

Spring 2016

Tasburgh and Tharston Church Newsletter



Love is in the air

Mid-February tends to see an increase in the sales of chocolates, roses (especially the single red ones) and solitaire diamond rings. Greetings card companies and restaurants benefit as well... love is in the air as Valentine's Day approaches.

The love that is celebrated on the 14th February is a romantic love – a gift of God, to be cherished and lived out in the context of a long-term, faithful relationship. While many relationships work out well, this is not always the case. For a whole variety of reasons, this love often ends in tears. Sadly it can sometimes prove to be fickle, false and faithless.

God loves each one of us – no matter who we are, what we look like, or what our personal history may be. But his love for us is robust and certainly not fragile. It is not at the mercy of circumstance or subject to mood and whim. It is the kind of love he calls us to have for one another.

The Bible describes it like this:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails... (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)

I suspect that if we were to meditate on those words on a daily basis – and really attempt to live them out, then the world would be a better place and no amount of chocolate, roses or diamonds could bring anything like the joy we would experience as a result.

With my love

Rev Dawn

Waveney Foodbank

This operates in the Long Stratton Area providing emergency help in all sorts of family crises to people referred by local care agencies. Many of you will put items in the baskets at the Co-op in Long Stratton or leave groceries at Tasburgh or Tharston Churches. In the 2 years that St Mary's in Long Stratton it has been open as a distribution centre over 300 adults and children have been supported. **There is an urgent need of the following items UHT milk, long-life fruit juice, small jars of coffee, instant mash, rice pudding and men's and women's toiletries.**

The organisers are very grateful for the continuing support.

Dates for your diary

Wednesdays in Lent March 2, 9, 16 at 7.00pm

Lent Reflections on the Stations of the Cross and Compline at Tasburgh Church for half an hour.

Friday March 4th Women's World Day of Prayer 2.00 pm

Service at Long Stratton Congregational Church. All Welcome

Saturday March 19 from 10.00am Tasburgh Church Spring Clean

All help welcome - Viv Taylor

Holy Week across the Tas Valley Benefice

Monday March 21	Compline at St Mary's Tharston	7.30pm
Tuesday March 22	Compline at St Mary's Shotesham	7.30pm
Wednesday Mar 23	Compline at St Mary's, Newton Flotman	7.30pm
Thursday March 24	Maundy Thursday service at Swainsthorpe	7.30pm
Good Friday March 25	All Age Service at Tasburgh	11.00am
	'7 Words from the Cross at Saxlingham'	3.00pm
	Tenebrae at St Mary's, Shotesham	8.00pm
Easter Day March 27	Services in the Parish Churches.	

Sunday April 17 3.30pm Evensong at Norwich Cathedral when Canon Sally Gaze will be preaching there for the first time.

Tharston Church

Tharston Church Wardens:

Mrs Sue Hubbard 530072 Mrs Pat Read 530325

Please feel very welcome to come to worship at Tharston Church. The services at Tharston are usually from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer with its traditional language. When there is not a service at Tharston then the service at Tasburgh may be seen as a joint service or people would be welcomed at any of the churches in the Tas Valley Team. Please do check service times with the churchwardens or on the Tas Valley website www.tasvalley.org as unavoidable changes may occur within the quarter covered by this newsletter

For the past several years Tharston Church has been open daily for visitors, prayer and quiet contemplation during the daytime. This relies on a few parishioners being prepared to open and close the church on a daily basis for **one week**, approximately **once** every **three months**. Please contact Barbara Cattermole 53 0739 if you could help the community in this way.

Tharston Church Services

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| March 13 | 11.00am | B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer |
| March 20 | 8.00am | B.C.P 1662 Palm Sunday Holy Communion |
| March 21 | 7.30pm | Compline for Holy Week |
| March 27 | 11.00am | Easter Day Holy Communion |
| April 10 | 11.00am | B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer |
| April 17 | 8.00am | B.C.P 1662 Holy Communion |
| May 8 | 11.00am | B.C.P 1662 Morning Prayer |
| May 15 | 8.00am | B.C.P 1662 Holy Communion for Pentecost |

Tasburgh News

St Mary's Freedom Café

St Mary's Freedom Café has been running for over a year now, at 10.30 on the first Sunday of every month, at Preston Primary School. We are so pleased to see new people and to welcome those who have become regulars. The themes this year are based on films. In February it was 'Inside Out' that gave us food for thought.

Why not come and see for yourself, bring the kids to try an activity while you all enjoy eating bacon rolls, drinking real coffee and joining in conversation -or reading the papers, Please feel welcome to come to see what it's about or speak to
Martin and Rach Hartley 471474

It is Lent and Easter is now nearly upon us. Yeah Chocolate! But that is not really what it all about. At Easter we will be celebrating Jesus' resurrection from the dead in different ways across the benefice. So please keep an eye on the rota in the porch or benefice website:- <http://tasvalley.org/>

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team has been a little quiet in recent months. We have not been out prayer visiting recently, we think it would be rather unfair to ask people to stand on their door steps in winter, but we will resume visiting when the days are warmer.

We continue to pray for the village and if you know of anyone who needs visiting or has a prayer request please contact us
Kate Cakebread 471356.

Tasburgh Church News

Tasburgh Church Wardens:

Julia Orpin 470983

Kate Cakebread 471356,

Christmas was a wonderful time of year again at St Mary's. The carol service was wonderful and the we hope the live Nativity was as much fun to watch as it was to perform. Thank you to everyone who helped with making Christmas special at St Mary's. I would like to thank you all individually but I would hate to miss someone out!

