

**The Grapevine
News for the parishes of
The Carlford Benefice
December 2016**



“Wishing you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year”

**The Power of the
Christmas Story.....**

Why do so many people go to crib services and Christmas day services when they don't go to church much during the year? Does that matter? Some clergy would say YES! But I am not so sure. Do you remember the film Avatar, where the inhabitants of the island plug their hair into the fronds of the tree to worship and to be reconnected to the goodness of the tree. For me, God is the creator and fount of goodness and we need to be plugged into that goodness –often if possible, but at least once a year at the time when we remember God's coming to earth as a baby.

There is so much goodness around at Christmas: a time of remembering old friends through the sending of cards, the generosity of giving, the joy of feasting, the mystery of worship, the familiarity of the nativity (' the greatest story ever told'), the pleasure of families reuniting (can be a mixed blessing!) And we need to go to the heart of it: the generosity of God in sending his son to be among us, the creating of the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, the mystery of the wise men coming to worship... in order to fully appreciate what Christmas is about.

I was very moved by having a *real* new born baby being Jesus, two years in a row from the Clow family, at the crib service for Otley. As the babies were so newly born we asked Carly, their mother to be Mary and she kindly agreed. She was overwhelmed by the experience and began asking questions about the Christian faith. In July this year, she and all her three children were baptised in a family service at Otley church. That is the power of the Christmas story.

The Christmas story also unites us as a society when we are fractured and divided, it was part of our narrative when we were growing up and something we want to share with our children. The other faiths who are part of this country also largely respect the

importance of Christmas and many celebrate it in their own way.

So do come to refresh yourselves with the remarkable goodness and generosity of God: at our carol services, crib services and communion services. You will be welcomed with open arms and maybe some mince pies and mulled wine... Please see the list of services set out in Grapevine or the Church Times.

May God bless your Christmas this year and may you feel the power of the Christmas story.

Catherine Beaumont



Services across the Carlford Benefice

December 4th A2

Isa 11.1-10, Roms 15.4-13, Mt 3.1-12

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS
9.30am	Holy Communion	Burgh	JaneH
9.30am	Christingle Service	Hasketon	CS
9.30am	Holy Communion	Swilland	CB
11.00am	Holy Communion	Boulge	CB
11.00am	Toy Service	Grundisburgh	CS
11.00am	Advent Praise	Otley	MC

December 11th A3

Isa 35.1-10, James 5.7-10, Matt 11.2-11

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS
9.30am	Par Eucharist	Hasketon	JW
9.30am	Holy Communion	Clopton	JaneH/JamesH
11.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbocking	CB
11.00am	Morning Prayer	Boulge	Lay Led
11.00am	Holy Communion Par Eucharist	Grundisburgh	CS/JamesH

December 18th A4

Isa 7.10-16, Roms 1.1-7, Matt 1.18-end

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	JW
9.30am	Family Holy Communion	Burgh	FW/JaneW
11.00am	Holy Communion	Boulge	FW/JaneW
11.00am	Carol Service	Swilland	CB/CS
4.00pm	Carol Service	Ashbocking	CB
5.30pm	Carol Service	Hasketon	WG/CS
5.30pm	Carol Service	Otley	JaneH
7.00pm	Carol Service	Grundisburgh	CS/WG

December 24th Christmas Eve

Ministers Choice

3.00pm	Crib Service	Hasketon	WG
4.30pm	Crib Service	Grundisburgh	CS
6.00pm	Carol Service	Burgh	CS
6.00pm	Carol Service	Clopton	JaneH
7.00pm	Carol Service	Boulge	CS
4.30pm	Crib Service	Otley	CB/JaneH
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Grundisburgh	WG
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Hasketon	CS
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Otley	GH

December 25th Christmas Day

Ministers Choice

9.30am	Holy Communion	Burgh	JaneH
9.30am	Holy Communion	Swilland	CS
11.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbocking	CB
11.00am	Holy Communion	Boulge	CS
11.00am	Holy Communion	Clopton	JaneH

Key - CS - Clare Sanders, CB - Catherine Beaumont, WG - Wendy Gourlay, FW - Fred Woods, JW - John Waine, BH - Bill Herbert, MS - Mark Sanders, JaneH - Jane Hall, JamesH - James Hall, RP - Richard Pepper, RF - Robert Fletcher, JaneW - Jane Woods, IW - Ian Wilson, PI - Philip Ind, MC - Mark Cresswell, GH - Graham Hedger, TBC - To be Confirmed

Other Services in December

December 5 th	Holy Communion BCP	Hasketon	9.30am
December 7 th	Holy Communion BCP	Grundisburgh	9.30am
December 19 th	Holy Communion BCP	Hasketon	9.30am

As a Ministry Team we share the responsibility for pastoral care. First point of contact is:

Ashbocking & Swilland	Catherine Beaumont- 01473 890264
Burgh, Boulge & Grundisburgh	Clare Sanders 01473 735183
Clopton & Otley	Jane Hall 01473 785251
Hasketon	Wendy Gourlay 01728 685335

What's On across the Carlford Benefice

2nd Ashbocking Coffee Morning 10.00am - 12 noon at the home of John and Linda Pollard - Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking

2nd Grundisburgh Church Upbeat Concert 7.30pm, Tickets £8, Admission by ticket only - call 07834084581 to book. Profits donated to The Ipswich Winter Night Shelter and window for Tommy.

