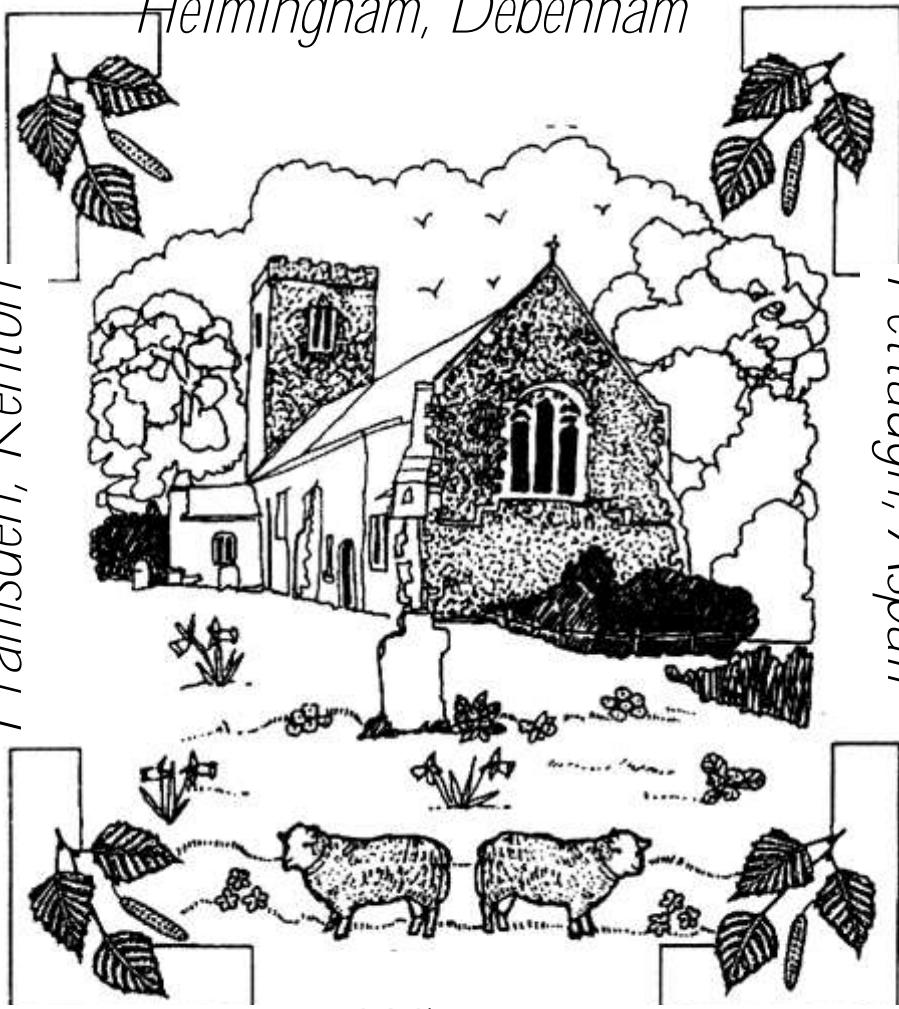


# TOGETHER

*Helmingham, Debenham*

*Framsden, Kenton*

*Pettaugh, Aspall*



*Winston*

# SPRING 2016

**March to May**

Distributed free within the Debenham and Helmingham Benefice

## From the Vicarage, Spring 2016

*The close of the 13th century had, in the scepticism, infidelity, and irreligion of the practical word, provided a dreadful foil for the achievements of theologians and saints. In the words of Dean Church, religion had been neither the guide nor check to society, but only the consolation of its victims.*

A E Baker.

Those words written in an article about Mother Julian of Norwich, famously walled up—[taking her religion out of society entirely?] Yet her message rings down to us—‘All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.’ Is this too a message exactly for consolation of victims, Marx’s opium for the people, supporting the status quo of inequality, corruption, injustice?