Kate Cakebread

Tasburgh Church Services

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|----------|---------|--|
| March 6 | 9.30am | Mothering Sunday Morning Prayer |
| | 10.30am | Freedom Café Church at Preston School |
| March 13 | 9.30am | Holy Communion & Children's Church |
| March 20 | 9.30am | Palm Sunday All Age Worship |
| March 25 | 11.00am | All Age Good Friday Service |
| March 27 | 9.30am | Family Easter Holy Communion |
| April 3 | 9.30am | B.C.P Morning Prayer |
| | 10.30am | Freedom Café at Preston Primary School |
| April 10 | 9.30am | Family Communion & Children's Church |
| April 17 | 9.30am | All Age Helpers Service |
| April 24 | 9.30am | Holy Communion & Children's Church |
| May 1 | 9.30am | B.C.P Morning Prayer |
| | 10.30am | Freedom Café Church at Preston School |
| May 8 | 9.30am | Family Communion & Children's Church |
| May 15 | 9.30am | All Age Service for Pentecost |
| May 22 | 9.30am | Holy Communion & Children's Church |
| May 31 | 9.30am | Holy Communion & Children's Church |

National Week of Prayer May 8 to May 15 *Thy Kingdom Come*

During the week May 8 to May 15, The Church of England is being called to pray particularly for evangelism. This is the week leading up to The Feast of Pentecost [50 days after Easter] when Christians remember the time when the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' first disciples and they were empowered to become convincing preachers and witnesses, to anyone who would listen, of all that Jesus had said and done. And so the Church came into being and has spread throughout the world.

The churches of the Tas Valley Team Ministry will be joining in with this call. We intend to offer opportunities to all to come to one or more the churches each day to experience different ways of encountering God and praying. The week starts at the Benefice Praise service May 8 at 7.00pm at Newton. At Tasburgh we hope to have something special on Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Friday 13 and at Tharston Thursday 12.

There will be more details on the Tas Valley website after Easter.

St Mary's Guild -

Thank you for your support at fundraising events.

Meets on first Mondays at 2.30pm in The Church Room at Tasburgh

New members and visitors would be very welcome

March 7 Janet and friends

April 4 Poetry with Mrs Trixie Dye

**Saturday April 23 10.30am-12.00 Coffee Morning Open Garden
by invitation of Mrs Ann Crawshay at 19a Church Road, Tasburgh**

May 9 Mrs Caroline Beer The National Trust

June 6 Pat Parsons Talk and Quiz

More information from the secretary Jenny England 470647

Tas Valley Cell Church

Cells are vital units of the body - and cells in church life are small groups, which contain the DNA of what it means to be church. We meet to grow in faith, to pray and support each other, to learn from the bible and to join in actively sharing our faith and serving the wider community. New members are welcome do get in touch.

Cell Contacts:

Mart Hartley -	15 yrs +, Sun eves, Tasburgh)	0784 910 5554
Sally Gaze -	Monday evenings	470762
Rach Hartley -	Cafe Cell Tuesday evenings	471474
Kate Cakebread	Wednesday evenings in Tasburgh	471356
Sally Gaze -	Wednesday evenings in Newton	470762
Richard Bond -	Wednesday evenings in Saxlingham	578093
Andy Cox	Thursday evenings in Tharston c/o	470762
Vicky Ball -	Thursday evenings in Newton	471506
Wayne Doman -	Sat afternoon Special Me Group	471933

Youth Cells (JAM) meet on Monday evenings 7-8.30 to explore faith and have fun together. Contact chris@tasvalley.org; or 470762

Local Houses of Prayer -

These are Christians meeting together to worship, to pray God's blessing on their patch and to encourage one another. They are praying for their neighbours, their community and the area in which they live. LHoP provide an opportunity for Christians from different traditions, to come together to pray with others living in the same area. At the moment there are 2 growing groups meeting in Tasburgh. It would be wonderful to have more and also to be able to have groups in Tharston as well. If you would like to know more please contact: Jenny Cooper 470141

Regular Events/Groups

Bible Study Group – Meets on Tuesday afternoons after Easter. New people would be very welcome. Please contact Philip Simmons 499041.

Children's Church – Tasburgh has a Children's Church for children aged from three years. This runs on the second and fourth Sunday each month 9.30-10.30am All welcome. Contact Andrea Sluman on 471529.

Emmanuel Group. Local House of Prayer – Meeting weekly, at 10am on Fridays For more details phone Shirley Brooks 470369

Local House of Prayer - 1st and 3rd Wednesday Mornings at 10.00am Please phone Andrea 471 529 for further information

Music in Worship – If you'd like to sing in Tasburgh Church Choir or explore learning the organ, phone Sarah Norman on 471505.

Prayer - for the parishes takes place every day. Please give prayer requests to a churchwarden, clergy person, prayer box or board in church. On Wednesdays we meet to pray at Tasburgh Church at 9.00am.

Tasburgh Crafts Club – Come and try new skills in a relaxed atmosphere. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 10am – 12noon in the Church Room, Tasburgh.

Tasburgh Coffee Pot – Come and make new friends at the Coffee Pot. We meet every Wednesday from 2 – 3. 45pm in the Church Room, Tasburgh For a chat with tea or coffee & cake. All ages welcome. Jenny England

Team Rector Rev'd Canon Sally Gaze: sally@tasvalley.org
01508 470762 The Rectory, Church Road, Newton Flotman NR15 1QB

Team Vicar and main minister for Tharston

Rev'd Dawn Davidson dawn@tasvalley.org 01508 498924
The New Rectory, The Street, Saxlingham Nethergate, NR15 1AJ

Pioneer Curate and main minister for Tasburgh

Rev'd Martin Hartley: mart@tasvalley.org 0784 910 5554
The New Rectory, Church Hill, Tasburgh NR15 1NB