

**The Grapevine  
News for the parishes of  
The Carlford Benefice  
January 2017**

**“Wishing You All a Very Happy New Year”**

**What does the expression  
'touching base' mean to you?**

From the amount of communication devices that young and old, alike, use today, it is quite obvious that touching base is important. We keep in touch in order to share thoughts, to express our feelings, to hear other points of view and nurture our growth to maturity. Just consider how many of you use telephones, mobile phones and Ipads to chat, voice-mail, Skype, FaceTime, text or email? Keeping in touch with family and friends is clearly important. But, what about keeping in touch with your Maker, and by this I mean God?

'Touching base' to me means centre-ing myself, being at peace and at one with God. Prayer is the key, yet there are many ways of praying just as there are many modern forms of communication. We need to discover and practice the form that works best for us, remembering that communication is a two-way process: speaking and listening.

One such tried and tested form of prayer, particularly helping us to 'listen' to God and recognise His voice, is called Lectio Divina. The process may initially seem foreign, frustrating even, (as first learning how to email) but certainly worth persevering, when one recognises God's voice speaking directly to you.

Choose a short passage of Scripture and read it slowly in a gentle manner. Savour each portion of the reading, constantly listening for the "still, small voice" of a word or phrase that somehow stands out in your mind. Do

not expect lightning or ecstasies. In Lectio Divina, God is teaching us to listen, to seek Him in silence. God does not reach out and grab us but gently invites us ever more deeply into his presence.

Now ponder. Take the word or phrase into yourself. Memorise it and slowly repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your inner world of concern, memories and ideas. Do not be afraid of distractions. Memories or thoughts are simply parts of yourself that, when they rise up during Lectio Divina, are asking to be given to God along with the rest of your inner self. Allow this inner pondering, this rumination, to invite you into dialogue with God.

Now pray. Whether you use words, ideas, or images- or all three is not important. Interact with God as you would with one who you know loves and accepts you. Give to God what you have discovered during your experience of meditation. Give to God what you have found within your heart.

It is not necessary to assess the quality of your Lectio Divina as if you were "performing" or seeking some goal. Lectio Divina has no goal other than that of being in the presence of God by praying the Scriptures. Why not try touching base right now?

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Luke 11:9-10.

*Rev'd Wendy Gourlay*

## Services across the Carlford Benefice

Please note:- There is only one service at 11.00am on 1<sup>st</sup> January which will be held at Grundisburgh

### January 1<sup>st</sup> – Naming Of Jesus

**Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7, Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 2:15-21**

11.00am Benefice Eucharist Grundisburgh CS

### January 8<sup>th</sup> Baptism of Christ

**Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12**

8.00am Holy Communion Grundisburgh CS  
9.30am Holy Communion Clopton JaneH  
9.30am Parish Eucharist Hasketon WG  
11.00am Epiphany Worship Ashbocking Jan/Linda  
11.00am Morning Prayer Boulge Lay Led  
11.00am Holy Communion Grundisburgh JW  
Par Eucharist

### January 15<sup>th</sup> Epiphany 2

**Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42**

8.00am Holy Communion Grundisburgh JW  
9.30am Family Holy Communion Burgh CB/JamesH  
9.30am Morning Prayer Hasketon Lay Led/WG  
9.30am Holy Communion Otley CS  
11.00am Holy Communion Boulge CS  
11.00am Morning Prayer Grundisburgh BH  
11.30am Family Service-Pub Lunch Swilland CB

### January 22<sup>nd</sup> Epiphany 3

**Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23**

8.00am Holy Communion Grundisburgh CS  
9.30am Family Holy Communion Hasketon WG  
11.00am Family Service Clopton WG  
11.00am Family Holy Communion Grundisburgh CS

### January 29<sup>th</sup> Epiphany 4

**1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 31:95-10, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, John 2:1-11**

8.00am Holy Communion Grundisburgh CS  
11.00am Benefice Service Otley JW  
3.00pm Messy Christingle Grundisburgh CS

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, Jan – Jan Bates, Linda – Linda Pollard, TBC – To be Confirmed

## Other Services in January

January 16<sup>th</sup> 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

**4th Hobbies Group**, Clopton 10.00am until noon. Everyone is welcome

**6th Ashbocking Coffee Morning** 10.00am – 12 noon at the home of Adine Shrankel of 50 Church Lane, Ashbocking

**6th Burgh Booze Up** 6.30 – 8.30pm Mulled wine, non-alcoholic drinks, beer, nibbles, mince pies. For all Burgh Residents and families

