

South Croxton Churches

The parishes of Ashby Folville & Barsby, Gaddesby, South Croxton with Beeby and Twyford, Thorpe Satchville & John O'Gaunt

Newsletter February 2018

A happy new year to you all!

Hello everyone!

A big thank you to all who attended our Church services throughout Advent and Christmas. I hope the season and celebrations gave way for some time of personal reflection, and how you would like to change in 2018? I hope also that if you made any resolutions – they may bear fruit, (fruit that will last) as Scripture says.

So having celebrated Christ's birth – we now move into a period of being in the desert – our Lenten journey. What Jesus went through was a testing time of temptation, prayer, fasting and works of love. It too is a time today, when we should go through that discipline that will bring us all to a time of rejoicing at Easter tide. Lent is another penitential season (similar to Advent) in which we pause and reflect upon the kind of person we are, how we treat others, and what more we can do to see the face of Jesus in everyone we meet. In our benefice this year, we will be celebrating the Lent season to

the maximum! Enclosed with this newsletter is a leaflet that shows all our services, times for personal reflection and the solemn Easter services in Holy Week, that lead us to celebrating Christ's resurrection on Easter Day.

There is some confusion as to the most important time of the Christian year – it's not Christmas – it is actually Easter! And the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends on Easter Day – Sunday April 1. That's why the most important day of the week for Christians is SUNDAY – when Jesus was resurrected. Holy Week is very special to Christians as it builds up to Easter Day. I do hope you will be able to join us in some of our services this Eastertide.

So join us as we start Lent on ASH WEDNESDAY at 9.30am at St John the Baptist, South Croxton for our BCP Holy Communion service with the imposition of ashes (A cross of ash on your forehead using ash burned from last year's Palm



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crosses and mixed with oil). The purpose of this rite is to remind people of their mortality and thus the necessity for repentance.

■ Other things happen alongside Lent and Easter – all five Churches in our Benefice have their APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) which is an ideal opportunity for you to find out what is going on at **your** Parish Church; how the money that we collected from our generous givers was spent during 2017 – and an opportunity for you to ask any questions relating to how the Church runs, the services of worship that it provides – and an opportunity to tell us of what YOU think WE should be doing – and how you can help us do that! We also elect Church Wardens to serve for one year; elect sides-people to serve for one year (who help welcome members of the congregation, give out service/hymn books and take the collection); elect members to the PCC (parochial church council) who take decisions on behalf of everyone in the parish throughout four meetings in 2018/19.

Churches must give notice to everyone who lives in the parish that these meetings are taking place. They will be on the door of each Church – but I list them here, too. They take place during the 10.30am service on a Sunday (apart from one that takes place at the 7.00pm service) and won't last much longer than a usual service.

Thorpe Satchville – Sunday February 4 at 10.30am

Ashby Folville – Tuesday March 20 at 7.00pm

Gaddesby – Sunday April 8 at 10.30am

South Croxton – Sunday April 15 at 10.30am

Twyford – Sunday April 22 at 10.30am

Anyone in the parish can attend – but on certain matters only those on the Church electoral roll or on the local government electoral roll who are resident in the parish can vote.

Please do try to attend if you are able – these are important meetings!

If you want to be a Warden or a member of the PCC you must meet certain criteria which the Church of England lays down;

You must be at least 16 years of age and be willing to stand;

You must be an actual Communicant;

You must be on the Electoral roll of the Parish you wish to serve

You will have to complete a nomination form – collected from the Church or contact Rev'd Neil (841278) and one will be sent/emailed to you.

Our Church foundation is built on Christian commitment; one such author writes:

“Naturally it is right to consider a person's Christian commitment and character before suggesting that they should stand for election.”

(*Practical Church Management*; James Behrens MA, LL.M canon Law 1998)

Any questions you may have – please contact Rev'd Neil at your earliest convenience. If you care about YOUR Church, and want to shape the way we go forward as a Church (the people of God) then please seriously think about joining us on its PCC.

