

## Notes from around the Parishes, August 2021

For Great Massingham, Little Massingham & Harpley

### *“Vicar’s message”*



*Our Assistant Priest, Rev'd Sue Martin writes:*

My hope for August is that we all enjoy some sunshine, spend time with our families and friends and live without fear and worry. People talk about ‘a year like no other’, ‘such a strange year’ and many other things too. The pandemic has certainly changed our lives in many ways, and these will become part of our lives for several years.

Our churches are slowly coming back to life, we are open and join together to worship, pray and even sing! The ten churches in our benefice range from the magnificent larger churches of St Mary’s, Gt Massingham, St Botolph’s, Grimston and St Nicholas’, Gayton to the beautiful middle sized and smaller churches of All Saint’s Ashwicken, St Andrew’s Congham, All Saint’s Roydon, St Andrew’s Little Massingham, St Lawrence’s Harpley, St Mary’s East Walton and St Mary’s Gayton Thorpe. Each one is very special, and I know they remain central to our villages.

It is a real joy this summer to see the churchyards, with trees and green spaces, some neat and tidy and some with longer flowing grasses. All are places where we can walk freely, usually sit down on a wooden bench and take time to think and be at one with God. Even when churches were closed, churchyards were always there for everyone, well used and visited by many.

We love the wildflower areas, the neatness by some gravestones, birds singing from the hedges, insects living in the old walls and around the grounds - a breath of fresh air indeed.

In Luke, chapter 12 verse 27, Jesus says:

*‘Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these’.*

My dream for August is that we all find space in our countryside and peace in our lives, in this very strange year indeed.

*Sue*

Please direct all enquiries on church matters  
(Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or requests for pastoral visits)  
to the Team Rector:       **The Rev'd Judith Pollard,**  
The Rectory, Grimston   **01485 601251**

## SERVICES FOR THE GROUP in August

Note – as we adapt to having more services in our Churches there has been (and may continue to be) some adjustment to the schedule of services. See below revised details of 0830 services at Roydon and Congham, and the 6pm Evensong all of which have been resumed recently.

### **Sunday 1st August - 9th Sunday after Trinity**

0830	Holy Communion	All Saints', Roydon
0930	Lay-led Family Service	St Lawrence's, Harpley
0930	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Little Mass
1030	Holy Communion	St Nicholas', Gayton
6pm	Evensong	St Andrew's, Congham

### **Wednesday 4th August**

9am Holy Communion in Harpley

### **Sunday 8th Aug - 10th Sunday after Trinity**

0830	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Congham
0930	Lay-led Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Lt Massingham
1030	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Gt Massingham
1030	Holy Communion	St Botolph's, Grimston
6pm	Evensong	All Saints', Ashwicken

### **Wednesday 11th Aug**

3pm Lectio Divina via Zoom

### **Sunday 15th Aug - 11th Sunday after Trinity**

0900	Sung Holy Communion	St Lawrence's, Harpley
0930	Lay-led Family Service	St Mary's, Gt Massingham
0930	Lay-led Morning Prayer	St Andrew's, Lt Massingham
1030	Lay-led Morning Praise	St Botolph's, Grimston
11am	Zoom Holy Communion	

### **Wednesday 18th Aug**

9am Holy Communion in Grimston

### **Sunday 22nd Aug - 12th Sunday after Trinity**

0830	Holy Communion	All Saints', Ashwicken
0930	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Lt Massingham
1030	Holy Communion	St Nicholas', Gayton
3pm	Celtic Service	St Mary's, Gayton Thorpe

## Sunday 29th Aug - 13th Sunday after Trinity

1030	Holy Communion	St Botolph's, Grimston
3pm	Memorial Service	St Nicholas', Gayton
<i>Commemorating Rev'd Jane; followed by Afternoon Tea</i>		

Wednesday 1st September                      9am Holy Communion in Harpley

## Sunday 5th Sept - 14th Sunday after Trinity

0830	Holy Communion	All Saints', Roydon
0930	Lay-led Family Service	St Lawrence's, Harpley
0930	Holy Communion	St Andrew's, Little Mass
1030	Holy Communion	St Nicholas', Gayton
6pm	Evensong	St Andrew's, Congham

### From the Registers:

4th July                      at St Mary's, Great Massingham  
Baptism of Esther June Gillham

### Services and events in Church

At the moment we continue to follow the Cof E guidance for Step 4 which was updated on 19th July. Bishop Graham writes:

*"The virus has not gone away. I wear a face covering not for myself but to protect other people; I keep a distance to ensure that you are safe; I am lateral flow testing twice each week to protect my colleagues and family. I am conscious that people will have very different views. I hope that we can engender a sense of loving kindness during these days, respecting those who are nervous or who, even having been double jabbed, have additional risks and vulnerabilities. In the messiness of it all we will need to keep trying to live as the body of Christ.*

*"I hope that people will read and reflect on all that has been said in the Church of England guidance. Please remember that the advice sets out what is possible and not what has to be done. Changes do not need to be introduced all at once, and certainly not by this coming Sunday."*

\*\*\*\*\* Coffee & Cake at Congham Church \*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday 14th August: 11am - 2pm**

Sees the return of Congham's popular Coffee Mornings

**coffee & cake £3.50 in aid of St Andrew's church.**

In addition there will be a large covered outside area with extras...

Cakes \*\* Books \*\* Home Produce \*\* Plants \*\* Bric-a-brac \*\* Tombola \*\* Raffle

Make it a date to pop in and catch up with old friends - **See you there!!**

## Deanery News

Jan Willson has joined the Deanery Synod to represent the Grimston congregation. She has also been elected as Lay Chair of that Synod (Nell Steele held the post until recently).

Diocesan Synod representatives for the Deanery have been appointed for the next three years. Nell continues in this role and is joined by Chris Sykes of Congham and two other lay members from King's Lynn..

This summer is also the time to elect members to the General Synod. For the first time elections will be held electronically between Friday 17th September and Friday 8th October 2021.

**The Church Army Mission in King's Lynn was set up in 2017**, initially for a four year period. James Hawksworth of the Church Army worked in King's Lynn and also Springwood High School. Sadly, due to financial pressures exacerbated by the Covid pandemic, the Diocese has made the difficult decision to bring the project to a close on 15th October 2021.

James Nash, the Rural Dean writes: I am very sorry to be bringing this news to you, especially because it affects our friend and colleague James Hawksworth and his family. James is currently working out a 3 month notice period and I believe he hopes and expects that the Church Army will re-deploy him. Please pray for James and his family as they take in this news and seek to discern where God is calling them to serve him in the future.



St Botolph's Church, Grimston is holding a

### *Village Barn Dance*

on Saturday, 18th September

at Manor Farm, Gayton Road, Grimston

(by kind permission of Roger Coe)

### *Dance to The Whirligigs Ceilidh Band*

Tickets £25 (inc Roast Pork Roll / veg option & Pudding) contact:

Gemma [floradene@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:floradene@hotmail.co.uk) or Tel: 01485 601179

Raising funds for the Air Ambulance

Please send items for inclusion in the September issue of the 'Parish Notes' to the editor by 20th Aug. These 'Notes' are available on the web-site or, contact the editor, if you wish to receive them by email.

Rosemary Mehers 01485 521866 or [rosemarymehers@hotmail.com](mailto:rosemarymehers@hotmail.com)

Check the Group website for the most up to date information:

[www.ggmbenefice.co.uk](http://www.ggmbenefice.co.uk)