# April May 2024





Church News and Views for the Parishes of Badingham Bruisyard Cransford Dennington Rendham & Sweffling

## Services for April

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Sunday	7th	8.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington
Easter	2	9.30am	Holy Com.	Sweffling
		9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	14th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Cransford
Easter	3	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
		11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
Sunday	21st	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Bruisyard
Easter	4	9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	24th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Rendham
Easter	5	9.30am	Matins	Cransford
		11.00am	Holy Communion	Dennington

#### **NOTE**

The UPPER ALDE BENEFICE is now without a Priest in Charge so our Holy Communion Services may/will be by extension.

# April May 2024

#### **Easter Message:**

On Maundy Thursday, Jesus met with his disciples for what was their Last Supper. In humility and love he washed his disciples' feet. He really was the Servant King. Jesus knew what lay ahead of him and he prepared his friends. Later he was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemene by Roman Guards and on Good Friday, following his trial, the crowds called for him to be crucified! He died on the cross, next to two thieves.

The light seemed to have gone out. The hope of the world seemed to have been taken away.

To many today it may seem that the light of our nation has dimmed. However, Easter Day brings both light and hope to us all. It is the day when God raised Jesus from the dead. The Resurrection story reminds us that God defeated both sin and death as His Son was raised in glory from the dead. Light and hope returned to the hearts of the disciples and we are all reminded that God knows us all by name and welcomes all the departed with the Easter promise of eternal life.

This Easter, live in the light and hope of the Resurrection story and be light and hope in your local community, to your neighbours and families and friends. Be light and hope to those in need and try to follow Christ's example of being a servant to all.

(abridged from an Easter message from the Vicar of St. Peter's Church, Sherringham

On Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup>, at a service in Dennington Church, the Benefice said a formal goodbye to the Rev. Martin and Mrs Linda Percival. Martin served as Priest in charge of our Benefice since 2017/8 and Dennington church was packed with family and friends, and parishioners from all six churches wishing to say thank you to Martin for his ministry and to him and Linda for their pastoral care. Each church had contributed towards a leaving gift of a voucher for a hotel stay of their choice and for flowers and an art book for Linda, painting being one of her hobbies. After the service everyone enjoyed a glass of wine or juice and delicious savoury and sweet finger food provided by the parishes. We will very much miss their regular presence in our parishes but, as they still live locally, we will still meet them as friends. We wish them every blessing and happiness as they start the next phase of their lives.

#### Thank you from Martin and Linda:

We have returned from our break in Oxfordshire and would like to thank everyone for their support over my time as part time Priest-in-Charge and also at my final service at Dennington. It was so good to see such a large congregation.

Linda and I were really surprised and most grateful for the very kind gift of a holiday voucher and the flowers and book. We have arranged a three -day break in Worcestershire in June around the time of our wedding anniversary.

Martin

#### **Update on Interregnum**

On Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, the first of the official meetings leading up to advertising the vacant position of Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice, was held in Bruisyard Village Hall. The Rural Dean, the deputy Rural

Dean and the Lay Chairman of Loes Deanery, and the Churchwardens, members of the PCCs and congregations of the six churches were present. The meeting was held to clarify what the parishes would like, or could afford, for a new incumbent.

Following on from this, a second meeting will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> with the Archdeacon, the Rural Dean and Churchwardens, in order to further this process. In the meantime, each parish is responsible for organising clergy, lay readers or elders to cover their own services. As it is not possible at this time to ascertain how long the interregnum will last.

#### **Dennington**

The retirement service for Martin Percival was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February and what a testament to him that so many people were there! We are so grateful for Martin's ministry in our benefice and wish him and Linda a very happy retirement.

#### **Bell Ringers**

Thank you to the all the Bell Ringers who rang for Martin's service. We have three new ringers – Freddie Fell, Johnnie Mosse and Edward Nobbs who have started training as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Congratulations to all of them. If anyone else would like to start training please contact Matt Lunn.

#### **Future services**

While we look for a replacement for Martin we hope to continue the same pattern of services but do check the village website in case there are any changes.

#### **AGM**

our AGM will be held in the church on 17<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 pm Everyone is very welcome.

#### St Michael's Rendham

The farewell service for the Revd. Martin Percival took place at St Mary the Virgin, Dennington at 11.00am on the 25th of February. Church members from all the six parishes came in number to show their affection esteem for Martin and Linda and to express their sadness at his retirement.

