

AMELCOTE BENEFICE



The Messenger

February – March 2020

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Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830 287
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	Andy Hartley	01604 858 360
Pattishall	Chris Bulleid	07934 589 685
	Julie Bunker	07773 131 107
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350 077
	Philip Titheridge	01327 351 219



A Note from Peterborough Diocese 'Saying Yes to Life' – Lent and Lambeth 2020

This summer, almost 1,000 bishops from all over the world will be gathering in Canterbury for the Lambeth Conference. Some of the bishops, including from our link dioceses in Korea, will be spending a few days beforehand at Launde Abbey with Bishop Donald and myself.

A key theme of the conference will be the global climate emergency that is already impacting the dioceses from which some of the bishops serve. For example, low-lying areas flooded by rising sea-levels and conflict triggered by expanding deserts, forcing people to move and compete for scarce land. Archbishop Justin has recorded a short interview highlighting this aspect of Lambeth 2020. You can view it [here](#).

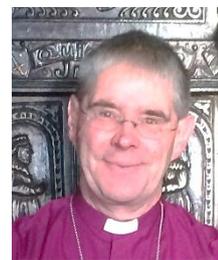
As we approach the season of Lent I'd like to commend two ways in which we can engage with these important matters from the perspective of our Christian faith:

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book, [Saying Yes to Life by Ruth Valerio](#), is a brilliant exploration of what it means to look after God's world, reflecting on creation themes including light, water, land and seasons alongside environmental concerns. It's full of good stories and great insights. Archbishop Justin says that this book "is perfect for individuals and groups to reflect, pray and be challenged together". Copies are currently available for loan from the Bouverie Court Library.

The Church of England's Lent Campaign, ['#LiveLent – Care for God's Creation'](#), has produced challenges for 40 days in adult and children's versions that are available as a pocket-sized booklet, via an app or by email. The aim is to broaden our view of Christ's redeeming mission. The campaign has distributed over 13,000 sample copies – your church may have some. The daily Bible readings, reflections and suggested actions link with Ruth's book. I think both versions are really inspiring and great fun! If you wish to order copies of these books, contact environment@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

In this diocese, we are aiming to make 2020 a year of greater focus on our stewardship of God's earth as the fifth of the Five Marks of Mission – tell the good news of Jesus; teach the faith; tend for all in his name; transform society in line with Kingdom values; *treasure God's creation*. Throughout 2020, look out for new initiatives from the Diocesan Environmental Team.

With my prayers and best wishes for a holy and world-changing Lent,



+John, Bishop of Brixworth

New Messenger editor needed – can you help?

After four years of editing the Amelcote Messenger I'm standing down to focus on other commitments. I've really enjoyed developing Hilary Aslett's excellent work, bringing the Messenger up to 12 pages (most months), introducing new content from the Diocese, and establishing the village-wide Christmas card edition. Thank you to everyone who has given positive feedback – it has been much appreciated!

What's needed next is to consider how the Messenger fits with the weekly sheet and other platforms such as Facebook and 'A Church Near You', and whether we should move to an online only 'mailchimp' type newsletter (better for the environment and keeping costs down, but not so good for parishioners who don't have access to a computer). Is the Messenger just for people who attend church regularly, or does it have a wider outreach role? Should the Messenger editor only attend his / her 'home' PCC meeting, or is there scope to interact with the full benefice to make sure we are representing all of our village / church communities? You can see that there are plenty of opportunities to steer the Messenger into the 2020s – it's not just a case of business as usual!

If you'd like to discuss the role please contact me via Kirsten.gibbs@virgin.net; the interim plan is to put events into the weekly sheet until a new editor emerges – watch for white smoke from Pattishall bell-tower...

Thank you again for all of your support!

Kirsten xx



**The Amelcote Group of Parishes:
Services For February**

	Cold Higham	Gayton	Pattishall	Tiffield
Sunday 2 Feb Candlemas		9.30am Family CW	11am Family Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
Wed 5 Feb			9.30am BCP*	
Sunday 9 Feb	9.30am Family CW		4pm Songs of Praise	11am Family CW
Wed 12 Feb			9.30am MP	
Sunday 16 Feb	9.30am Family Service	11am Morning Prayer	9.30am Family CW	
Wed 19 Feb			9.30am CW	
Sunday 23 Feb			10am Benefice CW	
26 Feb Ash Wednesday			7.00pm BCP	
Sunday 1 March - Lent 1		9.30am Family Communion	11am Family Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
Wed 4 March			9.30am BCP	
Sunday 8 Mar Lent 2	9.30am Family Communion		4pm Choral Evensong + Archdeacon Richard	11am Family Communion
Wed 11 Mar			9.30am MP	
Sun 15 Mar Lent 3	9.30am Family Service	11am Morning Prayer	9.30am Family Communion	

