

Four Rivers Benefice News

Parishes of Bedfield, Brundish
Cratfield, Laxfield, Monk Soham
Tannington, Wilby
Worlingworth with Southolt
December 2025



Dear Friends

Well, here we are at the end of the calendar year! December sees 12 months since my licensing to the Four Rivers Benefice and what an interesting time it has been! I don't know about you, but for me the year has flown past! I was delighted to see the re-introduction of what I call the agricultural services, ably led by Bridge4Rivers under the leadership of our Pioneer Minister, Sheila Pipe. Indeed, we will be starting with Plough Sunday in January which will be at All Saints Laxfield. Plough Sunday could not be any colder than it was this year at Cratfield!! I am also encouraged in the way that parishes have been working together and supporting one another and the number of folk willing to travel to other parishes when there isn't a service in the church where they live! People have put forward a lot of ideas about how we might grow in 2026, and green shoots are appearing in Tannington, Southolt and other parishes. So onwards! May the Lord our God in Jesus Christ bring you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and let us show our love for each other in the way that our Lord instructed us to do.

Prayers and blessings,

Revd Chrissie

Keep in touch

* Get this newsletter on email.....

fourriversbenefice@gmail.com

* [facebook.com/frchurches](https://www.facebook.com/frchurches)

* Diocesan website www.cofesuffolk.org

For your fortnightly update from the diocese,
emailcommunications@cofesuffolk.org

Mid-week in your church		
Daily Prayers		Holy Communion
Tuesdays 8.30am		Thursdays 11am
2nd Dec Tann'n		
9th Dec none		None until
16th Dec Bedfield		2026
23rd Dec Laxfield		
30th Dec none		

Revd Chrissie Smart, Priest-in-Charge
Tel: 01986 743339 Mobile: 07803 134301
rev.chrissiesmart@gmail.com

Associate Priest: Revd Rebecca Artiss, (contact Geoff Artiss on 01728 685663)
Assistant Curate: Revd Clive Mobbs, 07340 838639, climob@yahoo.co.uk
Benefice Administrator: Virginia Skoyles, fourriversbenefice@gmail.com

Mondays 1st and 15th The Care Café at Bedfield Community Hub, 10.30am to 1pm. Free entry. For carers, cared for, bereaved and those alone. Contact Jenny on 01728 627134 / 07710 218957.

Friday 5th, Laxfield Christmas Market, 4 to 7pm

Friday 12th Meet up Friday in the Royal Oak, Laxfield, 10 to 11.30am.

Sat 20th Saturday Social, 10 to 11.30am, Laxfield.

Thursday 27th Tea at the Vicarage, Laxfield, 3 to 4pm. Please join us.

Advent Course - The Joy of Christmas

Come and join us for our Advent Course. The course lasts 4 weeks and we will pray together and explore twelve meditations, three a week, fresh ideas which we hope to share with others. We started at Worlingworth Community Centre on 26th Nov at 2.30pm and at the Vicarage in Laxfield on 27th Nov, 6 to 7.30pm. Latecomers welcome. Contact Val Swallow on 01728 628068 (Worlingworth) or Revd Chrissie for Laxfield.

Carol Services - Welcome to all!

Tannington	Friday 12th Dec, 7pm
Bedfield	Sat 13th Dec, 3pm, with Revd Brynn
Monk Soham	Sun 14th Dec, 2pm. Pastoral Quire
Southolt	Friday 19th Dec, 6.30pm
Worlingworth	Sunday 21st Dec, 3pm
Cratfield	Sunday 21st Dec, 6pm
Wilby	Sunday 21st Dec, 6pm
Laxfield	Christmas Eve, 4pm
Brundish	Christmas Eve, 6.30pm



Church contacts

Bedfield, St Nicholas:	Jenny Hinchey, 07710 218957
Brundish, St Lawrence:	Tina Smiddy, 01379 388298
Cratfield, St Mary:	Revd Chrissie Smart, 07803 134301
Laxfield, All Saints:	Jackie and Mike Turton, 01986 798618
Monk Soham, St Peter:	Geoff Artiss, 01728 685663
Tannington, St Ethelbert:	Jenny Hinchey, 07710 218957
Wilby, St Mary:	Mary Pipe, 01728 723443, Rob Barber 01379 388040
Worlingworth, St Mary:	Bert Stanford, 01728 628474, Ann Davidson 07807 588485

Services in the Four Rivers Benefice

Sunday 7th Dec - revised schedule

10.30am Holy Communion, Brundish
10.30am Celtic Morning Prayer, Laxfield
11am Family Service, Monk Soham
11am Holy Communion, Worlingworth

Sunday 14th Dec

9.30am Village Worship, Cratfield
10.30am Morning Praise, Bedfield
10.30am Holy Communion, Laxfield
2.30pm Carol Service, Monk Soham

Sunday 21st Dec

11am BCP Morning Prayer, Monk Soham
11am Holy Communion, Tannington
3pm Carol Service, Worlingworth
6pm Carol Service, Cratfield
6pm Carol Service, Wilby

Christmas Eve

3pm Crib Service, Worlingworth
4pm Carol Service, Laxfield
6.30pm Carols and readings, Brundish
11.30pm Midnight Mass, Bedfield
11.30pm Midnight Mass, Brundish

Christmas Day

9.30am Family Communion, Worlingworth
10am Christmas Village Worship, Cratfield
10am Family Service, Laxfield
10.30am Fam Service + HC, Monk Soham
11am Holy Communion, Wilby

Sunday 28th Dec

9.30am Holy Communion, Cratfield

All carol services, see left.

Saturday 20th December

A blue Christmas get together, Bedfield Hub, 3pm, for those experiencing grief, loss or sadness, acknowledging that the season can be difficult for some. Open to all, whether of Christian faith, different faith or no faith, providing a space to express pain and find comfort.