please make it payable to Tearfund and send it to the

following address:

Tearfund, 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 8QE.

For general enquiries please telephone:

01572 812202 or e-mail cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Please contact Rev Anthony Oram for pastoral or urgent matters

Ministry team:

Rev Anthony Oram **RevAnthonyOram@gmail.com**

Telephone: **01572 812948**

Anne Adamson **email: annecadamson@aol.com**

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Diane Creasey **email: creaseygreetham@aol.com**

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Cathy Dyson **email: cathydyson@outlook.com**

Telephone **01572 812497 / 07970568305**

Colin Johns **email:bcjohns1@gmail.com**

Telephone: **01572 812221**

Websites

Benefice: www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk

Greetham: www.greethamchurch.org.uk

Stretton: www.strettonchurch.wix.com/rutland

Important - Please Note

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 22nd

March . Thanks. Val.

Services in our Benefice, March 2019

Sunday 3rd	0800	Holy Communion	Greetham
	0930	Morning Service	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning Worship	Greetham
	1115	Holy Communion	Stretton
Tues 5th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Wed 6th	1900	Ash Wednesday service	Greetham
Sunday 10th	0930	Morning Service	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning worship with 0900 breakfast	Greetham
	1115	BCP Holy Communion	Clipsham
	1115	Morning Service	Exton
Tues 12th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Thurs 14th	1200	Lent Lunch	Cottesmore
Sunday 17th	0930	Holy Communion	Cottesmore
	0930	Morning Praise	Greetham
	1115	Morning Service	Stretton
Tues 19th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct
Thurs 21st	1200	Lent Lunch	Cottesmore
Sunday 24th	0930	Morning Service	Cottesmore
	0930	Holy Communion	Greetham
	1115	BCP Morning Prayer	Clipsham
	1115	Holy Communion	Exton
Tues 26th	1000	Holy Communion	Gainsborough Ct

Thurs 28th	1200	Lent Lunch	Cottesmore
Sunday 31st	0930	Benefice service of Holy Communion	Greetham
	1000	Refreshments	
	1030	Mothering Sunday Benefice service. Followed by refreshments	