

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

4th January 2026 : The Feast of the Epiphany

Church Services Today:

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

*Join Zoom Meeting - Meeting ID: 882 6049 3673 Passcode: 022305

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88260493673?pwd=dC9qbG5odVpyUktwcm56bGFxSlBqUT09>

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. 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>

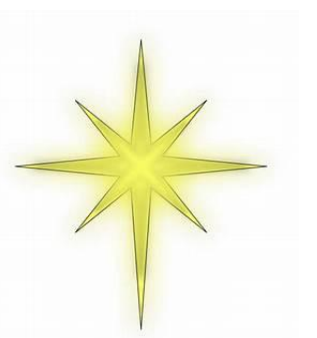
Prayer Group

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 Feast of the Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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

The Old Testament reading is taken from Isaiah 60.1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.
This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel is taken from Matthew 2.1-12 : Glory to you O Lord

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him

homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Intercessions

Heavenly Father, your son came into our world in human form and you gave him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

Through your prophets, Lord, you spoke words of blessing on the people of Israel. We ask today for your blessing upon all who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. We pray that where Christians are divided over doctrine and interpretation of scripture your voice will be heard speaking the true and living Word, calling for unity in love and peace among all believers.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord, as the shepherds once did we have celebrated the birth of Jesus among us. As they once did, enable us now to glorify and praise you and to tell others of our experience of your presence in our lives. We pray for the life of the churches in our benefice and today we pray especially for Joanne in her ministry as our bishop. We pray that you will bless her and keep her, that you will be gracious to her and give her the peace, wisdom and understanding she needs in her work among us.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for all who wield power in this world and who have responsibility for the welfare of others. We pray for the victims of those who abuse that power and deny that responsibility and we pray for the people of all countries where there is not the freedom of speech, thought, belief and the right to life that we enjoy and perhaps take for granted.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, you sent your son to live among us in human form and he knows the dark side of human life, the suffering, the fearing, the grieving and the despairing. We pray in his name that you will be alongside all who are now travelling a dark and painful road. We remember those on our prayer list and those we hold in the silence of our hearts.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, as we celebrate the birth of a baby into our world we also pray for those whose lives in this world have ended and who now receive healing and the blessing of eternal peace in your presence. As we remember them, help us to live in the faith that, in Christ, death has become the gateway to life and hold us in your love in life and death.

Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, your son came into our world in human form and you gave him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to your glory who is God and Father of us all.

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

Services for 11th January: The First Sunday of Epiphany

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

**Please remember the families and loved ones of those who have recently died.
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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