

The Combs and Finborough News Sheet

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

WELCOME as we keep in touch, pray and support each other.



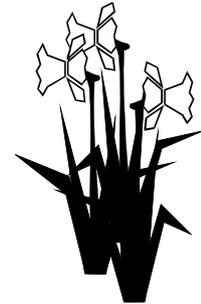
14th March 2021 4th Sunday of Lent: **Mothering Sunday**

Welcome to the **Zoom service of Holy Communion**. You might like to light a candle. Following Orthodox tradition you may wish to join us with a piece of bread as the 'Bread of Fellowship' given to those in their churches who do not receive the Sacrament.

Collect for today

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord..

Amen



Readings

The Old Testament reading is taken from 1 Samuel 1 20-28

²⁰ In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.'

²¹ The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. ²² But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time. ²³ Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the LORD establish his word. So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. ²⁴ When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. ²⁵ Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶ And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. ²⁷ For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. ²⁸ Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

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

Holy Gospel is taken from **Luke 2 22-40: Glory to you O Lord**

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), ²⁴ 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.'

²⁵ 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. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to

your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ 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, ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ 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

Hannah and Mary present their sons to God for Him to bless them and use them for His glory.

Let us pray:

We give thanks for the Church, our mother, who brought us to birth in the family of Christ, through the waters of baptism.

We pray that all Christians will hear again God's call to mother those in need, and bring them home to God.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those in authority in our nation and in our world. May they learn from the example of Jesus Christ that true power is the power to feed the poor and the hungry, to make a home for the homeless and to offer hospitality to the broken-hearted.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community. May we see each other as brothers and sisters, called to sit at God's family table together. Let us work together for that great day when God comes again to restore heaven and earth.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer today, in mind, body or spirit. In particular, we pray for those who have lost a motherly presence, and for those who have never known a mother's love. May they find consolation in God, the one in whom every family on earth finds its home.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have loved us and nurtured us in faith. May we be bold to share what we have received.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all those who have gone before us into the many mansions of the Father's home. May we learn from them to trust God's care and provision for us, all the days of our life and into our death.

Lord, in your mercy. **All Hear our prayer.**

[Vacancy or Interregnum Prayer]

Dear Lord,
call to our churches a true Shepherd,
a man or woman of God,

a minister of Christ,
and make us, with him or her,
a church joyful in worship and united in witness, working, caring, praising, loving,
to the glory of your Name,
through Christ Our Lord.

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

Stowmarket Foodbank
Supporting individuals and families in crisis

Your donations are very gladly received at this time of considerable need either by being left at a Supermarket in the box provided or in the Box outside the Food Bank in the Community Centre Hillside Stowmarket between 9 and 1

each weekday. **Monetary donations may be made through kindlink which can be reached by their website: www.livingit.org.uk There is a red donate button.**

I am available together with Rev Alison and members of the Ministry Team for conversations with anyone of you. It is a worrying and most difficult time. The Churchwardens and PCC Chairpersons are meeting to consider how best to respond to the present situation and I know many of you are doing all you can to support those in need both financially and perhaps more importantly with your time. All of us much regret that we do not feel it wise to open our churches for worship, but please watch this space. We will as soon as we can. Canon Pauline

GDPR

We all know that form filling is a pain but this is for the protection of all of us. If we are to be able to communicate with you we need to have a GDPR [Data Protection] form from each of you. It gives us permission to keep your data, e g name, address, e-mail, phone number and the way you wish us to be able to communicate with you. If you have not yet completed a GDPR form please contact Lisa or Pauline to either check if you have completed one or if you can't remember doing it please ask and we can check and make sure that our list is up to date. We need this to be completed by the end of March 2021 in order to be able to keep sending you this Pew Sheet either by post or e mail and the links for Zoom meetings and services [and technically also to be able to phone you!]. If you have changed your e mail or postal address or phone number from the last form you submitted we unfortunately need a new one. This is important for us as a Benefice as it means we can keep in touch. Thank you for your forbearance, Canon Pauline.

Safeguarding

Prior to moving to his new Benefice, Rev Chris wrote to as many people as he could regarding their Safeguarding training. Lisa sent out the letter from Rev Chris via email. It has come to our attention that a few people are confused about the letters they received and are unsure what level of training they are required to complete. In brief summary the training levels are:

Basic – any person in church who holds a role, for example Welcomer, Flower Arranger, Cleaners, Choir members And many more

Foundation – All PCC members, Group helpers for example messy church helpers, Choir

C2 Leadership – Church Wardens, Elders, Group Leaders for example Choir leaders, Messy Church Leaders

This is only a brief summary so if you are unsure about what level of training you are required to complete please go to <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/for-parishes/promoting-a-safer-church/safeguarding-training/> for more details.

If you are unsure if your training is due for renewal, or have any other questions, please contact: lisa.hicks@live.co.uk Lisa is a volunteer trainer for our Benefice so will do her best to assist, or direct you to others who can.

Dates: Monday 15th March 7.30 pm Buxhall PCC on Zoom
Tuesday 16th 7.30 pm Little Finborough PCC on Zoom
Wednesday 17th 7.30 pm Onehouse PCC on Zoom

Lent Study Group

We are holding a Lent Study Group on Zoom every Wednesday in Lent at 4.00pm. The course we are following is "Living Lent with Mark" the link for which is below <https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f214e41ab1e4/content/pages/documents/1591624689.pdf>

The link for joining the study group is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83457517641?pwd=UzIBcTQ4OHhVdGNadTdOMUFXK0VDUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 5751 7641

Passcode: 569476

If you would like a printed copy of the study material please let Canon Pauline know.

Mondays at 4pm

On Zoom each week for anyone who wishes to join for an informal chat with a cup of tea and biscuit.

This is going well

Contact details from Canon Pauline or Lisa

All most welcome



A free phonenumber of hymns, reflections and prayers



Craft Club

Join us for an evening of fun, laughter, chat and a little crafting! Each week we will attempt to make a different item, such as a keyring, bookmark or gift tag. With Easter approaching, we shall use this as the theme for many of our sessions. The final week before Easter will include an Easter Bonnet Competition

7pm on Fridays: 5th February to 26th March

Contact Lisa to book a place and receive your resource pack:

lisa.hicks@live.co.uk



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

Roger Smith, Mary Hartley.

May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory

All events are subject to change according to regulation

Morning Prayer on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10am, **Bible study** continues as our Lent Discussion Group on Wednesdays at 4pm on Zoom – please see above or ask for details

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/safeguarding>

This pew sheet is also now published on village websites including Combs Village

<http://www.combsvillage.org.uk/st-marys-church/pew-sheets/>

Associate Priest: Rev Canon Pauline Higham 01449 771791 paulinehigham@googlemail.com

Rural Dean: Revd Canon Diane Williams 01449 720316