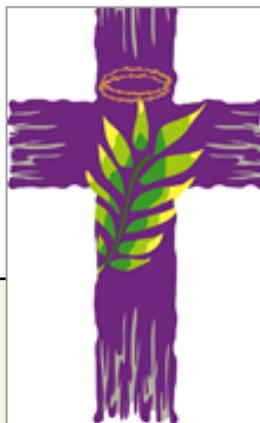


# Four Rivers Benefice News

Parishes of Bedfield, Brundish  
Cratfield, Laxfield, Monk Soham  
Tannington, Wilby  
Worlingworth with Southolt  
**March 2026**



## Dear Friends

There is a lovely prayer written by John Birch which reads, 'Bless all who journey, that search for faith, acceptance and identity, which is made more difficult by circumstances, doubt, diversions, exhaustion, stumbles along the road and the load they carry. May they hear your voice and see your footsteps, know how close you are, lay down their burden, reach out for your hand and allowed land.' This prayer is central to my worship during Lent this year. We all know of somebody who may need a helping hand. Let us be strong and reach out an offer to help and in so doing, we may find that there are others who may wish to join together on the Lenten journey to find Father God at the heart of each of our communities. And John Birch goes on to say, 'May, the whisper of God be your guide in your journey through this day. That gentle, persistent reminder to engage with those around, offer encouragement, prayer and support where it is needed, speak into conversations both locally and further afield, give your faith perspective, and show God's love and peace when faced with difficult situations. In your journey through this day, the whisper of God be your guide.' Amen. May God bless our journeys this Lent.

Prayers and blessings *Revd Chrissie*

**Revd Chrissie Smart, Priest-in-Charge**  
Tel: 01986 743339 Mobile: 07803 134301  
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Associate Priest: Revd Rebecca Artiss, (contact Geoff Artiss on 01728 685663)  
Assistant Curate: Revd Clive Mobbs, 07340 838639, climob@yahoo.co.uk  
Pioneer Minister: Sheila Pipe, 07579 002043  
Benefice Administrator: Virginia Skoyles, fourriversbenefice@gmail.com

### Lent Course - Draw Near

focuses on the habits and practices essential to what it means to be a Christian.

Come and join us to celebrate the mystery of God's saving love at Easter.

**Worlingworth** 3rd March, 2pm in church, then 2pm in Worlingworth Community Centre on 11th, 18th, 25th March

**Laxfield Vicarage** 7pm, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March

Further info from Revd Chrissie.

## What's on during March?.....

### Mondays 2nd and 16th

**The Care Café** at Bedfield Community Hub, 10.30am to 1pm. Free entry. For carers, cared for, bereaved and those alone. Contact Jenny on 07710 218957.

**Saturday 7th Community Market**, Laxfield, 9.30 to 12 noon.

**Friday 13th Meet up Friday**, The Royal Oak, Laxfield, 10 to 11.30am.

**Saturday 21st Saturday Social**, 10 to 11.30am, Laxfield.

**Thursday 26th Tea at the Vicarage**, Laxfield, 3 to 4pm. Please join us.

**Fri 27th "The real manhunter live – again"** - Colin Sutton. Laxfield Vill Hall, 7pm. Tickets £12. Call Jackie 07773 886582 to reserve.

### Lent Lunches 2026

You are invited.....All Lent lunches are 12 noon to 2pm, no charge but donations are invited for various charities. Everyone will be made very welcome - no booking necessary, just come along.

Sat 7th Brundish Village Hall, IP13 8AZ

Sat 14th Little Manor Farm, The Street, Brundish, IP13 8BL, hosted by Tina Smiddy

Sat 21st Red House, Shop Street, Worlingworth, hosted by Mark & Lois Sheard

Sat 28th Russell Lodge, Russell Green, Wilby, IP21 5LX, hosted by Linda & Jeff Wright



### 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:	Revd Chrissie Smart, 07803 134301
Worlingworth, St Mary:	Bert Stanford, 01728 628474, Ann Davidson 07807 588485

### Sunday 1st March

9.30am Village Worship, Cratfield  
10.30am Celtic Morning Prayer, Laxfield  
10.30am Holy Communion, Wilby  
11am Family Service, Monk Soham  
11am Holy Communion, Worlingworth

### Sunday 8th March

10.30am Morning Praise, Bedfield  
10.30am Holy Communion, Laxfield  
11am BCP Morning Prayer, Monk Soham

### Sunday 15th March, Mothering Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion, Cratfield  
9.30am Chatty Church, Laxfield  
10.30am Mothering Sunday Service, Wilby  
11am Mothering Sunday Service, Bedfield  
11am Fam Service and HC, Monk Soham  
11am Let's Celebrate, Worlingworth  
3pm Mothering Sunday Service, Brundish

### Sunday 22nd March

10.30am Holy Communion, Bedfield  
10.30am Celtic Morning Prayer, Wilby  
11am Morning Prayer, Worlingworth  
6pm Hartismere House

### Sunday 29th March, Palm Sunday

10.30am Palm Sunday Benefice Celebration at Laxfield  
11am Holy Communion, Worlingworth

### Good Friday

9am Sung Litany, Monk Soham  
10.30am Easter Garden, Bedfield  
10.30am Easter Garden, Laxfield  
10.30am Good Friday Service, Wilby  
11am At the foot of the cross, W/worth  
12 noon to 3pm Vigil, Laxfield

### Easter Day

6am Sunrise service, Monk Soham  
9.30am Holy Communion Bedfield, Cratfield, and Laxfield  
11am Holy Communion, Monk Soham, Wilby and Worlingworth  
4pm Holy Communion, Brundish