We need not explore either the comfort or truth of Mother Julian’s words, but ask ourselves, are they sufficient to excuse us from attempting to influence our society for the better? Refugees flee war torn Syria like Jesus and his family fleeing to Egypt: ‘don’t worry’, says Mother Julian, ‘all will be well’. But will it be well if we do nothing? As I write this, the radio tells me that the richest 1% own as much as the rest of the world together. Owen Jones in ‘Chavs’ writes of chief executives with salaries of 100, 200, 1000 times as much as the average worker: at the start of the millennium top bosses took just 47 times as much. I have read, but have not yet found the reference, that at the start of the ‘we’re all in this together’ austerity, top officials increased their income by about 50% for two years. Such huge inequality and injustice is obscene: in the parable Dives might well get his come-uppance in the world to come, and Lazarus his reward, but surely we are compelled by our faith to make sure that Lazarus is tended to and supported in this life as well.

One of the candidates for a new national anthem is Jerusalem. ‘I will not cease from mental strife, nor will my sword sleep in my hand till we have built Jerusalem in England’s green and pleasant land.’ There, William Blake is writing in contemplation of slums and inequality, and offers us not ‘pie in the sky when you die’ but ‘do something about it’. We most certainly do not recognise the ‘dark satanic mills’ here in our corner of Suffolk, but that does not mean there is no need here. Our global communications system means that Lazarus is always on our screen. We are confronted perhaps more than any generation has ever been by the needs of others, and, I suspect that you like me will pall before the plethora of begging cries we hear. We are not allowed to forget them.

My ten years here has almost finished but clearly the work of the church is not yet done: indeed I would contend that it seems as if there more work do than ever before. Regular churchgoers are not large in number, but Christmas service attendances are just one indication that they are not without a lot of friends, and need not be deterred as they look forward to the future, dutifully grasping the challenge to keep the churches open as signs of future hope, and serving the needy who, as He tells us, are always with us.

Sincerely, thank you for your friendship and help across the years—may you have great joy as you do the deeds of love to which you are called.

*Patrick*

## **Patrick's Retirement**

They say “all good things must come to and end” but many of you would bewail the church rules on retirement at 70.

**2nd April, 7pm at Debenham Primary School**, a social time for all people in the Benefice to say farewell and thank you.

**3rd April, 10am at St Mary Magdalene**, Debenham, Patrick's last service here for all the benefice.

The wardens will keep you abreast of the progress towards a replacement for Patrick but it is likely that it will be a minimum of 9 months, probably longer, before we have a new incumbent.

## Confirmation

We have people expressing interest in confirmation—the formal step, open to those aged 12 or so up to—well, no upper limit. It is the normal step for people who wish to receive communion in the Church of England. It would be good if we can have some more names and arrange a meeting. Names to wardens or ministry team.

## HELMINGHAM

A good family atmosphere was enjoyed at the Carol Service, conducted by Robin Barnes, with pupils from Helmingham School providing a choir organised by Mrs Celland, lessons read by members of the congregation and mulled wine and mince pies for those who lingered after the service to exchange greetings. Thanks to everybody who took part.

The Christmas Eve service was conducted by Veda Berriman.

An **All Age service** will be at Helmingham Church on **Sunday March 6th**.

The **Annual Church Meeting** will be held on **Monday March 7th**.

Thanks to Lord and Lady Tollemache for organising the Christmas Drinks Party at Helmingham Hall and all who supported the event and enjoyed the opportunity to share the evening and raise funds for St Mary's Church.

## The Old School House Nursery

As we welcome back all the children it is a delight to see all the smiling faces. The children excitedly tell us of all their news as we gather for Circle Time—an important opportunity to say Good Morning (in Maketon signing) and re-affirming all the names of staff and children.

This term we are sharing a particular book each week that connects to an Opposite. Our first week sees as measuring long and short—supported by ‘The Hungry Cat-

erpillar' and 'Superworm!'. We are taking photos of all the children and then creating a 'how tall are you' line—staff included. Our Friday afternoon woodland walks give us an opportunity to see tall trees and ask questions such as 'what can you see in the tree?' bringing in lots of discussions in the developmental area of 'Understanding the World'.