A presentation was made following the service on behalf of the whole Benefice. Our own congregation would like to express their gratitude to Martin for his long ministry to us and wish him a very happy retirement.

Our 9.30am service on 14 April will include the display of the Memorial Lilies and the reading out of the names of all those who are remembered.

Charles and Frances

#### **Report from St Peter's Bruisyard.**

The Harvest supper in the village hall on October 28th was a great success and enjoyed by all, half the proceeds were donated to St Peter's (£354). Many thanks for all who worked so hard and it brought

#### Who's Who in the Upper Alde Benefice

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#### **Other Useful Information**

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so many people together. Similarly the twelve night supper in the village hall on the 6th of January was also a very enjoyable evening and thanks again for all those involved in the preparation.

The Rev Martin Percival last service was held At St Mary's Dennington on the 25th of February. It was very well attended and it showed our appreciation and thanks for all he has done for the Benefice and we wish Martin and Linda a happy retirement.

There will be a Maundy Thursday service at St Peter's Bruisyard on the 28th March at 7 pm.

#### **Happy Easter**

Rupert and Sally

#### **CRANSFORD NEWS**

"Spring is sprung, grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is? The bird is on the wing, but that's absurd. The wing is on the bird."

So sang the poet Ogden Nash. Since the last issue, the gardens and woods are full of crocus, primrose, violets, cowslips, daffodils and the little jonquils, all to be replaced too soon by long grass, cow parsley and



Queen Anne's Lace. As I write, the trees are still bare with only catkins and the first blossom on the fruit trees showing. In no time it will be summer. What will it bring? We live in worrying times.

We had a good turn out for Mothering Sunday, and posies of spring flowers were blessed and distributed. Many thanks to Elna for these. Easter is upon us with it hope and rebirth. Do join us for the Procession of Witness on Good Friday leaving St Peter's at 11am. Let us hope for a new priest who will accommodate our diverse six ancient parishes, demanding and set in our ways. We all will need God's help.

Patrick

#### **Badingham**

#### **COFFEE & BACON ROLLS**

SATURDAY 27th APRIL BADINGHAM VILLAGE HALL 10am - 12noon Vegetarian and gluten free is available.

We look forward to seeing you
Please note it is the 4th Saturday of the month and not the usual
3rd Saturday.

#### 'THE DEER PARKS OF SUFFOLK'

A Talk in Badingham Village Hall Friday 28th June 7pm BY DR. ROSEMARY HOPPITT



IN AID OF BADINGHAM CHURCH ROOF REPAIRS

We hope this will be a pleasant summer evening beginning with a

glass of Pimms on arrival and with a light buffet supper after what promises to be a fascinating talk.

More details in the next Link / Echo but please book the date in your diary.

#### Saint John the Baptist's Church, Badingham

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 7pm in Badingham Church Chancel.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Sweffling

#### EASTER SERVICE

Easter Sunday Benefice Service and Lily Festival March 31<sup>st</sup>, and as it is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month there will be a Benefice Service of Holy Communion at 10.00 a.m. in Sweffling.

The service will be conducted by the Rural Dean, the Rev. Chris Davey, who is Rector of Framlingham. EVERYONE is invited to this Festival Service, for which the church will be decorated with lilies, each given in memory of a family member or friend.

The Lent Soup Lunch which was held on March 23rd raised £296, which will be sent to TEAR Fund for famine relief. Many thanks to all who donated soups, (we had 10 different varieties) and/or raffle prizes, all the helpers on the day and to everyone who supported this event.

### Services for May

Sunday	5th	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	Dennington
Easter	6	9.30am	Holy Com.	Sweffling
		9.30am	Matins	Bruisyard
		11.00am	Holy Com. X Ext	Badingham
Sunday	12th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Cransford
Lent	7	9.30am	Matins	Rendham
		11.00am	Family Service	Dennington
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WhitSunday	19th	9.30am	Holy Com. x Ext	Bruisyard
Pentecost		9.30am	Matins	Sweffling
		11.00am	Holy Com. x Ext	Badingham
Sunday	26th		Holy Com. x Ext	Rendham
Trinity	1		Matins	Cransford
		11.00am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	Dennington

#### Articles for publication should be with the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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