

# 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

### 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 : The Third Sunday of Lent

#### Church Services Today:

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

#### Forthcoming Events

9<sup>th</sup> March – Rural Coffee Caravan, 10am to 12pm at Trinity Hall, Onehouse

9<sup>th</sup> March – Rural Coffee Caravan, 1pm to 3pm at Harleston Church

9<sup>th</sup> March – Harleston PCC meeting, 7.00pm at Trinity Hall, Onehouse

11<sup>th</sup> March – Lent Lunch, 12pm to 2pm at Maple Lodge, High Road, Great Finborough

12<sup>th</sup> March – Rural Coffee Caravan, 10am to 12pm at Combs Green, Combs

14<sup>th</sup> March – Buxhall Tea Room, 12pm to 3pm at Buxhall Village Hall

21<sup>st</sup> March – Messy Church for Easter!, 10.30am to 12pm at Trinity Hall, Onehouse

25<sup>th</sup> March – Deanery Synod, 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Earl Stonham

28<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Egg Hunt, 10am to 12pm, Little Finborough Church, £3.50/hunter

#### Meet Up Mondays in Church Hall, Combs

Our next meeting will take place on **16<sup>th</sup> March 2026** from 10.30am to 12.30pm, for further details 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](mailto:emooney6@sky.com).

### **Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent**

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 Exodus 17.1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

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

#### **The Holy Gospel is taken from John 4.5-42 : Glory to you O Lord**

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become

in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’ But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you do not know about.’ So the disciples said to one another, ‘Surely no one has brought him something to eat?’ Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, “Four months more, then comes the harvest”? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, “One sows and another reaps.” I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.’ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I have ever done.’ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.’

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

### **Intercessions**

God of darkness and of light, we pray for your world: for places of war, famine and drought, for places of intolerance where the freedom to question is limited, for

places where difference is not allowed, for places of poverty and scarcity, and for those who profit from these situations, that they will be reborn into your love for humankind.

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

God of our journey, we pray for ourselves, that we stay faithful even when our lives take us to difficult places, or when the way ahead is unclear and unknown. Help us to be faithful in times of doubt, by day and in the soul's dark night, in times of certainty and in times of questioning.

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

We thank you Father for your many miracles of healing, and we pray for all who administer to the sick and infirm. We bring before you in a moment of quietness those we know or love who are ill or in need at this time, and we name them in our hearts. May they find encouragement and peace in your presence.

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

Merciful God, we commend into your hands those who have departed this life. You gave them breath and loved them through their journey of life. Receive them now at the end of that journey and may they rest in everlasting peace.

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

Everlasting God, in so many ways you have taught us that you alone can be trusted, even when it might seem that you are far away from us. Help us to remember this fact and feel your loving presence as we go from this time of worship and return to our everyday lives.

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

**Services for 15<sup>th</sup> March: The Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday**

9.30 am	Holy Communion	Harleston
11.00 am	Family Communion	Combs Church Hall
3.00 pm	Evensong	Little Finborough
6.00 pm	Compline	Zoom Service

**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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