

**The Grapevine January 2017
News for the parishes of the
Carlford Benefice**

“Wishing You All a Very Happy New Year”

What does the expression 'touching base' mean to you?

From the amount of communication devices that young and old, alike, use today, it is quite obvious that touching base is important. We keep in touch in order to share thoughts, to express our feelings, to hear other points of view and nurture our growth to maturity. Just consider how many of you use telephones, mobile phones and Ipads to chat, voice-mail, Skype, FaceTime, text or email? Keeping in touch with family and friends is clearly important. But, what about keeping in touch with your Maker, and by this I mean God?

'Touching base' to me means centre-ing myself, being at peace and at one with God. Prayer is the key, yet there are many ways of praying just as there are many modern forms of communication. We need to discover and practice the form that works best for us, remembering that communication is a two-way process: speaking and listening.

One such tried and tested form of prayer, particularly helping us to 'listen' to God and recognise His voice, is called Lectio Divina. The process may initially seem foreign, frustrating even, (as first learning how to email) but certainly worth persevering, when one recognises God's voice speaking directly to you.

Choose a short passage of Scripture and read it slowly in a gentle manner. Savour each portion of the reading, constantly listening for the "still, small voice" of a word or phrase that somehow stands out in your mind. Do not expect lightning or ecstasies. In Lectio Divina, God is teaching us to listen, to seek Him in silence. God does not reach out and grab us but gently invites us ever more deeply into his presence.

Now ponder. Take the word or phrase into yourself. Memorise it and slowly repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your inner world of concern, memories and ideas. Do not be afraid of distractions. Memories or thoughts are simply parts of yourself that, when they rise up during Lectio Divina, are asking to be given to God along with the rest of your inner self. Allow this inner pondering, this rumination, to invite you into dialogue with God.

Now pray. Whether you use words, ideas, or images- or all three is not important. Interact with God as you would with one who you know loves and accepts you. Give to God what you have discovered during your experience of meditation. Give to God what you have found within your heart.

It is not necessary to assess the quality of your Lectio Divina as if you were "performing" or seeking some goal. Lectio Divina has no goal other than that of being in the presence of God by praying the Scriptures. Why not try touching base right now?

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Luke 11:9-10.

Rev'd Wendy Gourlay



FANCY A COFFEE?



We have opportunities, throughout January, at

Ashbocking – Friday 6th at the home of Adine Shrankel of
50 Church Lane, Ashbocking, IP6 9LG
10.00am – 12 noon

Clopton – Wednesday 18th at the Village Hall
10.00am – 12 noon

Grundisburgh – Saturday 7th at Grundisburgh Parish Rooms
10.30am - 11.45am

Otley – Thursday 12th at the home of Karin Upson of 16 Spring Park, Otley.
Do come along and join us.
10.00am

Swiland – There is no coffee morning this month. The next one will be Saturday 4th February at 1
Church Lane, Swiland at 10.00am



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Traidcraft Stalls

In Grundisburgh Every Month

1st Saturday Coffee Morning 10.30 Parish Room

1st Sunday & 2nd Sunday in St. Mary's
at 12.00 after morning service

Chocolate – Cleaning materials – Grocery

Greetings Cards – Socks – Gifts

Catalogues in St. Mary's

Look for Special Offers

Come & Buy & Support the Farmers & Artisans

For info contact Pat Fletcher 01473 735 775

Thank you for your support.

BBC

Bible Book Club

A small group - those of faith, agnostics, & atheists -interested in the historical context of Christian literature.

We meet in Grundisburgh on the third Tuesday of just four months each year, our next meeting is

