

# March 2018

## The North Samford Benefice

Sproughton with Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook and Belstead  
& Bentley with Tattingstone

### For parish queries please contact:

#### **Rev Annette Shannon**

The Rectory, Glebe Close, Sproughton, Ipswich IP8 3BQ  
email: [revannettes@aol.co.uk](mailto:revannettes@aol.co.uk) Tel: 01473 807674

#### **Benefice Administrator**

Hayley Purnell  
Email: [northsamfordbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:northsamfordbenefice@gmail.com) Tel: 07904972116

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Friends,

What does Easter mean to you?

I will never forget the incredible experience of my first Easter when I made the spiritual journey through Holy Week. I felt a range of emotions – from the joy of the Passover meal, the moving intimacy of the foot washing and the arresting scene of the altar being stripped in dignified silence on Maundy Thursday, to the depths of sadness on Good Friday to the most extraordinary joy of Easter Day.

Sometimes when we look at the challenges faced by the church we can fear it simply and quietly dying. We forget the Easter message.

The average age of our church congregation has increased so that it is much higher than the average age of the UK population. If we manage to replace all those who leave the church, we will still decline as a large proportion of our current membership comes to the end of their lives. 40% of our clergy are due to retire within the next 10 years. Faced with this reality, one approach would be to dig our heads in the sand and pretend that decline wasn't happening or that it doesn't matter.

As an Easter people we simply daren't do this! Thus the General Synod of the Church of England initiated an ambitious programme of 'Reform and Renewal' altering the way in which central church funds are distributed to address areas of deprivation and possibilities for growth, to increase the number of candidates for ordained ministry by 50%, and to simplify the process of church planting.

But 'renewal' is not something that can be programmed or managed centrally. Renewal happens personally and locally. It is in our local congregations that lives are touched by the love of Jesus. It is through personal friendship and invitation that people come to know and follow God. It is in the gathering for worship of our local communities that minds are challenged and hearts.

I am deeply thankful to all our clergy and lay people who will be involved in the preparation and conduct of worship for Holy Week and Easter. I pray especially for those who will be endeavouring to communicate the Easter message in ways that will connect with regular churchgoers and visitors alike. We have a great story to tell and a wonderful song to sing! Please do come and listen.

I wish you a blessed and joyful Easter,  
Rev Annette



**North Samford Churches Baby and Toddler Group**  
**Monday morning term time**  
**Sproughton Church Hall**  
**9.30am -11.30am**

Toys, interactive story, songs, drinks and healthy snack.  
 Babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers welcome with a parent, grandparent or carer.  
 Suggested donation £2.00 per family  
 Leader: Rev Annette Shannon 01473 807674



**Easter Services**

<b>Bentley</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	10.00 am
<b>Belstead</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	10.00 am
<b>Burstall</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
	Good Friday	30 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00 am
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	9.30 am
<b>Copdock with Washbrook</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am
	Good Friday	30 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	8.00 am & 10.00 am
<b>Sproughton</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00 am & 11.00 am
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	11.00 am
<b>Tattingstone</b>	Palm Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am
	Maundy Thursday	29 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 pm
	Easter Day	1 <sup>st</sup> April	10.00 am

***From the Registers:***

***Funerals***

**MARCH**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bentley Coffee & Company 10am
- 1<sup>st</sup> Burstall Community Lunch 12.30pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Burstall Women's World Day of Prayer 7pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Copdock Morning Market 10am
- 7<sup>th</sup> Burstall Lent Course 2.30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bentley Lent Course 7.30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers
- 10<sup>th</sup> Sproughton Monthly Market 10am
- 13<sup>th</sup> Ministry Meeting Sproughton Church Hall 12 noon
- 14<sup>th</sup> Burstall Lent Course 2.30pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Bentley Lent Course 7.30pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers
- 18<sup>th</sup> Bentley Approval of Accounts
- 20<sup>th</sup> Belstead APCM
- 21<sup>st</sup> Burstall Lent Course 2.30pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> Bentley Lent Course 7.30pm

21<sup>st</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers  
 21<sup>st</sup> Tattingstone PCC  
 21<sup>st</sup> Copdock Home Communion 10am  
 24<sup>th</sup> Sproughton Beetle Drive 7.30pm  
 28<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers

**APRIL**

4<sup>th</sup> Bentley Home Communion 10am  
 4<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers  
 5<sup>th</sup> Bentley Coffee & Company 10am  
 5<sup>th</sup> Burstall Community Lunch 12.30pm  
 7<sup>th</sup> Copdock Morning Market 10am  
 11<sup>th</sup> Burstall APCM  
 11<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers  
 12<sup>th</sup> Sproughton APCM  
 14<sup>th</sup> Sproughton Monthly Market 10am  
 15<sup>th</sup> Bentley Healing Service  
 16<sup>th</sup> Bentley APCM  
 18<sup>th</sup> Copdock Home Communion 10am  
 15<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers  
 21<sup>st</sup> Burstall Cowslip Tea  
 21<sup>st</sup> Sproughton Beetle Drive 7.30pm  
 24<sup>th</sup> Copdock APCM  
 25<sup>th</sup> Bentley Mothers Prayers  
 26<sup>th</sup> Tattingstone APCM

**SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE**

**MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> (Friday)**

7.00 pm	Burstall	Women's World Day of Prayer
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**MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>**

8.00 am	Copdock	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Burstall	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Bentley	Family Service
10.00 am	Copdock	Morning Prayer
10.00 am	Tattingstone	Holy Communion
11.00 am	Sproughton	Holy Communion

**MARCH 11<sup>th</sup> (Mothering Sunday)**

9.30 am	Sproughton	Croissant Church
9.30 am	Burstall	Family Service
10.00 am	Copdock	Family Service
10.00 am	Bentley	Holy Communion
6.00 pm	Tattingstone	Evensong

**MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>**

9.30 am	Burstall	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Copdock	Simply Sunday
10.00 am	Bentley	Family Service
11.00 am	Sproughton	Matins
6.00 pm	Tattingstone	Holy Communion

**MARCH 25<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday)**

8.00 am	Sproughton	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Burstall	Matins
10.00 am	Tattingstone	Family at Church
10.00 am	Copdock	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Belstead	Morning Celebration
10.00 am	Bentley	Holy Communion
11.00 am	Sproughton	Family at Church

**MARCH 29<sup>th</sup> (Maundy Thursday)**

7.30 pm	Tattingstone	Holy Communion
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**MARCH 30<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday)**

9.00 am	Copdock	Good Friday Service
11.00 am	Burstall	Good Friday Service followed by coffee & hot cross buns

**APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> (Easter Day)**

8.00 am	Copdock	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Burstall	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Copdock	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Belstead	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Bentley	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Tattingstone	Holy Communion
11.00 am	Sproughton	Holy Communion

**APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>**

9.30 am	Sproughton	Croissant Church
9.30 am	Burstall	Family Service
10.00 am	Copdock	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Bentley	Holy Communion
6.00 pm	Tattingstone	Evensong

Church Letters & Copy for April In Touch to Hayley Purnell northsamfordbenefice@gmail.com by **4<sup>th</sup> March please**

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