

NEWS for the PEWS

The Weekly Newsletter for the Earsham Benefice

We warmly welcome you to our church today.

If you are a visitor or newcomer to our church, please sit anywhere, enjoy the worship and stay for coffee which is usually after the service.

Our Benefice vision is for people to come to faith in Christ and for us all to grow in faith and discipleship so that together we offer whole-hearted worship to Christ.

We serve the communities of

Alburgh, Broome, Denton, Ditchingham, Earsham & Hedenham

www.earshambenefice.org.uk



THIS WEEK: Lent 2

1st March 2026

PURPLE

Alburgh 9.00am ~ BCP Holy Communion

Denton 9.30am/10am ~ Family Service

Ditchingham 10.00am ~ Holy Communion

Earsham 10.30am ~ Fresh Expressions Café Service

Hedenham 6pm ~ Evensong

Genesis 12v1-4

John 3v1-17

God so loved the World

The Collect

Almighty God,

**you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:**

**grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things**

**that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;**

**through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK: Lent 3

8th March 2026

PURPLE

Alburgh 10.00am ~ Holy Communion Service

Broome 10.00am ~ Morning Service

Denton 9.30am ~ Holy Communion Service at Chapel

Earsham 9.00am/10.30am ~ Holy Communion/Fresh Expressions Café Service

Exodus 17v1-7

John 4v4-26

Women by the Well

FOLLOWING WEEK: Lent 4 Mothering Sunday

15th March 2026

PURPLE

Denton 9.30am ~ Holy Communion Service

Ditchingham 10.00am ~ Morning Service

Earsham 10.30am ~ Fresh Expressions Café Service

Colossians 3 v12-15

John 19 v25-27

Mothering Sunday

March to May 2026 Service Rota
can now be downloaded from the Benefice Website

This year the Diocese Lent appeal is asking Benefices to raise £400 to send a clergy child in Papa New Guinea to school for the year. As a clergy family this is a cause close to our hearts. We have teamed up with our Benefice Schools to help reach our target £400 and wondered if you could help as well!

We are asking all who can to fill up a Smartie tube with any spare coins during lent to donate to the appeal. These can then be brought along to the Benefice service on the 29th March or dropped off at the benefice office by 31st March.



The Bishop's Lent Appeal 2026

Please do support this appeal if you can. We would be very grateful.
Thank you, Chris and Caroline



Stories of Faith

Talking about the difference God has made in our lives is not only useful, it is deeply exciting. Stories are fascinating.



This Lent we would like to invite you to come and share your stories of faith. Each week we shall explore a different question which empowers us to share our stories of faith.

Dates: Sunday, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th March

Time: 4pm—5pm

Location: The Rectory



Lent Course 2026

ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS FOR 2026

Time scale of preparation for APCMs

1st March 2026

Election of Churchwardens notice to be displayed in the Church

Notice of APCM to be displayed in the church

Election of PCC notice to be displayed in the church

Notice to Parishioners to be displayed in the Porch

Accounts and update of Electoral Roll needs approving by PCC (*can be after a service*) on or before **12th or 13th April 2026**

Before 14th April 2026

- **Revised Electoral Roll** to be displayed in the churches for at least 14 days
- **Accounts** displayed
- **Agenda** for APCM to be available to congregations via News for the Pews- **12th April 2026**

VESTRY MEETINGS (Election of Churchwardens) IN EACH CHURCH

	Sunday 15th March 2026	9.30am	Denton
Sunday 15th March 2026	10.00am	Ditchingham	
	Tuesday 24th March 2026	6.00pm	Hedenham
Sunday 22nd March 2026	10.00am	Broome, Alburgh	
Sunday 12th April 2026	9.00am	Earsham	

Please also note that Diocesan Synod Representatives to be elected

Annual Parochial Church Meeting **Tuesday 28th April 2026 at 7.30pm** **at Ditchingham Primary Academy**

Diocese to receive: Electoral Roll Figures, Copy of Accounts, PCC names and addresses – no later than 1st June 2026

Accounts and statements signed by Chairman to be displayed in the churches for 14 days after APCM

Notice of election results to be displayed for 14 days after APCM

Certificate of Electoral Roll numbers to be displayed for 14 days, and signed copy sent to Governance Officer, Diocese House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5ES.

“For Lent, 1966” By Madeleine L’Engle

It is my Lent to break my Lent,

To eat when I would fast,

To know when slender strength is spent,

Take shelter from the blast

When I would run with wind and rain,

To sleep when I would watch.

It is my Lent to smile at pain

But not ignore its touch.

It is my Lent to listen well

When I would be alone,

To talk when I would rather dwell

In silence, turn from none

Who call on me, to try to see

That what is truly meant

Is not my choice. If Christ’s I’d be

It’s thus I’ll keep my Lent.

Benefice Contact Details

Rector: The Reverend Christopher Hutton (Usual Day off Mondays)

Email: chrishutton@hotmail.com

01986 895423

Benefice Administrator / Rector's PA: Mrs Sally Thomson (Tuesday & Friday - 10am – 2.00pm)

01986 894494

Benefice Office, The Rectory, School Road, Earsham, Bungay, NR35 2TF email: office@earshambenefice.org.uk

Retired Priests/Ministers

The Revd. Reg Kirkpatrick

email: revregkirk@gmail.com

01986 893645

The Revd. Sue Cramp

email: suecramp@outlook.com

07747 734058

The Revd. Barry Cramp

email: barrylcramp@outlook.com

07419 176024

The Revd. Kenneth Thom (URC)

email: kennethrthom@btinternet.com

01986 511032

Assisting Members

Chris Whipps (Lay Minister)

01986 788360

Diana Smith (Retired Lay Minister)

01986 897052

Phil & Chris Edwards (P.T.O Lay Ministers)

07951 922280

Lucy Hildreth (AWA Alburgh)

01986 788408

Gill Hipwell (AWA Denton)

01986 788188

Jo Somerfield (Prayer)

01986 895617

Schools Chaplain

Caroline Hutton

01986 895423

Denton: Local Ecumenical Partnership part of the Waveney Valley Ecumenical Partnership

The Rev'd Bruno Boldrini

UNAVAILABLE

Dates for the Diary

28.04.26: Benefice APCM: 7.30pm: Ditchingham School

EFES (Earsham Fresh Expression Bible Study)

A mostly weekly Bible Study on a **Wednesday 10am-11.30am** in Earsham Church Rooms.

All Welcome to join. Contact Phil or Chris Edwards for more info.

Benefice Prayer Meeting

Do join us for our weekly prayer meeting at **6pm** every **Friday**, in the Earsham Church Rooms for 30 minutes.

If you feel uncomfortable praying out loud, you do not have to but can sit and pray in silence.

Contact Jo for more information.

Keeping in Touch

If you miss picking up the News for the Pews in Church, the latest copy can be downloaded each week from www.earshambenefice.org.uk. For up-to-date information like us on Facebook – search Earsham Benefice or look out for the regular Benefice e-mails. If you don't receive these please e-mail the office with your details.

If you are running an event, please e-mail the Office so that it can be included in the N4P.

Safeguarding

Within the Earsham Benefice we take safeguarding very seriously. If you have a concern about the safety of someone or the actions of a person working with children or vulnerable adults, please speak out and stay safe.

Our Named Safeguarding Officer is Sally Thomson, and she can be contacted on 01986 894494