

AMELCOTE BENEFICE



The Messenger



2016

The Rector, The Reverend Marion Reynolds

The Rectory, Pattishall, 01327 830573

Honorary Assistant Priest (Retired), The Reverend Hugh Kent

Readers: Peter Stiling, Nigel Strang, Sue Titheridge

Certified Lay Worship Leader: Jean Pugh

Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830 287
Gayton	David Coppock	01604 859 645
	Andy Hartley	01604 858 360
Pattishall	Gail Stuart	01327 831 534
	Ian Pugh	01327 830 909
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350 077
	Philip Titheridge	01327 351 219

From the Rector

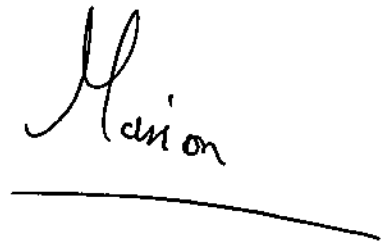
Julian of Norwich has featured recently in my life. For those of you who aren't familiar with her, she was an ordinary woman in the 14th century who became very seriously ill and was not expected to live. At the height of her illness she received a vision (she calls it 'shewings') of Christ's Passion. She recovered and over the next 20 years or so meditated on it and wrote it all down in what has become the first book written in English by a woman: "Revelations of Divine Love". Following her illness she became an anchorite at St Julian's church in Norwich, hence her name.

At one point she tells of God showing her something as small and insignificant as a hazelnut which puzzled her until God told her that it represented all of creation. We have recently completed our harvest services where we think about creation and the fruits of creation so abundantly given us by God. At one of our benefice harvest services this passage was read. We are reminded that big is not necessarily best or the only thing of any value in God's creation.

A few weeks ago in our Gospel reading the disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus replied that faith as small as a mustard seed was sufficient. Strange thing to say maybe but again a reminder that small is just as important as big!

Time after time people who very rarely, if ever, come to our churches tell me that they do believe in God but Is that faith as small as a mustard seed? We need to remember that from hazelnuts, acorns, mustard seeds etc large trees can grow but they do need nurturing. God nurtures them by planting them in good soil and giving them sun, rain and space to grow. So, how can we nurture faith – our faith as well as that of those who so often do not even acknowledge having any faith? How can we increase our faith? There are a lot of glib answers to that question (and I have heard many of them over the years at clergy gatherings!) but, basically it is by living our faith, not just on a Sunday morning but 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. There is a great song that the children sing at harvest time called "Everywhere around me". The third verse goes: "Don't stop looking,

don't stop believing, God is to be found when you seek Him. All creation tells of his glory, for eternity". Sometimes we do feel that we are small, insignificant, have only a grain of faith. On such occasions sing this chorus to yourself and remember that from little seeds great big trees do grow.



From the Registers

RIP			
6 th October	Marion Waller	Pattishall	Service and burial

Readings for November 2016

30 th October (All Saints)	Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18 Psalms 149	Ephesians 1: 11-end Luke 6: 20-31
6 November 3 rd before Advent	Job 19: 23-27a Psalm 17: 1 - 9	2 Thessalonians 2: 1-5, 13-17 Luke 20: 27-38
13 November (Remembrance)	Malachi 4: 1-2a Psalm 98	2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 Luke 21: 5-19
20 November (Christ the King)	Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Psalm 46	Colossians 1: 11-20 Luke 23: 33-43
27 November (Advent Sunday)	Isaiah 2: 1-5 Psalm 122	Roman 13: 11-end Matthew 24: 36-44
4 December (Advent 2)	Isaiah 11: 1-10 Psalm 72: 1-7 [, 18-19]	Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12


Supporting our Churches: Did you know that the easiest way to ensure that your regular giving to your church is maximised at no cost in money, time, or effort to yourself is to give through Peterborough Diocese? You can set up a standing order mandate payable to the diocese who will then give the money plus the tax refund (as long as you are a UK tax payer) to your church every month. For details ask the church treasurer or Reverend Marion.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 6th November, 3pm, St Mary's, Gayton

Commemoration of the Departed Service

If you wish to have the name(s) of your departed loved ones read out, please let Rev Marion know before the service



**Saturday 3 December 2 - 4.30pm &
Sunday 4 December 10.30am - 4.30pm
Exhibition of Nativity Sets at Holy Cross Church**

Unpacking and setting out the nativity set is an Advent tradition. Whether made of china or wood, bought on holiday or handed down through the family, crafted by an artisan or made by a child – all have their own stories to tell, while reminding us also of the Christmas Story.