on

January 17th 2017

at

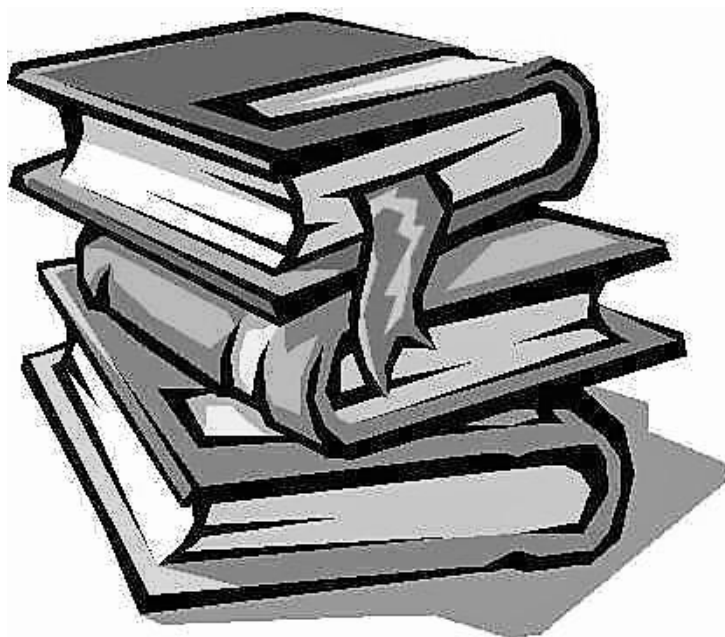
10.30am

We are discussing 'The Nativity' by Geza Vermes.

Why not get a copy and start reading now, we would be very pleased to have you come along.

paulwiffen222@btinternet.com or 01473738474

Please let us know if you would like to join us.



Services Across The Carlford Benefice

Please note:- There is only one service at 11.00am on 1st January which will be held at Grundisburgh

January 1st – Naming Of Jesus

Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7, Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 2:15-21

11.00am	Benefice Eucharist	Grundisburgh	CS
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January 8th Baptism of Christ

Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS
9.30am	Holy Communion	Clopton	JaneH
9.30am	Parish Eucharist	Hasketon	WG
11.00am	Epiphany Worship	Ashbocking	Jan/Linda
11.00am	Morning Prayer	Boulge	Lay Led
11.00am	Holy Communion Par Eucharist	Grundisburgh	JW

January 15th Epiphany 2

Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9,

John 1:29-42

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	JW
9.30am	Family Holy Communion	Burgh	CB/JamesH
9.30am	Morning Prayer	Hasketon	Lay Led/WG
9.30am	Holy Communion	Otley	CS
11.00am	Holy Communion	Boulge	CS
11.00am	Morning Prayer	Grundisburgh	BH
11.30am	Family Service–Pub Lunch	Swilland	CB

January 22nd Epiphany 3

Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS
9.30am	Family Holy Communion	Hasketon	WG
11.00am	Family Service	Clopton	WG
11.00am	Family Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS

January 29th Epiphany 4

1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 31:95-10, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, John 2:1-11

8.00am	Holy Communion	Grundisburgh	CS
11.00am	Benefice Service	Otley	JW
3.00pm	Messy Christingle	Grundisburgh	CS

Key – CS – Clare Sanders, CB – Catherine Beaumont, WG – Wendy Gourlay, FW – Fred Woods, JW –John Waine, BH – Bill Herbert, MS – Mark Sanders, JaneH - Jane Hall, JamesH - James Hall, RP –Richard Pepper, RF – Robert Fletcher, JaneW - Jane Woods, IW- Ian Wilson, PI – Philip Ind, MC – Mark Cresswell, GH – Graham Hedger, Jan – Jan Bates, Linda – Linda Pollard, TBC – To be Confirmed

Other Services in January

January 16 th	Holy Communion BCP	Hasketon	9.30am
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What's On across the Carlford Benefice – January

4th Hobbies Group, Clopton 10.00am until noon. Everyone is welcome

6th Ashbocking Coffee Morning 10.00am – 12 noon at the home of Adine Shrankel of 50 Church Lane, Ashbocking

6th Burgh Booze Up 6.30 – 8.30pm Mulled wine, non-alcoholic drinks, beer, nibbles, mince pies. For all Burgh Residents and families

7th Grundisburgh Coffee Morning 10.30am-11.45am Parish Room

9th Knit and Stitch Burgh Schoolroom 10.30am-12.30pm. All welcome. Details 01473 735544

9th 5.00pm Benefice Prayer Group meet in the Upper Room

10th 10.00am Burgh PCC in the Schoolroom

10th 2.00pm Boulge PCC

10th 7.30pm Grundisburgh and Hasketon PCC at Grundisburgh School

12th Otley Coffee Morning at the home of Karin Upson of 16 Spring Park, Otley 10.00am