**Cold Higham, Gayton, Pattishall & Tiffield
through April 2020**

	Cold Higham	Gayton	Pattishall	Tiffield
Weds 18 Mar			9.30am BCP	
Mothering Sunday 22 nd				10am Benefice CW
Wed 25 Mar			9.30am CW	
Passion Sunday 29 March	10am Benefice CW			
5 April Palm Sunday		9.30am Family CW	11am Palm Walk Café Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
Maundy Thursday			7.00pm Last Supper	
Good Friday 10 April	2-3pm The Last Hour	7pm Music Reflections		
Saturday 11 April			8pm Service of Light	
12 April Easter Sunday	9.30am Family CW	9.30am Family CW	11am Family CW	11am Family CW
Sunday 19 April	9.30am Morning Prayer	11am Family Service	9.30am Family CW	
Weds 21 April			9.30am BCP	
Sunday 26 Apr		10am Benefice CW		

*With apologies for the alphabet soup!

BCP = Book of Common Prayer, MP = Morning Prayer, CW = Common Worship.
All different types of service; all welcome; always.

Well Group – Monthly Women’s Luncheon and Fellowship

The Well Group meets on the last Thursday of each month from 12-2pm at Astcote Methodist Church. We welcome any woman who would like to have lunch and hear a short talk on a subject related to the Christian faith.

Please contact Alison Brierley albrierley@btinternet.com 07794 742 286 or Ann Atkin ann.atkin51@btinternet.com 01327 830 907 to book a place for lunch, or to find out more.

30 January: Lois Clark

27 February: Speaker TBA

26 March: Speaker TBA



Winter Warmer Lunches at Holy Cross First Sunday of the month February & March 12.30-2.30pm



Enjoy a friendly chat over a warming light lunch of soup, bread and a hot drink.
Donations welcome to support the church.

Saturday 7 March 7.30pm at Holy Cross
The Northampton Concert Band will play “Film Music Favourites”
Bar with wine & soft drinks
£10 ticket from Wendy or Jean

A challenge from Peterborough Diocese!

Which one of our beautiful churches will be registering for the 2020 Northamptonshire Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme?



The Northampton-based charity The Wildlife Trust has announced its 2020 Conservation Churchyard Award Scheme, which aims to help churches to increase the wildlife in their churchyards or gardens. Churches can register for the scheme and will receive an advisory visit on making the most of their trees, shrubs, grasslands and meadow plants, as well as on providing habitats for a variety of animals.

Registered churches can then work towards receiving Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. The Bronze award is aimed at churches who are starting out managing their churchyards for wildlife. These churches will need some form of management plan, and to have made a start on some conservation work. The Silver award is aimed at churchyards whose conservation management is up and running, and starting to benefit a range of wildlife, while the Gold award is aimed at the best churchyards for wildlife, where conservation management is well established across a range of habitats and species, and benefiting a host of wildlife.

Each award lasts for three years, after which churches can reapply or go for a higher award. Applying for an award costs £5. To request a visit or apply for an award, please contact the Wildlife Trust for an application form. You can email northamptonshire@wildlifebcn.org or phone 01604 405285. The closing date for entries is 28 February 2020.

Starting in May, Hilary Aslett will once again lead her 'Discovering Northamptonshire Churches' tours.

Details to follow but please contact Hilary on 01327 830 486 if you'd like to register your interest in attending.

Dates for Your Diary

Details inside or in the weekly sheet – or contact a church warden!

Thu 30 Jan	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel
Fri 31 Jan	7 for 7.30	Quiz & ploughman's at Holy Cross BYOB Tickets £12.50 from Alison or Wendy
Sun 2 Feb	12.30-2.30	Winter Warmer drop in lunch at Holy Cross
Sat 8 Feb at Holy Cross	9.00am	Full Day Singing Workshop with Nigel Perrin – spaces still available – further information or book via Gail gstuart@morecambemoments.com
	4.30pm	Informal performance followed by refreshments
Thu 27 Feb	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel Speaker TBA – details in the weekly sheet
Sun 1 March	12.30-2.30	Winter Warmer drop in lunch at Holy Cross
Sat 7 March	7.30pm	Concert at Holy Cross 'Film Music Favourites' with Northampton Concert Band. Bar with wine & soft drinks. £10 ticket from Wendy or Jean.
Thu 26 March	12-2pm	The Well Lunch Group at Astcote Chapel Speaker TBA – details in the weekly sheet

Supporting our Churches

Ensure that your regular giving to your church is maximised at no cost in money, time, or effort to you by giving 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 (if you are a UK taxpayer) to your church every month.

For details, please ask your church treasurer.

For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.