3rd Swilland Christmas Draw and Coffee Morning at Winesham Village Hall starting at 12 noon

3rd Grundisburgh Coffee Morning 10.30am-11.45am Parish Room

5th Otley and District Gardening Club Otley Village Hall 7.30pm

6th Baby Cafe at Grundisburgh Parish Room 9.00am-10.30am

6th Craft and Coffee at Shrubbery Farm, Hasketon 10.00am - 12 noon

7th Hobbies Group, Clopton 10.00am until noon. Everyone is welcome

7th "Going Deeper" Homegroup, Manor Farm, The Green, Ashbocking 10.00am

7th Grundisburgh SWAPSHOP 10.15am-11.30am Parish Room

8th Grundisburgh Upper Room Tiddlywinks group for toddlers and carers 2.30pm

9th Reader Support Group meet at 9.30am in the Upper Room

10th Otley Christmas Draw and Coffee Morning from 10.30am at Otley Village Hall

10th Burgh Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12 noon, proceeds to Ipswich Night Shelter

12th Beyond Alpha Grundisburgh Parish Rooms 10.30am - 12 noon - details elsewhere

12th Knit and Stitch Burgh Schoolroom 10.30am-12.30pm. All welcome. Details 01473 735544

12th 5.00pm Benefice Prayer Group meet in the Upper Room

12th Lunar Ladies 7.00pm at The Moon and Mushroom, Swilland

13th Otley School Carol Service at Otley Church 1.45pm

15th Grundisburgh Church - hosts the **School's Carol Service** 6.30pm

21st 10.00am-12 noon **Clopton Coffee Morning** in the Village Hall

21st "Going Deeper" Homegroup, Manor Farm, The Green, Ashbocking 10.00am

21st The Carlford Benefice Group - 'Dancing with Carols' in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh 2.30pm

22nd Otley Crib Service Rehearsal at Otley Church 10.00am - 12 noon

22nd Hasketon Community Lunch 12.15pm

'Beyond Alpha' – Autumn 2016

What do we really know
about these Bible topics ...?

GRUNDISBURGH PARISH ROOMS, 10.30 – 12.00

Monday December 12th

The meeting will be facilitated by Revd Wendy Gourlay. Tea and coffee will be available and a warm welcome to those of faith, agnostic, or atheist. A small charge of £1 per session covers costs. We will consider: Session 6 – Dec.12th
Group discussion: 'Jesus Ransom Sacrifice'

Haven't been along yet, why ever not?

Join us this Autumn 2016

Enquiries: Paul on: 01473 738474 or paulwiffen222@btinternet.com

Otley Christmas Draw

Otley church's annual Christmas draw & coffee morning will be held on Saturday 10th December at Otley village hall from 10.30am – do come along & join us. Tickets will be on sale at £5/ book & there will be some super prizes.

Grundisburgh Toy Service

December 4th 11.00am



Please bring new toys for children and gifts for teenagers. Donations of wrapping paper welcomed too. These gifts go to the homeless families unit at West Villa in Ipswich.

Come and Join Us at Hasketon Christingle Service

December 4th 9.30am



As we support the work of The Children's Society

**Burgh Schoolroom
Drabbs Lane IP13 6QA**

**CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING
In aid of IPSWICH NIGHT
SHELTER**

**Saturday 10th December
10.00 – 12.00**

Coffee, Tea, Cakes
Fabulous Christmas Raffle
Sales Table

**BURGH "BOOZE UP"
Friday 6th January 2017
18.30 – 20.30**

Mulled wine, non-alcoholic drinks,
beer, nibbles, mince pies

For all Burgh Residents and families

The Carlford Benefice Group

'Dancing with Carols'

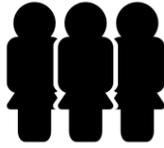
Rev. Wendy Gourlay will lead an afternoon of Christmas Miscellany with tea, mince pies, sausage rolls and more. Tap your toes to Christmas Carols. Learn of their origin and development with live music and lively interpretation – voice and keyboard.

Forget the things you still must do for a peaceful and happy afternoon. Everyone is welcome!

21st December in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh,
at 2.30pm.



LUNAR LADIES



December 12th at 7.00pm
see`s the Lunar Ladies Christmas Evening
at
The Moon and Mushroom, Swiland.

No speaker this time but we will be holding a Christmas themed quiz followed by a Christmas meal.