Our extra-curricular weekly sessions of French (with Agnes) and Dance (with Miss Pamela) are proving popular as well as our Music Sessions on a Monday Afternoon and something cooking on a Tuesday—Cheese Straws will supporting our long and short opposite to munch on at Snack Time.

As usual at The Old School House Nursery the children are encouraged to use the outdoor door activity area even in the rain we have had recently—the multi coloured array of umbrellas and children jumping up and down in the puddles is a sight to behold! Lots of giggling, smiling and wonderful delight on the children's faces—several villagers walk their dogs up the nearby footpath and smile and wave to the children as they pass—so do please say hello if you see us building sand castles, riding our tractors etc.

Come and see us by ringing 01473 890950.

Helmingham Primary School

Last term the children created a super Christmas performance. It included the nativity, loads of historical facts and a Sleepover Spectacular! It was a great achievement as it was written by the children as well. Over half the school sang at Helmingham Church and were a credit to the school, their behaviour and singing was complimented by many of the adults.

Last term our cleaner in charge retired. She is a loss to our school but this does offer an opportunity for someone to take on the role. The key areas of responsibility are:-

- To act as a key holder
- Undertaking cleaning
- Reporting to the Headteacher any repairs or maintenance work required at the premises
- Ensuring that adequate supplies of cleaning materials and other supplies are available
- Monitoring the heating system so that the required temperatures are maintained on the premises and an adequate supply of hot water is available
- Ensuring relevant paths are treated when icy conditions occur

If you would like to discuss the position with us please contact the school office (01473 890267) or email [admin@helmingham.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@helmingham.suffolk.sch.uk).

This term we look forward to topics on Castles, Shipwrecks and The Americas. There are visits planned to a castle, a sealife centre and the zoo!

We would love members of the community to come in to school to talk to the chil-

dren about their jobs and experiences. Please contact us if you would like to do this.

*Bernie Cleland, Headteacher*

## PETTAUGH

Our Carol Service was held on Sunday afternoon 20th December and St Catherine's church was filled to capacity to hear the Christmas message as conveyed by carols, readings and the address given by Veda Berriman. We followed the traditional format of nine carols and readings. A soloist sang 'The Road to Bethlehem' accompanied by Alan Page on the organ and Alan's playing, together with the enthusiastic singing of the familiar carols by the congregation, made full use of the beautiful acoustics of the church.

We have been sorry to learn of our Rector's retirement in April. The quiet pastoral care provided by the Revd Patrick Cotton will be greatly missed. He was a familiar sight as he pedalled his bicycle around the village making his regular home visits. His thoughtful sermons and gentle understanding of people's spiritual needs were greatly appreciated. The Philosophy 7 meetings which he organised allowed parishioners to reflect on wider social matters and were a welcome break from the increasingly materialistic issues which are a feature of modern life. A function to allow parishioners to express their thanks and appreciation for Patrick's service to our community is planned for the beginning of April. Details will be provided nearer the time. Patrick's last service will be on Sunday 3rd April in St Mary's Church, Debenham.

Details of the Easter Services will be placed on the Notice Boards.

Proposals for a revitalised use of 'Jan's Shop' as a community meeting place are being actively considered and the Parish Council will be seeking the views of Pettaugh residents.

Parishioners should be aware that there have been a number of sheds and outbuildings broken into and items of garden equipment stolen. We are all asked to be vigilant and keep a note of any strangers acting suspiciously and the registrations numbers of vans or other vehicles loitering. Any suspicions should be reported to the police. Garages, sheds and outbuildings should be secured and locked.

## WINSTON

Sandra Baker and Livvy Marsden would like to thank all those who kindly donated to their door to door collection for the Poppy Appeal - Sandra (Winston village) £144.90 and Livvy (Winston Green) approx £90. Many thanks once again.