This year we invite you to visit a special exhibition of nativity sets at Holy Cross Church. The exhibition will be suitable for all ages, free to enter, and seasonal refreshments will be available.

If you would be willing to let us display your nativity set in the exhibition (which will be supervised throughout), please contact Wendy Watts on 01327 830583– the more sets we have the better it will be!

Food and Fellowship



Winter Warmers at Holy Cross

Following on from our popular “Summer Teas”

We are offering “Light Lunches” on the

1st Sunday of the month from 12.30—14.00

November – December – February – March - April

Come and enjoy a friendly chat over a warming lunch with us.

£4 per person – All proceeds to the Church Fund

Prayer breakfast at the Rectory

Sat 26 Nov 8.30-9.30am

Advent Frugal Lunches at Cold Higham Village Hall

1, 8, 15, 22 December 12:00 - 1:30pm

Come for physical and spiritual sustenance with a soup, bread and cheese lunch and a study based on the Advent Wreath



Not to be missed!

'INTO THE BREACH'

Sunday 4 December at 4.30pm at Gayton Church

Tickets £10 / £5 (children) from 01604 859 444

In aid of Gayton Church Heritage Trust

Mulled wine, mince pies, hot chocolate & cake

George Crocker is keen to liven up his dull life so he decides to join the village Drama Club. What happens then turns his world upside down. Set during the Second World War this nostalgic, funny and moving story will appeal to all, from ten years and up. It is a vivid portrait of village life with all seventeen colourful characters played by one man. Find out more on: <http://intothebreach.info/index.html>



Calendar of Events in our Benefice

Sat 26 Nov	8.30-9.30am	Prayer breakfast at the Rectory
Thursdays 1, 8, 15, 22 December	12-1.30pm	Advent Frugal Lunches at Cold Higham Village Hall
Sat 3 Dec	2-4.30pm	Exhibition of Nativity Sets at Holy Cross Church – seasonal refreshments will be available
Sun 4 Dec	10.30-4.30pm	
Sun 4 Dec	4.30pm	INTO THE BREACH at Gayton Church Tickets £10 / £5 01604 859 444
Sat 10 Dec	Evening	Sponsored quarter peal at Holy Cross, more information to follow
	7.00pm	Pattishall Village Hall – Elvis Evening! Elvis tribute Andy Kelso in concert to support niece Camila’s charity expedition to raise money for Action Medical Research for Children. Contact Robin & Barbara Kelso (01604 857585) for details.
Mon 12 Dec	10-11.30am	Advent Quiet Prayer based around the Jesus Prayer at Holy Cross Church
Fri 16 Dec	7.30pm	An Evening of Festive Music and Words at Holy Cross, Pattishall Enjoy traditional carols, readings and refreshments – an evening for all to enjoy (non-ticketed)

Church Services for November 2016

Date	Time	Service	Venue
6th Nov	8:00am	BCP HC	Pattishall
	9:30am	Informal Worship	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW HC	Gayton
	11:00m	CW HC	Cold Higham
	3:00pm	Commemoration of departed	Gayton
13th Nov	9:30am	Remembrance Service & HC	Tiffield
	9:30am	Remembrance Service	Cold Higham
	10:45am	Remembrance Service & HC	Pattishall
	5:30pm	Remembrance Service	Gayton
20th Nov	8:00am	BCP HC	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW HC	Cold Higham
	9:30am	Morning Prayer	Tiffield
	11:00am	CW Family HC	Gayton
27th Nov	9:30am	CW HC	Pattishall
	9:30am	Family Worship	Cold Higham
	11:00am	Family Service	Tiffield
	6:00pm	Advent Carols	Pattishall
3rd Dec	5:00pm	Taize	Tiffield
4th Dec	8:00am	BCP HC	Pattishall
	9:30am	Informal Worship	Pattishall
	9:30am	CW HC	Gayton
	11:00am	CW HC	Cold Higham

The copy deadline for the December issue of The Messenger is Tuesday 22 November. Please email kirsten.gibbs@virgin.net, phone 01327 830 707, or give to Reverend Marion. Thank you!