

Amelcote Benefice

# *The Messenger*



March-April-May 2025

**INSIDE**

*p2 From the Rector*

*p3 Services*

*p4 Lent course, Vintage Easter*

*Robert W*

*p5 Well Group, Crafts & Play*

*p6 Sue's letter, Food Bank*

*p7 Jean -Anna Chaplain*

*p8 -9 Social Events*

*p10 Peal success*

*p11 from the Diocese*

*p12 Who's who*

## From the Rector

As I write this it is cold outside but, the sun is shining brightly and it is so easy to forget the grey, damp, rainy days we've been experiencing for so long recently and which make us feel so downhearted and miserable.



We are coming up to the season of Lent in the Christian calendar, the time when we remember Jesus spending a fairly long period of time alone in the desert region. Whilst not subject to the vagaries of the British weather, Jesus had his own weather problems in that desert - scorching hot days and freezing cold nights. And, no supermarket or convenience store to pop into for a bottle of water or a hot coffee or a snack bar!

Paul and I have visited that desert area and know for ourselves what the conditions are like (and we had water and snacks with us plus extra warm clothing). There are the occasional caves for shelter but the shifting sand and the wind which blows the sand around make orientation very difficult, not to mention the scorching sun relentless every day and no factor 50! Imagine being out there alone for a day let alone a few weeks. No wonder Jesus was famished and probably dehydrated and victim of hallucinations at the end of it.

But, that period alone with God was just what Jesus needed before he really began his public ministry - time out! And it is just the same for us. We may not literally be in a desert but it can feel as if we are alone, in a desert, that everything is conspiring against us to make life difficult. It is at times like these that we ask God to draw close to us; to revive us, to support us and give us the strength to carry on.

Yes, we do have to acknowledge our own faults and failings (other people are not usually the source of many of our problems) but God is a very forgiving God if we admit we are sorry for our wrongdoings, ask for His forgiveness and be determined to do our best not to make the same mistakes again.

That is Lent! And, what follows Lent? - the joy of Easter, and that's another story.

May God bless you this Lent

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Dixon". Below the signature is a long, slightly curved horizontal line.

## Services in the Amelcote Benefice

Please join us at any of the services listed below for  
March, April and May 2025

Date	Time	Service	Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
5 <sup>th</sup> March	6.00 pm	Ash Wednesday, Holy Communion	Pattishall
9 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Tiffield
16 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Pattishall
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Gayton
30 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	Mothering Sunday, Family Communion	Pattishall
6 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
13 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am	Palm Sunday - Holy Communion	Tiffield
17 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00 pm	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion	Pattishall
18 <sup>th</sup> April	2.00 pm	Good Friday - Last Hour at the Cross	Cold Higham
19 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30 pm	Easter Eve - Service of Light	Tiffield
20 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am	Easter Day - Family Communion	Pattishall
27 <sup>th</sup> April	10.00 am	Holy Communion, with Baptism	Gayton
4 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Cold Higham
11 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 am	WW2 Memorial service with Holy Communion	Pattishall
18 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Tiffield
25 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Gayton

We have a weekly news sheet for readings, prayers and up to the minute information on services. Please email Chris Bulleid on [amelcote.info@gmail.com](mailto:amelcote.info@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

# Lent Course + Frugal Lunch

Meeting at Cold Higham Village Hall  
on Fri 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th March and 4th & 11th April  
11.30am -1.30pm



*Lord, teach us to pray...*

Please bring a Bible,  
notebook and pen



## VINTAGE EASTER

April 27<sup>th</sup> 3 pm

at

**Holy Cross Church**

An informal Christ-centred service of fun and fellowship

With tea and cake

All are welcome

## Service to remember Robert Waller

Robert Waller of Astcote died on 26th December at the age of 100. Robert was known to many in the parish and in his latter years he loved to come along to events at Holy Cross.

Being of the Jewish faith it was Robert's wish to be buried in Israel and his funeral and burial were held near Jerusalem on 2nd January.

Friends and neighbours will be gathering for a Service to celebrate Robert's life at Holy Cross, Pattishall at 11.30 am on Tuesday 25th March, followed by refreshments. If you wish to attend please let us know so that we have an idea of numbers for food. Thank you.