The Pet Service on Sunday 6 December was a great success. Everyone (owners and pets) enjoyed themselves and all were well behaved. Thanks to all those who helped in any way: Patrick, Mark, Rosemary, Peter and Jade at Debenham Vets, Chris and Veda and to all those who provided the refreshments. It was great to see the lovely

## Winston School Room

is available to hire: see back page for details.

photos and comments on the Debenham Vets Facebook page  
([www.facebook.com/debenham.vets](http://www.facebook.com/debenham.vets))

The Carol Service on Christmas Eve was well attended and we thank all those who helped in any way: the Debenham Handbell and Bell Ringers, Veda Berriman for taking the service, Shaun Valentine for providing the music and to all the young readers who did a good job in front of a full church.

The collection of £180.87 was sent to EACH (East Anglia Children's Hospices).

As I write this it's still January and the date of the Winston Fete has yet to be decided, but whenever it is PLEASE think of us if you're having a 'clear-out' for books and white elephant items. We would also like cakes etc. for the teas and cake stall. ENTRY AND CAR PARKING WILL BE FREE. If you have any new ideas etc about the Fete please let one of us know:-

Veda 01728 861363      Sandra 01728 860040      Emma 01728 861303

Kate 01728 861004      Ann 01728 860342

Patrick is retiring after Easter. We thank him for his dedication to our Benefice over the years. The new groups etc he has formed and wish him a very happy, healthy and long retirement. He will be greatly missed.

**Winston Parish Council** is continuing to work with the authorities (namely the Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Constabulary) to try to reduce the speed of traffic passing through our community. Unfortunately, with a lot of regulation dictating highway management and police enforcement coupled with financial cut-backs in all areas, it is not easy to make much progress.

It is pleasing to report therefore that it has been agreed to place a temporary VAS (vehicle-activated speed sensor) on Debenham Road in Winston Green. Thank you to Matthew Hicks of SCC for funding this venture. Hopefully this will be the start of further initiatives. The efforts of Kathie Guthrie, our Mid-Suffolk District Councillor, to continually try to improve the road safety in our community are also appreciated.

Unfortunately, on the day of writing this report, we have news of yet another road accident in Fenn Street causing a substantial road closure. Also, in Debenham Road in December and January, we have seen a car through the hedge on the wrong side of the road and another one upside down. The severity of these incidents just serves to emphasise that we must keep pushing for more to be done to try to warn traffic of the dangers of speeding where there are houses in close proximity to the road.

## FRAMSDEN

**Framsden Parish Council** At the beginning of January, Framsden said a fond farewell to their former Clerk, David Crowther, and the Chairman and Parish Council send their most grateful thanks for his hard work over the last year. The new Clerk,

Vivienne Pratt, is now settling into her new role and would also to thank David for the time and effort spent during the handover period.

The Parish Council are pleased to advise that an extensive refurbishment and repairs programme has been undertaken in the Village Hall, which will culminate in the exterior being repainted later in the year. The Village Hall Garden has also been transformed from an allotment garden into an attractive, community garden and is now fully enclosed with new fencing. We are always looking for volunteers and if you feel you can spare any time or share any skills you may have, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk. There are always tasks to be done which are invaluable to the Village and any offer of help, however small, will be well received and greatly appreciated.

We are delighted to inform that the Parish Council currently has its full complement of seven Councillors and all contact details can be found on line at [www.framsden.onesuffolk.net](http://www.framsden.onesuffolk.net). The most recent Parish Council Meeting took place on 8th January and minutes and all supporting paperwork can also be found on the website - [www.framsden.onesuffolk.net/meetings](http://www.framsden.onesuffolk.net/meetings).

We would like to remind everyone that all are welcome at our Parish Council meetings, usually held bi-monthly in the Village Hall and starting at 7.30pm. All meeting dates are published on the website and the next scheduled meeting is **11th March 2016**. During our meetings, members of the public are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on the agenda or to raise any issues for consideration at future meetings. We would be delighted to hear from anyone requiring any further information relating to any of the Council's activities. Please contact the Clerk on 01473 657124 or email: [framsden.pc@gmail.com](mailto:framsden.pc@gmail.com).

### **Framsden Woodland Group**

It was wonderful to have such a large turnout for the pumpkin trail in the woodland at Halloween. Much fun was had with drinks and marshmallow toasting provided by the woodland group. The group meets on the first Sunday of the month for maintenance work. 9.30 in the woodland, please join us.