12th Grundisburgh Upper Room Tiddlywinks group for toddlers and carers 2.30pm

17th BBC Bible Book Club, Grundisburgh 10.30am – see details elsewhere

18th “Going Deeper” Homegroup, Manor Farm, The Green, Ashbocking 10.00am

18th 10.00am-12 noon Clopton Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

19th COSA Pastoral Committee meets at Karin's

19th Hasketon Community Lunch 12.15pm

26th Grundisburgh Upper Room Tiddlywinks group for toddlers and carers 2.30pm

26th 7.30pm COSA PCCs meet at Clopton Village Hall

28th 1.30pm – 5.30pm In Harmony Singing Day at St Andrew's Melton- see details elsewhere

29th Messy Christmas Grundisburgh Village Hall 3.00pm

As a Ministry Team we share the responsibility for pastoral care.

First point of contact is:

Ashbocking & Swilland

Catherine Beaumont- 01473 890264

Burgh, Boulge & Grundisburgh

Clare Sanders 01473 735183

Clopton & Otley

Jane Hall 01473 785251

Hasketon

Wendy Gourlay 01728 685335



InHarmony Singing Day

1.30 - 5.30pm Saturday 28 January 2017

St Andrew's Church, Melton IP12 1PX

An inspirational afternoon for all churches in the Woodbridge area. Come and explore a wide range of music for worship in many styles, with **Richard Hubbard**, leader of the cathedral's InHarmony Parish Music Development Project.

Open to all who enjoy singing in choirs or congregations.

Admission £5. Please book in advance:
www.inharmony.stedscathedral.uk
music.development@stedscathedral.org
01284 748720



Otley Hall Retreat Day

Programme 2017

Our programme of Retreat days and Workshops is now available to book, and includes some inspirational leaders and wonderfully thoughtful titles.

We begin the programme on **1st April** with a day lead by Carl Melville & Emma Hagggar titled 'A Taize Music Workshop'.

To view the full list of leaders and dates please visit our website where you will find all the information you need.

www.otleyhall.co.uk

Email:-
events@otleyhall.co.uk

or phone:-
[01473 890264](tel:01473890264)

If you thought Christmas was over-
it isn't!



Come and share in our
Messy Christingle afternoon

Sunday January 29th

Grundisburgh Village Hall

from 3.00pm

Fun, food and friendship for all the family

BURGH SCHOOLROOM, DRABBS LANE IP13 6QA



BURGH "BOOZE UP"

Friday 6th January 2017
18.30 – 20.30

Mulled wine, non-alcoholic drinks, beer, nibbles, mince pies

For all Burgh Residents and families

Centenary Share

Have You Ever Wondered How
The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich was Funded.

Don't bother to read any further if you have not. On the other hand if you have read on.

Each year the expenses of the Diocese are funded on a voluntary basis by members of your local church mainly from their plate collections, donations and fees from marriages and funerals.

The Diocese has created an equitable system of sharing their costs, called the Centenary Share, to each Benefice. In our case the benefice is made up of the parishes of Ashbocking, Boulge, Burgh, Clopton, Grundisburgh, Hasketon, Otley and Swilland. The Benefice decides the allocation of Share between each parish.

Our Centenary Share for 2017 is £70,607 and split between each parish as shown:

Ashbocking	£2916
Boulge	£2224
Burgh	£6637
Clopton	£2831
Grundisburgh	£24727
Hasketon	£15696
Otley	£12660
Swilland	£2916
TOTAL	£70607

The invitation to contribute to the work of God through the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich is based on the cost of ministry applied to each Benefice, the cost of providing support for our church buildings, a share of the cost of being the church together in Suffolk and across the nation, less a contribution from the diocese. There is then some help for those who are regarded as having less than others and some support expected from those who are regarded as better off.

If you want more detail please contact Clive Willetts on 01473 738831 or your local church treasurer.

Clive Willetts

From The Editor The cut off date for material to be included is the 8th of the month and material should be sent to Clare at revclaresanders@tiscali.co.uk & Amy at bakergirl174@gmail.com please.