If you wish to help out in another way – but don't want to join a PCC – then please contact Rev'd Neil – most of our Churches have fund-raising committees, or 'friends of the Church' groups that help or know of local activities going on in the parish that the Church works with.

■ **We welcome:** The Very Revd David Monteith, Dean of Leicester, who will be presiding at our 10.30am service on Sunday March 4 at St Luke's, Gaddesby. We also welcome The Venerable Tim Stratford (Archdeacon of Leicester) to preside at our Mothering Sunday service at Ashby Folville on Sunday March 11 at 10.30am. Please

make a note in your diaries. It would be most humbling to see as many as possible from our Benefice Churches at these services to welcome David and Tim as our guests. Please do make every effort to attend.

■ **Can you help make Easter extra special in our Churches?** As I mentioned earlier, Easter Day is the great day upon which we light a new Paschal (Easter) candle as our humble offering for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and as an ongoing symbol, that we light each Sunday when we worship in Church. Paschal candles are by tradition bigger than our usual candles in Church and are usually fitted in a special Paschal candle stand which stands some 4 feet high to make them distinct. **I am making a special plea that each of our Churches has a Paschal Candle Stand.** I ask that you consider making a donation towards one for your Parish Church, or you may wish to purchase one outright in memory of a loved one? Everyone who gives will be acknowledged and remembered in a special service where the candle stand is blessed and dedicated to those loved ones who will be remembered by name. Any that is purchased outright will have a small gold plaque attached to it. (Anonymity will also be respected). If you would like to donate – kindly put this in an envelope marked ‘Paschal Candle for Easter’ and pass to your Church Warden – or add it to the collection plate - or ring me (841278) and I will arrange to have it collected. Your donations will be ‘restricted’ to purchasing a Paschal Candle Stand and will not be used for anything else. There are various costs – for example, if they are wrought iron they cost £88 or, crafted from the finest oak, £650. So let’s make our forthcoming Easter celebrations extra special this year and give a special light for the light of the world!

Finally, it is with regret that I tell you that St John the Baptist Church, South Croxton was again unsuccessful in its bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to make urgent repairs to the tower. This building is now on the ‘At Risk’ register with English Heritage. We will now have to look at alternatives to save this precious and unassuming building.

With every Blessing for 2018.

Revd Neil

■ **Community Lunch:** The Parish Community Hub held its most recent get-together, in January at the Sysonby Knoll, Melton Mowbray. The next event will be lunch at The Bowls Club, Melton Mowbray, on Monday February 26, 12.00pm for a 12.30pm start. If you would like to come please contact Annette Piper (840627); Davina Bates (454201); Vic Allsop (434697), Maureen Coleman (434120) or Janet Norburn (0116 269 5295). A big ‘thank you’ to every one of our valuable volunteers, in particular those who drive and collect people. Do come and join us. New people are coming along all the time. *The Community Lunch Team.*

■ **Baptisms:** Merlie Warrington and Poppie Chapman, January 14, at Gaddesby. *We welcome Merlie and Poppie into the church family*

■ **Weddings:** Benjamin Hardy and Jessica Warrington at Gaddesby on December 16. *We wish this couple every happiness.*

■ **Funerals:** Mary Foister, at Gaddesby and Hoby, on December 21. Darroch Crawford, at Great Glen Crematorium, on December 13. Jane Carter, at Thorpe Satchville, on January 3. Kathleen Screaton, at Gaddesby, on January 9. Christopher Riley, at Twyford, on January 11.

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Mary, Darroch, Jane, Kathleen and Christopher.

Parish councils

Gaddesby, Barsby & Ashby Folville Parish Council: The next meeting will be at Gaddesby Village Hall on Monday February 12. The following meeting will be at Ashby and Barsby Village Hall on Monday March 12, which will also be the annual parish meeting. All meetings start at 6.45pm. At the beginning of each meeting there is a timeslot during which people living in the parish can raise matters of concern. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity please contact the clerk, Trudy Toon (840490) email: gaddesbypc@hotmail.co.uk. Minutes of meetings and dates for future meetings can be found on the Gaddesby website: <http://www.gaddesby.org.uk/village-organisations/parish-council/>

South Croxton Parish Council: The next meeting is on Thursday February 1, at 6.30pm, in the village hall. The following meeting will be on Thursday March 1.

Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Parish Council: The next meeting will be on Tuesday February 27 at 7.30pm at Thorpe Satchville Village Hall.

Women's Institutes

Barsby and Ashby Folville: Felicity Austen will tell members about "Those big brand names we grew up with" on Wednesday February 14. The competition is "an old tin".

Gaddesby: Our January meeting proved both educational and highly entertaining as our speaker, Andy Geeson, recalled his career path in art. He gave a delightful demonstration of his 'Loose Watercolour' painting technique. On February 14 we welcome another local personality, Sandy Skelland, whose talk is titled 'The 60's beat'. The competition is anything beginning with 'B' and there will be a raffle. Members – don't forget your hand-written contribution to 'Jerusalem'.

South Croxton: Our next meeting is on Thursday February 15 at 7.30pm at the village hall. Our talk is *Life as an artist* as well as audience participation. Guests are welcome; the cost is £5, which includes a glass of wine and nibbles (or a cuppa).

Appeal to dog owners

Gaddesby, Barsby and Ashby Folville Parish Council has received complaints about dogs fouling the footpaths, field footpaths and highway verges in the villages. The council says this is unpleasant for other walkers, can be harmful and is anti-social. "If you are the owner of a dog, we would like to remind you that it is your responsibility to clean up after your dog. Please do not allow them to foul the public footpaths and highways. Thank you for your co-operation."

Ashby Folville and Barsby

Defibrillator appeal: A group at Ashby Folville is appealing for funds for a defibrillator for the village.

- Sudden cardiac arrest happens around 140,000 times a year in the UK.
 - In rural areas it takes more time for professional medical help to arrive.
 - The prompt use of CPR and a defibrillator can greatly increase the chance of survival.
 - A portable defibrillator is designed for people with little or no medical knowledge.
- We plan to install a defibrillator on the outside of the village hall.

We need to raise £2500.00 to install and maintain the device. Help with fundraising will be much appreciated. Donations can be made through JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/audrey-preston> or cheque/cash to c/o Audrey Preston, 6 Folville Street, Ashby Folville (840381/ 07802 739015).

Poppy fund: In November, Barsby villagers generously donated £202 to the poppy fund. Thank you everyone. *RH*

Thanks: Rosemary Holt would like to thank dear friends, villagers and churches for their concern and offers of help during this difficult time. *RH*

Coffee morning: The open morning for coffee/tea and biscuits will be in Ashby Village Hall on Thursday February 8, 10.00—12 noon. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.. If you need transport please contact Pat Walton (840463) or Sue De Gaye (840904) Looking forward to seeing you all.

Gaddesby Welcome Club: We are looking for new members. We meet once a month at Ashby Folville Village Hall. Alternate months we go out for lunch somewhere. Anyone interested please contact Sylvia Favell (840259)..

Carol cash: Barsby WI raised more than £330.00 for the air ambulance service with carol singing in Ashby Folville on December 15 and 19. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this very worthy cause. *Angela Patton*

Cricket: Ashby Carington Cricket Club are on the look-out for new players having decided to run a new Saturday team in the Leicestershire League, in addition to its existing Sunday team in the Melton League. Players over 16 of all standards welcome to join a friendly club playing at probably the nicest ground in Leicestershire. Anyone interested please contact Nigel (07774 322908).

Village hall: For village hall bookings please ring Lucy Stroud (840667). The hall is very well equipped, and is a perfect venue for parties . . . catering/bar can be provided.