Chris & Margaret Bulleid    [margaret.bulleid@me.com](mailto:margaret.bulleid@me.com)    07753516966

## Well Group

Well Group is a Christian ladies group which meets monthly at Astcote Methodist Church to share lunch and fellowship.

**Thursday 6th March, 12-2.00** speaker, Pandora Kenyon from Age UK

**Thursday 3rd April, 12-2.00** speaker, Revd Marion Reynolds – Lent

**Thursday 1st May, 12-2.00** Revd Kim Shorley from the Methodist district on new worship ideas

All women are welcome to join us. Please get in touch with Ali on 01327 830770 or [albrierley@btinternet.com](mailto:albrierley@btinternet.com)

## Pastoral Matters

If you are in need of someone to talk to, or would like to pray with someone, please contact

Jean Pugh, Lay Pastoral Minister on 01327 830909 or mobile 07711329664

## Prayer Breakfasts

A Prayer breakfast is held at the Rectory on the first Saturday of each month, from 8.30-9.30am

All welcome

## HOLY CROSS CHURCH, PATTISHALL

# CRAFTS & PLAY

**Fridays**

**7th, 14th, 21st & 28th March**  
(NB no session 28th Feb as previously advertised)

**3.00-4.30 pm**



**Crafts and toys**  
**Tea/coffee and cake**

**Everyone welcome**



## A New Role for Sue

Dear All

You may have noticed that my name is no longer on the back page of the Messenger.

This is because I have resigned my licence as a Reader.

It has been a huge privilege to serve as a Reader in our churches and I will miss that. Thank you for your support and patience over the years.

After much prayer and reflection, it has become clear that my vocation has changed emphasis from preaching and leading worship to accompanying individuals on their journey with God.

Before the pandemic I trained as a spiritual director and I will be continuing this ministry in the wider diocese, under the auspices of the diocesan Fellowship of Spiritual Directors.

I have discussed this change with Revd Marion. With her consent and support, I will continue to help in the benefice, in ways that do not require a Reader's licence.

Sue Titheridge

*On behalf of everyone in the Benefice, thank you Sue for your dedicated ministry as Reader, leading services, preaching, running Bible study, and everything else! We wish you well in your new role MB*



A box for Foodbank donations can be found in Holy Cross church every day and in the porch at Holmeview, 8 Greenway, Eastcote, on Fridays. Please ensure that all food is non-perishable and well within sell-by date.

[Click here for items currently most needed](#)

Your generous donations are gratefully received and make a real difference. Thank you.

*Jean Pugh*

## Jean Commissioned as Anna Chaplain

During the Holy Communion service at Holy Cross on 19th January, Jean Pugh was commissioned by Revd Marion into the role of Anna Chaplain. Jean has been especially trained for this ministry with older people in our church and village communities. We wish her well as she continues her much valued pastoral work enhanced by this new ministry. MB

### *Jean writes...*

My journey has been a gradual process over the years. I have always been in a caring role and took early retirement from my nursing career in 2008.

I was a Sunday school teacher for many years and gradually felt that my calling towards becoming a leader in the church was increasing; In 2012, I did the Lay worship leader course and was part of a Lay team taking morning worship and family services.

After looking after my parents in older life, it made me realise the need of spiritual care for the elderly in the community.

There seems to be little help for those growing old in the world, today the emphasis is always on Youth. Many of the Church congregation are struggling to keep their independence going, they are not wanting to be a burden on others.

I trained as a Lay Pastoral Minister in 2022 and realised how many people lived on their own and were unable to drive having difficulty in getting out and about. As an LPM I started visiting the widows and widowers and I take home communion to those who want it. It became apparent that these people needed someone to talk to on a regular basis. They welcomed me into their home for a chat even if they were non-believers.

I heard about Anna Chaplaincy after a licensing day in Peterborough Cathedral in 2023 and I felt a strong calling to be able to help the ageing community in the Benefice. Most of the people I visit have expertise and experience in lots of different subjects. I hope to be able to encourage some to use their skills in the community.

