



Benefice News

February 9th

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE TODAY

1 Corinthians 2.1-16; Matthew 5.13-20

9.30 Kelsale Holy Communion

9.45 Connections - Saxmundham Primary

11.00 St John's Praise service

6.30 St John's Evening Worship

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Next Sunday - February 16th

Romans 8.18-25; Matthew 6.25-34

9.30am Kelsale family Service

11.00am St. John's Holy Communion

6.30pm St. John's Evening Worship

Need to Talk?

Contact details for St. John's church officers can be found on our Website,

www.saxstjohns.org.uk/contact-us/ and on the notice board in the church.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Bereavement Cafe Wednesday 19th February 1:45pm to 3pm

Our Bereavement Café offers a chance to meet others who understand the experience of loss. It is a space to talk about the pain of loss, express those emotions and find mutual support and encouragement when it is most needed. It is a drop-in session 'At the Crossroads', so needs no advanced booking. Tea and cake will be provided! If you have experienced bereavement recently or are still struggling to cope with loss, do come along. Do also think about neighbours, friends and loved ones who may be experiencing these feelings and invite them.

Walking Football

Walking football is every Wednesday in Saxmundham! It will be at Sax'cess House (indoors in winter); devised in 2011 to keep over 50's active and involved in football.

More songs and stories...from Jonathan Veira



Jonathan Veira returns to St John's with his songs and stories on Saturday, February 15th. He has asked to come back so let's give him the warm, welcoming audience he had at his standing ovation concert in June last year.

Tickets are on sale at the church coffee shop on the High Street and Annie has tickets with her at St John's for morning services. They cost £12 including light refreshments.

Please note: I won't be at St John's morning service with tickets on Feb 9th. I do plan to continue being in the church coffee shop every morning from 9.30 to 12.30, until closing time on Feb 14th, for pre-ordered tickets to be collected and paid for and for any new ticket sales. (Annie)

St John's Electoral Roll

We are revising our Electoral Roll in readiness for the Annual Parish Meeting on 18th March. Everyone who had enrolled on the 2019 Roll is included automatically and so do not need to apply again. If you wish to be included please complete the form which is available at services or can be obtained from Sue Potter (tel 602177) to whom they should be returned. Forms may be downloaded from <https://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/apcms/> Forms need to be received by 21st Feb to qualify for voting at the APCM.

Kelsale cum Carlton Electoral Roll

As above. APCM to be held on Sunday 15th March. Application forms will be available at Kelsale services from Sunday and will need to be returned by 21st February. (Cheryl Payne, Electoral Roll Officer)

Volunteers Needed

The deanery (our grouping of 5 benefices) is looking for two volunteers. One to be secretary for up to four meetings a year of the deanery synod and up to four meetings a year of the deanery mission and pastoral committee. One to provide pastoral help to parish treasurers, especially in communication with the diocesan finance team, including attendance at three meetings a year with the diocesan finance team and up

to four meetings a year of the deanery synod. Please contact the Rector (602687) if you are interested.

An Ear For Music?

Richard Hubbard, leader of the diocesan InHarmony Project, has offered to come and run a deanery music day on a date to be decided. All who already contribute to music in the churches would have an opportunity to share and develop ideas. Please contact the Rural Dean (Rev'd Sheila Hart) on 602456 if you would like to register your interest.

May the 4th be wit you , save the 4th and 5th July 2020

Big outside film event hosted by Connections and St John's



Chance to vote for the film today, make sure you get a voting slip.

Lent course

For Lent this year, we'll be reading the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2020: "Saying yes to life" by Ruth Valerio. In order to enable as many as possible to attend, we'll be offering multiple times during the week across the Benefice and Deanery and we invite Home Groups to suspend their normal meetings for the season. The book is normally £9.99 but can be bought from At the Crossroads for £7. Further copies can be ordered - subject to availability. Please contact the shop or email atthecrossroads@saxstjohns.org.uk For further details contact Andy.

Book Group

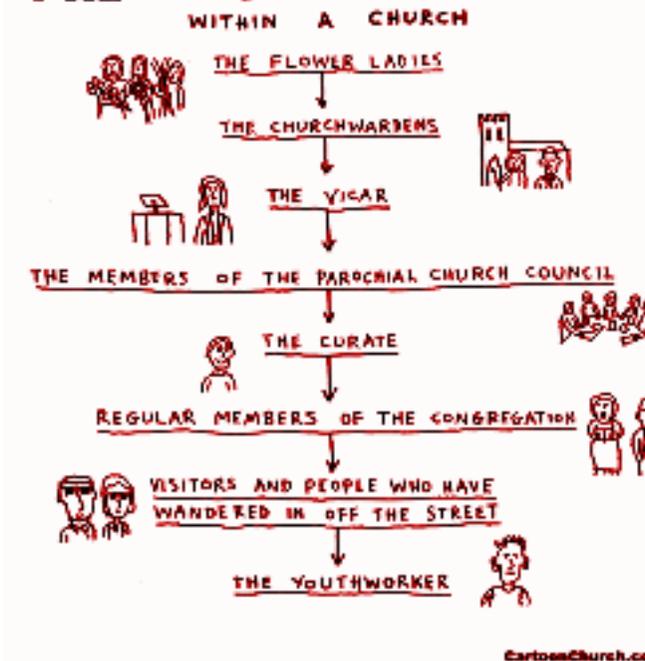
We had a good discussion about Robert Harris' book *Conclave*. Our next book will be *A Way through the*

Wilderness by Jamie Buckingham, a book described as following the footsteps of Moses to find the way through your own personal wilderness. If you would like a copy. please ask Doug. We will meet on Tuesday 24th March at 2pm 'At the Crossroads'.

Food Bank Volunteers

Our local Food Bank is in the process of being reorganised and is looking for extra pairs of volunteers to join the delivery team ... for more details contact Pam or Phil Peeling (01728 604 584).

THE CHAIN OF COMMAND



Prayer Walk

At the February Connections Church prayer meeting, I felt a clear prompting to organise a Prayer Walk around Saxmundham. We had been praying for our community and were encouraged to be bold in our thinking and in our prayers for revival. So, what is a Prayer Walk? We will arrange a starting point and then walk round

Saxmundham, stopping at strategic places to pray for the people within; for businesses, for public servants, medical staff, teachers & children, etc. Please contact me if you would like to join me and we can arrange the best time to do it.

If you are unable to walk too far, you can still join in! We will let you know where we are and you can join in from the comfort of your armchair.

God bless, *Doug* (605715 or 07714 213502)



The Community Fridge project

Amazing? This joint St John's Connections /Access Trust venture, has been chosen as one of the Waitrose Community Matters for February! Please pour in those green tokens and ask friends if they will support us. Lets get competitive and win this!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS....

Prayer is requested for:

- Len Sellwood, who is sorting out Beth's affairs before going back to Canada
- for Pauline Sparks awaiting arrangements for release from hospital
- for Rob and Sue's son-in-law Steve who is now more than half way through his radiotherapy.

Give thanks that Beth has settled in at PearTree Lodge, Knodishall – she will always be pleased to see visitors.