**7th Grundisburgh Coffee Morning** 10.30am-11.45am Parish Room

**9th Knit and Stitch** Burgh Schoolroom 10.30am-12.30pm. All welcome. Details 01473 735544

**9th 5.00pm Benefice Prayer Group** meet in the Upper Room

**10th 10.00am Burgh PCC** in the Schoolroom

**10th 2.00pm Boulge PCC**

**10th 7.30pm Grundisburgh and Hasketon PCC** at Grundisburgh School

**12<sup>th</sup> Otley Coffee Morning** at the home of Karin Upson of 16 Spring Park, Otley 10.00am

**12th Grundisburgh Upper Room Tiddlywinks** group for toddlers and carers 2.30pm

**17th BBC Bible Book Club**, Grundisburgh 10.30am – see details elsewhere

**18th "Going Deeper" Homegroup**, Manor Farm, The Green, Ashbocking 10.00am

**18th 10.00am-12 noon Clopton Coffee Morning** in the Village Hall

**19th COSA Pastoral Committee** meets at Karin's

**19th Hasketon Community Lunch** 12.15pm

**26th Grundisburgh Upper Room Tiddlywinks** group for toddlers and carers 2.30pm

**26th 7.30pm COSA PCCs** meet at Clopton Village Hall

**28th 1.30pm – 5.30pm In Harmony Singing Day at St Andrew's Melton**- see details elsewhere

**29th Messy Christmas** Grundisburgh Village Hall 3.00pm

# 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:paulwiffen222@btinternet.com) or 01473738474**

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

If you thought Christmas was over-it isn't!



Come and share in our Messy Christingle afternoon

**Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>**

Grundisburgh Village Hall

from 3.00pm

Fun, food and friendship for all the family

## Centenary Share

Have You Ever Wondered How The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich was Funded.

Don't bother to read any further if you have not. On the other hand if you have read on.

Each year the expenses of the Diocese are funded on a voluntary basis by members of your local church mainly from their plate collections, donations and fees from marriages and funerals.

The Diocese has created an equitable system of sharing their costs, called the Centenary Share, to each Benefice. In our case the benefice is made up of the parishes of Ashbocking, Boulge, Burgh, Clopton, Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Otley and Swilland. The Benefice decides the allocation of Share between each parish.

Our Centenary Share for 2017 is £70,607 and split between each parish as shown:

Ashbocking	£2916
Boulge	£2224
Burgh	£6637
Clopton	£2831
Grundisburgh	£24727
Hasketon	£15696
Otley	£12660
Swilland	£2916
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£70607</b>

The invitation to contribute to the work of God through the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich is based on the cost of ministry applied to each Benefice, the cost of providing support for our church buildings, a share of the cost of being the church together in Suffolk and across the nation, less a contribution from the diocese. There is then some help for those who are regarded as having less than others and some support expected from those who are regarded as better off.

If you want more detail please contact Clive Willetts on 01473 738831 or your local church treasurer.

*Clive Willetts*



### Traidcraft 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

*Chocolate – Cleaning materials – Grocery*

*Greetings Cards – Socks – Gifts*

*Catalogues in St. Mary's*

*Look for Special Offers*

*Come & Buy & Support the Farmers & Artisans*

For info contact Pat Fletcher 01473 735 775

Thank you for your support.



### FANCY A COFFEE?



We have opportunities,  
throughout January,

At

**Ashbocking** – Friday 6th at the home of  
Adine Shrankel of 50 Church Lane,  
Ashbocking, IP6 9LG  
10.00am – 12 noon

**Clopton** – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall  
10.00am – 12 noon

**Grundisburgh** – Saturday 7th at  
Grundisburgh Parish Rooms  
10.30am - 11.45am

**Otley** – Thursday 12th at the home of Karin  
Upson of 16 Spring Park, Otley.  
Do come along and join us.  
10.00am

**Swilland** – There is no coffee morning this  
month. The next one will be Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>  
February at 1 Church Lane, Swilland at  
10.00am

St Edmundsbury  
Cathedral



# InHarmony Singing Day

1.30 - 5.30pm Saturday 28 January 2017

St Andrew's Church, Melton IP12 1PX

An inspirational afternoon for all churches in the Woodbridge area.  
Come and explore a wide range of music for worship in many styles,  
with **Richard Hubbard**, leader of the cathedral's InHarmony  
Parish Music Development Project.

Open to all who enjoy singing in choirs or congregations.

Admission £5. Please book in advance:  
[www.inharmony.stedscathedral.uk](http://www.inharmony.stedscathedral.uk)  
[music.development@stedscathedral.org](mailto:music.development@stedscathedral.org)  
01284 748720



St Edmundsbury  
Cathedral  
in partnership with

The Foundation  
of St Edmund

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury  
and Ipswich

## Otley Hall Retreat Day Programme 2017

Our programme of Retreat days and Workshops  
is now available to book, and includes some  
inspirational leaders and wonderfully thoughtful  
titles.

We begin the programme on **1<sup>st</sup> April** with a day  
lead by Carl Melville & Emma Hagggar titled 'A  
Taize Music Workshop'.

To view the full list of leaders and dates please  
visit our website where you will find all the  
information you need.

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

Email:-  
[events@otleyhall.co.uk](mailto:events@otleyhall.co.uk)

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[01473 890264](tel:01473890264)