The next event will be the annual plant sale on June 5th in the village hall. This is followed by the big lunch in the woodland. Bring a picnic and meet in the glade.

**Table tennis**—Framsden's Table Tennis Club was started by Framsdens Fundraisers in 2010 and continued to be well attended during 2015 when it was open for a record of 52 weeks of the year (Wednesday evenings) in the Village Hall, children/juniors from 6.15-7.15pm and adults from 7.15-9.00pm. Usually all three table tennis tables are in use and coaching is available.

**Gentle Yoga Classes in Framsdens Village Hall**, Mondays at 7.45pm. Contact Margaret Samain [mp@cpwpost.com](mailto:mp@cpwpost.com) 01473 890677.

# DEBENHAM



## Quiz Night, St Mary's Debenham

**Saturday 12 March**

7.30pm start in Dove Cottage

£6 per ticket, includes Ploughman's Supper with cake. Bring your own drinks. Teams of up to 6 but you can come as an individual and join a team on the night.

Tickets from Lynne Cockerton 862001 or email [lynne.cockerton@btopenworld.com](mailto:lynne.cockerton@btopenworld.com)

*In aid of Friends of St Mary's*

**Soup Lunch on Saturday March 12th**, in aid of St Mary's Church Funds from 12am-2pm in Dove Cottage. £5 for choice of homemade soup and bread roll, dessert, tea and coffee, raffle.

### Editor's notes

The Copy deadline for the next *Together* (June to August) magazine is **25 May**, normally published about two weeks later. Quarterly, A5 format. 700 copies printed and collated on Rizograph stencil copier,

distributed free by members of Winston church.

**Editor:** Tony Hutt, Email: [tony@tonyhutt.co.uk](mailto:tony@tonyhutt.co.uk) Tel (01728) 860173. 19 Priory Lane, Debenham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 6QD. Send copy by email, email attachment (Word or Publisher formats preferably); Adobe PDF format may be suitable. If you can't do any of these send the copy in the post or by smoke signals.

**Advertising** payments to Kate Branch, The Red House, Winston, Stowmarket IP14 6LG

### Dove Cottage

is available to hire: contact Ray Watts, 70 High Street, Debenham IP14 6QP

Tel 01728 860255

Email [wattsdebenham@aol.com](mailto:wattsdebenham@aol.com)

Tel (01728) 861004 Email:

[cmbranch@btinternet.com](mailto:cmbranch@btinternet.com). (payable to Winston PCC) Horizontal slice: 1/8 page for £20 p.a. (4 issues); 1/4 page for £40 p.a.; 1/2 page for £80 p.a. Send advertising enquiries and advertising copy to Tony Hutt.



*Friends of St Mary's Church, Debenham present*

Folk Evening with Robert Brown

**Saturday 23 April, 7.30pm**

At St Mary's Church, Debenham

*Robert is a popular local singer/songwriter who, as well as guitar, plays dulcimer and mandolin. He will be supported by other acts.*

See [www.robertbrownmusic.net](http://www.robertbrownmusic.net)

More information in next issue.

## Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 4th March at 2pm

at Debenham United Reformed Church

*"Receive children. Receive me." (Ladies of Cuba). Speaker: Mrs Sue Hutt*

*All welcome—including men! Tea/biscuits after the service.*

([www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk))

## Take part in Clean for the Queen

Join Debenhamlitterpickers in Dove Cottage

**On Saturday 5 March at 10am, or later at midday**

Equipment and refreshments will be available.

If you are unable to join us that day but would like to join and adopt an area, please email [joyw@btinternet.com](mailto:joyw@btinternet.com)

For more information see [www.litteraction.org.uk/debenhamlitterpickers](http://www.litteraction.org.uk/debenhamlitterpickers)



*Friends of St Mary's, Debenham*

### **Jazz in the Barn**

**Sunday 12 June, 2.30pm**

at Crow's Hall, Debenham IP14 6NG

Bring your picnic and enjoy an afternoon of live jazz including:-

**Colin Bowden** – drums

**Dave Browning** – grand piano

**Alan Gresty** – trumpet

**Brian White** - clarinet

Plenty of parking.

