

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 especially those who cannot come back to our buildings yet.



6th December 2020 2nd Sunday of Advent

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.

Welcome to those back in Church at **Buxhall** and **Little Finborough** today.

Collect for today

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
as judge and saviour,
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God **Amen**



Readings

Epistle Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

Holy Gospel Mark 1.1-8 **Glory to you O Lord**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight" ',

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

Intercessions

As we gather expectantly in God's presence, let us pray

God of cleansing and liberating power,
give us the courage and perception
to see ourselves as we really are,
and repent of our sin;
may the whole church be cleansed and renewed.

Silence

Come O Come Emmanuel:

come and live in us.

God of wisdom and truth,
we pray for the world's leaders and all in authority,
that they may lead and govern wisely and honestly,
without interruption and for the common good.

Silence

Come O Come Emmanuel:

come and live in us.

God of love and faithfulness,
may every family be surrounded and upheld
by your presence,
the conflicts healed and needs provided for,
and every act of kindness blessed.

Silence

Come O Come Emmanuel:
come and live in us

God of wholeness,
bring your reassurance and healing,
your hope and patience
to all who are suffering in any way;
especially we remember....
bring freedom to all imprisoned by hate or guilt,
And a change of heart to all who need to forgive

Silence

Come O Come Emmanuel:
come and live in us

God of unending life,
Bring life in its fullness to us here,
and to those who have completed their time on earth.
We particularly remember.....
May they know the freedom and joy of your heaven.

Silence

Come O Come Emmanuel:
come and live in us

God of warmth and brightness,
we praise you for all your many blessings,
and above all for coming to save us and set us free.

Merciful Father

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

Diocesan Prayer for Generosity

Loving God, you are always with us,
and give us all we need
to be your church in Suffolk.

Help us, we pray,

to give as we have received:

abundantly, generously, joyfully,

that our worship and our service

may bear witness to your kingdom of unfailing love.

In the name of your son who gave his life for us, 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.**

A Call to Prayer for the Nation from the Archbishops. All have been asked to join each evening at 6pm <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation>
I can provide a leaflet if you are not able to access the link.

Study and Prayer Courses

We are following the Diocesan **Course 'Living Advent'** on Zoom from 4pm on Wednesdays– join when you can.

– the booklet is available in hard copy. Log in details from Pauline or Chris

AND there is another course that looks interesting. It's at www.adventonline.faith and is a series with an **Advent Calendar**, thoughts, music and traditional things for each day.

Christmas Craft Club



On Zoom from Wednesday's at 7pm. Details from Lisa 01359 245013

Making simple Christmas decorations.



Children's Activities over Christmas and Christingle

Pauline and the Messy Church Teams have prepared packs once again and if you didn't receive one over half term and would like one please contact Pauline or Chris as there are some spares or of course, to put your name on the list for next time.



Cake Stall (Thank you to those who supported Onehouse yesterday)

**Combs Church Hall Car Park Poplar Hill
Wednesday 16th December 11-1pm**

in aid of Combs Church

Offers of cakes to Jenny on 615956

Thank you to those who encouraged us at **Supporters Day at Gt Finborough** on Saturday. We had a truly wonderful response – but there is still time!

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

Lilly Riley, Elaine Tomlinson and Pat Turner

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, Advent Group on Wednesdays at 4pm continue on Zoom – 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/>

Rector: Rev Christopher Childs – 01449 673280

Associate Rector Rev Canon Pauline Higham 01449 771791

All information to combsandfinboroughparishes@aol.com