I was commissioned in Holy Cross Pattishall's holy communion service where I felt a strong presence of love around me. I pray that God will walk beside me and give me wisdom and strength as I start this new ministry.



# QUIZ NIGHT

**Saturday 5th April**

**7.30 pm**

**Holy Cross, Pattishall**

**Ploughmans £12.50**

Tickets: Wendy or Jean

01327 830583

01327 830909

**NATASHA  
THOMPSON**

**QUARTET**



playing a medley of jazz  
and classical music

Wine and Refreshments  
served throughout

**SUNDAY, 18TH MAY  
3 PM**

**HOLY CROSS  
PATTISHALL**

**TICKETS £15**

Wendy Watts 01327 830583

Jean Pugh 01327 830909

## Winter Warmer Lunch



Holy Cross, Pattishall

**Sundays**

**2nd March & 6th April**

**12 noon - 2 pm**

**All welcome**

## Join us for Afternoon Tea

**4th May, 1st June**

**3.00 - 4.30 pm**

**at Holy Cross, Pattishall**



Entertained by organ music



## Tiffield Garden Club

Meets on the first Monday of the month

in the church room

at 7.30pm

Refreshments

Visitors welcome



Our meeting on March 3rd is on Japanese Gardens  
and chrysanthemums

## Tiffield Open Gardens

Bank Holiday Monday,

May 26<sup>th</sup> 2025

12 – 5pm



Cream teas and light lunches

Mini-bus transport available

Please send items for the Jun/Jul/Aug Messenger to  
Margaret Bulleid by email, [amelcote.messenger@gmail.com](mailto:amelcote.messenger@gmail.com)  
by 19th May

Thanks for reading

# First full Peal on the new ring of 8 bells at Pattishall

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, 15 February 2025 in 2h 50

Pattishall, Northamptonshire

Holy Cross

Tenor: 11–2–24 in G

**5040 Grandsire Triples**

J J Parker 12-part

- 1 Margaret J Bulleid
- 2 G Nigel Williams
- 3 A John Stanworth
- 4 Alan Faiers
- 5 Jonathan Stuart
- 6 Richard I Allton
- 7 Christopher E Bulleid (C)
- 8 Paul Bestwick

First peal on the bells since augmentation to 8, with grateful thanks to all who made this possible.

5) First peal on 8

7) First peal of Grandsire as conductor



The band—tired, cold but very happy!

## March... in like a lion and out like a lamb – so they say!

I am not sure how much truth is in that saying but I have always been fascinated about the connections between this and the way we talk about God.

'Lion' and 'Lamb' are both images we use for Jesus. The Bible speaks of 'the Lion of Judah' which we see reflected in hymns and modern worship songs. CS Lewis gives us the story of Narnia where Aslan, the Lion, is killed on the stone table and then seen again. Death and Resurrection.

The 'Lamb of God' is used by John the Baptist about Jesus directly, the idea of sacrifice, the lamb given on behalf of others.

There is a gentleness about this image, hence with March it stands as the opposite to the roaring lion. This Lamb of God, this Jesus, is however not a helpless creature taken against his will, this is God who willingly gives himself as an offering for all.



The final Sunday this month takes us to Mothering Sunday, a good time to celebrate all who 'mother' others. A time also to celebrate the church family who 'mother' others and both of those a reflection of God's Love. God who is Lion and Lamb. God who willingly made the sacrifice necessary to 'mother' us, as Jesus shows us, God who longs to gather us to safety as a mother hen gathers her chicks, if only we are willing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Booker'.

The Venerable Alison Booker  
Archdeacon of Oakham

# Who's Who in the Amelcote Benefice

## Rector

Revd Marion Reynolds  
01327 624203

## Lay Pastoral Minister

Jean Pugh  
07711 329664

## Churchwardens

Cold Higham	Pauline Pearson	01327 830287
Gayton	Andy Hartley	01604 858360
	John Rogers	07973 836387
Pattishall	Alison Brierley	01327 830770
Tiffield	Mike Dean	01327 350077
	Rachel Holloway	01327 353172

## The Amelcote Benefice

St Luke, Cold Higham: St Mary, Gayton:  
Holy Cross, Pattishall: St John the Baptist, Tiffield