Contact Val and Ray Watts 01728 860255 or email: [wattsdebenham@aol.com](mailto:wattsdebenham@aol.com). For details of last year's similar event see [www.crows-hall.com/our-events/jazz-barn](http://www.crows-hall.com/our-events/jazz-barn)

<b>March 2016</b>	<b>Helmingham</b>	<b>Framsden</b>	<b>Pettaugh</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Mothering Sunday	10 a.m. All Age, Helmingham		
13 <sup>th</sup> Lent 5	6.30p.m. Evening Service	11a.m. Family service	11a.m. Communion
20 <sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday	9.30a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11a.m. Morning Prayer
27 <sup>th</sup> Easter Day	9.30 <i>Holy Communion*</i>	9.30a.m. Communion	11a.m. Communion
<b>April 2016</b>	<b>Helmingham</b>	<b>Framsden</b>	<b>Pettaugh</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April [Low Sunday]	10a.m. Benefice Communion Debenham		
10 <sup>th</sup> Easter 2 [3 <sup>rd</sup> of]	6.30p.m. Evening Service	11a.m. Family service	11a.m. Communion
17 <sup>th</sup> Easter 3 [4 <sup>th</sup> of]	9.30a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11a.m. Morning Prayer
24 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11 a.m. Communion	11a.m. Morning prayer
<b>May 2016</b>	<b>Helmingham</b>	<b>Framsden</b>	<b>Pettaugh</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> of Easter 5	All Age Communion, Winston 10 a.m.		
8 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> of Easter [After Ascension]	6.30p.m. Evening Service	11a.m. Family service	11a.m. Communion
15 <sup>th</sup> Pentecost	9.30a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11a.m. Morning prayer
22 <sup>nd</sup> Trinity	9.30a.m. Morning prayer	11a.m. Communion	11a.m. Morning prayer
29 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 1	8 a.m. Communion, Asp		

\* *Communion by extension*

	<b>Winston</b>	<b>Aspall</b>	<b>Kenton</b>	<b>Debenham</b>
		8am Communion	11am Family Service	9.30am Family Service
	9.30a.m. Morning prayer		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
	11a.m. Communion	8a.m. Communion	11a.m.Morning prayer	9.30a.m. Communion
	<i>11a.m. Communion*</i>	8a.m. Communion	11 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
	<b>Winston</b>	<b>Aspall</b>	<b>Kenton</b>	<b>Debenham</b>
		8 a.m. Communion	10a.m. Benefice Communion Debenham	
	9.30a.m. Morning prayer		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
	11a.m. Communion	8a.m. Communion	11a.m.Morning prayer	9.30a.m. Communion
	9.30a.m. Morning prayer		8a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
	<b>Winston</b>	<b>Aspall</b>	<b>Kenton</b>	<b>Debenham</b>
		8a.m. Com- munion	11 a.m. Family Service	9.30a.m.Family Ser- vice
	9.30a.m. Morning prayer		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
	11a.m. Communion	8a.m. Communion	11a.m. Morning prayer	9.30a.m. Communion
	9.30a.m. Morning prayer		8 a.m. Communion	9.30a.m. Communion
all 10a.m. Benefice Communion Debenham				

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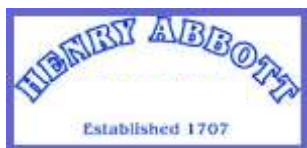
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To keep in touch with what's happening in the area if you have email, join the **Debenham Christian Network**.

Email Tony at [tony@hutt.co.uk](mailto:tony@hutt.co.uk) for details. Christian events happening in the area, concerts and entertainments in churches, retreats, and so on in this part of Suffolk.

## Jennifer Baker

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE BENEFICE

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### Churchwardens

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#### Website

[www.achurchnearyou.com/debenham](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/debenham) (this page has links to the other churches in the Benefice). Also [www.facebook.com/groups/492978410777899](https://www.facebook.com/groups/492978410777899)

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