



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

Services on 24th December : Christmas Eve

2.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Combs
3.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Onehouse
4.00 pm	Crib with Carols	Great Finborough
4.00 pm	Carol Service	Harleston
6.00 pm	Candlelit Said Communion	Combs
7.30 pm	Christmas Communion with Carols	Buxhall

Services on 25th December : Christmas Day

9.00 am	Holy Communion	Little Finborough
9.00 am	Holy Communion	Shelland
10.30 am	Family Communion	Onehouse

Service on 28th December : The First Sunday of Christmas

10.00 am	Benefice Holy Communion	Onehouse Trinity Hall
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Forthcoming Events

7th January – Treasurers' meeting, 7.30pm at The Rectory, Combs Ford

13th January – Combs PCC meeting, 7pm at The Rectory, Combs Ford

14th January – Ministry Team meeting, 2pm at Trinity Hall, Onehouse

22nd January – Shelland PCC meeting, 7.30pm at New Farm Granary, Shelland

28th January – Great Finborough PCC meeting, 7pm at Great Finborough Church

Meet Up Mondays in Church Hall, Combs

Our first meeting for 2026 will be a 'Bring and Buy' taking place on **5th January 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. Services will take place on **Christmas Eve** and **New Year's Eve** as usual.

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

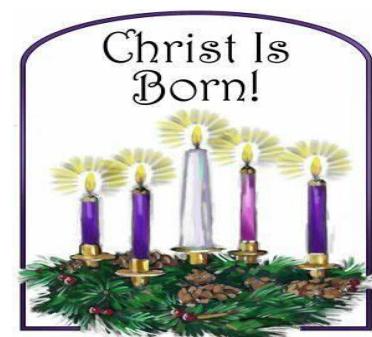
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84537834344?pwd=dmZRdXpkbXNpUk15aVNjdzMwdmg5dz09>

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 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; 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. Amen.



Readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

The Old Testament reading is taken from Isaiah 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

The Holy Gospel is taken from Luke 2.1-20 : Glory to you O Lord

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the

town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Intercessions

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Father, your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

There was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your son Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.' Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph and the saints through him who is your Word made flesh,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

Collect for The First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The readings for the First Sunday of Christmas are Isaiah 63.7-9 and Matthew 2.13-end.

**Please remember the families and loved ones of those who have recently died.
May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.**

Services on 4th January 2026: The Feast of the Epiphany

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

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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