Lunar Ladies are invited to wear a bit of Christmas Bling or their Best Christmas Jumpers

2ND FRIDAYS Hasketon Victory Hall

As you probably know, we are not continuing with the Hasketon 2nd Friday evenings. A huge **"thank you"** to everyone who has helped with these evenings over the years.

Otley & District Gardening Club



Patron: Matthew Tanton-Brown

2016 – 2017 Season
We meet at 7:30 pm, 1st Monday of the month
Otley Village Hall, Chapel Road, Otley

Monday 5th December

"Horticultural Christmas Decorations"
with Sue Courteney
Compare gardening notes over tea/coffee & biscuits
All welcome - Join up or just come along

Admission £1:50 (members) £4:00 (non-members)
(includes refreshments)
Annual membership £10:00

To find out more, contact
Alan Trevelyan (01473 890563)
Jenny Vince (01473 738244) or
Isabel Lincoln (01473 890826)



SIGNPOSTING

Alternative ideas for Christmas presents! How about going online and trying

www.embraceme.org/shop supporting work in the Holy Land

www.toilettwinning.org – exactly what it says on the tin- over 4,000 toilets have been built through this project

www.traidcraftshop.co.uk – online- but we have many of the goods to hand in Grundisburgh – ask Pat on [01473 735775](tel:01473735775)

www.cms-shop.org.uk some of you will remember the CMS elephant collecting boxes- well you can have elephant dung cards too!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/uspganglicanmission USPG as was, now US receives commission from goods bought through this site.

BBC

Bible Book Club

A small group - those of faith, agnostics, & atheists - interested in the historical context of Christian literature.

We meet in Grundisburgh on the third Tuesday of just four months each year, our next meeting is on January 17th 2017 at 10.30.

We are discussing 'The Nativity' by Geza Vermes.

Why not get a copy and start reading now, we would be very pleased to have you come along.

paulwiffen222@btinternet.com or 01473738474

Please let us know if you would like to join us.



Tuesday 6th December
9.00-10.30am

Baby Cafe

1st Tuesday of each month

Grundisburgh Parish Room

Free Coffee / Tea / Biscuits

Plenty of buggy parking space

Car parking in back lane - in front of church

For mums / dads / carers / babies / toddlers

Drop older children off at school
and join us



FANCY A COFFEE?



We have opportunities, throughout December, at
Ashbocking - Friday 2nd at the home of John and Linda Pollard of Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking
10.00am - 12 noon

Burgh - Saturday 10th December at the Burg Schoolroom for the Christmas Coffee Morning with a fabulous raffle, coffee, tea and cakes.
10.00am - 12 noon

Clopton - Wednesday 21st at the Village Hall
10.00am - 12 noon

Grundisburgh - Saturday 3rd 10.30am - 11.45am
and then Wednesday 7th at 10.15am - 11.30am at Grundisburgh Parish Rooms

Hasketon - Tuesday 6th at Shrubbery Farm,
Hasketon 10.00am - 12 noon

Otley - Church's annual Christmas Draw and Coffee Morning Thursday 10th at the Village Hall, Otley
From 10.30am. Do come along and join us.

Swilland - Coffee Morning and Christmas Draw Saturday 3rd December at Witnesham Village Hall starting at 12 noon. We shall be serving soup and filled rolls with tea/coffee and mince pies. The draw takes place at 1pm. There will be stalls selling preserves, cakes and books. Plenty of opportunity to meet and have a chat.

Justice In Trade Matters



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Stalls

In Grundisburgh Every Month

1st Saturday Coffee Morning 10.30 Parish Room

1st Sunday & 2nd Sunday in St. Mary's
at 12.00 after morning service

Charity Christmas & Greetings Cards
Chocolate - Grocery - Bamboo Socks
and much more

Please take a catalogue from St. Mary's

For info contact Pat Fletcher 01473 735 775

Christmas Services



Ashbocking

Dec 18th 4.00pm Carol Service

Dec 25th 11.00am Family Service with Communion

Boulge

Dec 16th 7.00pm Carol Service

Christmas Day 11.00am BCP Communion

Burgh

Dec 24th 6.00pm Carol Service

Christmas Day 9.30am Family Communion

Clopton

Dec 24th 6.00pm Carol Service

Christmas Day 11.00am Family Communion

Grundisburgh

Dec 18th 7.00pm Carol Service

Dec 24th 4.30pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Hasketon

Dec 18th 5.30pm Carol Service

Dec 24th 3.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Otley

Dec 18th 5.30pm Carol Service

Dec 24th 4.30pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Swilland

Dec 18th 11.00am Carol Service

Christmas Day 9.30am Christmas Communion

From The Editor The cut off date for material to be included is the 8th of the month – **PLEASE NOTE FOR JANUARY MATERIAL THE CUT OFF DATE WILL BE 3RD DECEMBER 2016** and material should be sent to Clare at revclaresanders@tiscali.co.uk & Amy at bakergirl174@gmail.com please.