

The Combs and Finborough News Sheet

Buxhall, Combs, Gt and Lt Finborough, Harleston, Onehouse and Shelland



WELCOME

As we keep in touch, pray and support each other

1st February 2026 : The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, Candlemas

Church Services Today:

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.30 am	Morning Worship	Harleston
11.00 am	All Age Worship	Combs Church Hall

NB: Please note there will be no service of Spiritual Communion on Zoom today

Preparing for Lent



This year as usual we will be running a Lent course and will be using the 'Draw Near' booklet from the Church of England. It includes 40 daily reflections and life giving habits for Lent. The course will be run on Zoom on Thursday mornings at 10am, beginning on Thursday, 19th February. If you would like a copy of the booklet, even if you're unable to join the course, please let Revd Sarah know, revdsarahjenkins@gmail.com. Many thanks.

Fundraising for EACH



Mr Chauffour, Year 6 teacher at Trinity CofE Primary School in Combs Ford, will be fundraising for EACH, East Anglia's Children's Hospices by taking on the Marathon des Sables, one of the world's toughest endurance races. This multi-day ultramarathon takes place in the Sahara Desert, where runners cover around 250 kilometres over six to seven

days. Competitors must be largely self-sufficient, carrying their own food and equipment while running in extreme heat across sand dunes and rocky terrain. The event is a true test of both physical endurance and mental resilience. Mr Chauffour's fundraising page is here https://www.justgiving.com/page/mike-chauffour-1768852401515?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA and any donation, big or small, will be greatly appreciated.

Forthcoming Events

2nd February – Little Finborough PCC meeting, 7.30pm at Combs Rectory

3rd February – Onehouse PCC meeting, 7.30pm at Trinity Hall, Onehouse

9th February – Rural Coffee Caravan, 1pm to 3pm at Harleston Church

12th February – Rural Coffee Caravan, 10am to 12pm at Combs Green, Combs
14th February – Buxhall Tea Room, 12pm to 3pm at Village Hall, Buxhall
18th February – Community Café, 2pm to 3pm, Finborough Court Flats, Gt Finborough
23rd February – Buxhall PCC meeting, 7.30pm at Combs Rectory
25th February – Lent Lunch, 12pm to 2pm, Trinity Hall, Onehouse

Meet Up Mondays in Church Hall, Combs

Our next meeting will take place on **2nd February 2026** from 10.30am to 12.30pm, for further information please contact Revd Alison on 01449 541794. All most welcome.

Wednesday Mornings in Trinity Hall, Onehouse

9.30am Wednesdays Said Holy Communion followed at 10.30am by coffee and cake. All welcome.

Saturday Morning Prayer on Zoom at 10am

Join us for a short service of Morning Prayer on Zoom, this is the link to join the service - Meeting ID: 845 3783 4344 Passcode: 916836

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84537834344?pwd=dmZRdXpkbXNpUk15aVNjdzMwdmg5dz09>

Prayer Group

We have a group of people from across the Benefice who pray individually and privately for anyone who asks for prayerful support, whatever the situation may be. All information given is kept totally confidential. Our only request is that the person receiving prayer gives their consent. If you or someone you know would welcome prayer, please contact Elizabeth Mooney at emooney6@sky.com.

Collect for the Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings

The New Testament reading is taken from Hebrews 2.14-end

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel is taken from Luke 2.22-40 : Glory to you O Lord

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Intercessions

Almighty God as we celebrate the feast of Candlemas today we give thanks for your son Jesus who is the Light of the World and for your call to us to share in that light. We pray for Christians throughout the world and especially those who are persecuted for their faith. Help them to become the Church that you are calling us all to be and may your Holy Spirit be powerfully at work among all who attend.

Lord, in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Creator God, you gave us this world and made us stewards of it. We are a world family who should care for each other, despite our differences of race, colour, creed or gender. Too often we are selfish, only thinking of ourselves, and so we ask you to forgive our selfishness, widen our vision and help us to be a caring people.

Lord, in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Father God, we thank you for all who take risks and make sacrifices for others in their daily work, and especially for the men and women who work in our emergency services. Help us to respect and appreciate our fire-service, police and paramedics and bless them with the support of the communities that depend so heavily on them in times of crisis.

Lord, in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Loving God, we pray for all those who are suffering physical, emotional or mental illness. Help them to keep their eyes fixed on you, and give them the courage to face the trials that may come.

Lord, in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, give rest to the souls of those who have gone from our lives to meet with you. May they now, released from pain or sorrow, find life eternal at rest in your presence. Help those of us who are saddened by such earthly loss, with the reassurance that one day we too will share the feast with them too.

Lord, in your Mercy, **Hear our Prayer**

Almighty Father, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna, and showed them the infant King. Give us grace to trust your promises, and patience to wait for their fulfilment.

Merciful Father: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Services for 8th February: The Second Sunday before Lent

9.30 am	Morning Worship	Shelland
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Buxhall
11.00 am	Morning Worship	Great Finborough
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Onehouse Trinity Hall

Please remember the families and loved ones of those who have recently died including Pauline Dade and Sarah Gascoine.

May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

As a Group of Churches we are committed to promoting a 'Safer Church' for all. Information relating to Safeguarding is available in all our churches and from our Diocesan Website <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/promoting-a-safer-church>

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