Gaddesby

Activity for Lent – a ‘Work of Love’: You know you really should have a clear-out of those cupboards and wardrobes! Don’t put it off any longer. There will be a LOROS ‘Donation Station’ at St Luke’s Church, Gaddesby, for the Lent period. LOROS shops need clothes and linen, in good condition, shoes, accessories, books, CDs, DVDs, mobile phones, stamps and foreign coins, bric-a-brac and unwanted gifts. Just bag them up in a strong bag and bring them to St Luke’s. You’ll be helping LOROS hospice care for the 2,500 people who are terminally ill, and their families. *Daphne Tucker*

St Luke’s Church Gaddesby: The Electoral Roll for St Luke’s Parish is being updated. If you wish your name to be included, forms are available from the church or from Daphne Tucker, 18 Ashby Road, Gaddesby (841184). The closing date for applications is Friday March 16.

Village hall

Yoga, Tuesdays, 7.30—9.00pm, contact Di Angrave (840013); Legs, Tums and Bums, Thursdays, 7.00—8.00pm, contact Justine Hunt (840435), justine.hunt1@btinternet.com; Why Not Come Dancing (WNCD) Saturdays, 7.00—11.00pm. Contact Barry Preston (840381). The Gaddesby Women’s Institute meets on the second Wednesday of the month, 7.30—10.00 pm, contact Daphne Tucker (841184). Contact Sue Evans (840305) for hall bookings.

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South Croxton

Lottery: South Croxton Bell Fund Lottery (BATS100) was established in 2013 to provide regular local fund-raising towards refurbishing the church tower at St John the Baptist, rehanging the church bells and installing toilets and a small kitchen. The lottery is drawn on the last Sunday of the month by computer using 'Random.Org'. Winners are not excluded from future draws and every month each lottery number has an equal chance to win £100. For £1 a week you, too, could win that £100 and do your bit towards a good cause. Participants are permitted to have multiple numbers if they wish and the subscription is normally collected by way of a bank standing order. Winners in 2017 were Doreen Ralley, Anthony Moore, Tracey Whitehead (twice), Lisa Gant, Angela Wood, Stewart Campbell, Robert Sheraton, Colin Parker, Hugh Lane, Christopher Yarrow and JR Loakes. If you wish to take part or want further information please contact Tracy Campbell (840042).

Poppy appeal: Richard Spokes would like to thank the families of South Croxton for their generous donations to this year's poppy appeal, a total of £349.33.

■ Village hall:

Coffee and Book Sale : Saturday March 10, 10.30—12 noon. Come along and have a chat with other villagers over a coffee and home-made cake. Stock up with your holiday reading. Donations of books etc welcomed. Contact Caroline (840272). Books can be left with any committee members.

Dates for your diary: Big Brunch Walk, April 21; An evening at the races (village hall), Saturday May 19; Pub night (village hall), Saturday November 24.

Bookings: The hall is available for events, parties and classes. Caroline (840272).

Thorpe Satchville

Village Hall

Happy new year ! Hope to see you all at our 2018 events . Your village hall needs you! Table tennis is up and running again, every Monday evening, 7.00—9.00pm . All welcome for just 50p a session

Social: Every second Thursday of the month, 10.30—12.00pm, coffee, cake and chat morning . Please come, mums and babies, young and old and in-betweeners. The next is on February 8.

Pub night: Friday February 23. Bar opens at 7.00pm. Annual meeting, Wednesday March 7, 7.00pm, in the village hall .

Boot camp: Contact Michelle (07814423438) . All welcome, whatever fitness level you have.

■ The village hall can be hired. Contact Annie Jones (07871277177/840470). Alternatively visit www.thorpesatchville.co.uk

Twyford

Village hall:

Karate: Sundays, 10.00am, February 4, 11, 18, 25; 27; Wednesdays, 6.00pm, February 7, 14, 21, 28. More details: Alison (851238).

Carpet bowls: Mondays, 8.00pm, February 12, 26.

Whist drive: Friday, 7.00pm, February 2

Drop In: Fridays, 10.30am, February 2, 16.

Yoga: Mixed ability, Mondays, 11.00am, February 5, 12, 19, 26; men's, Thursdays, 7.00pm, February 1, 8, 15, 22.

Inns and Outs: Tuesday February 13, contact Paula (840787).

Woolly Days: Contact Lizzie (497004) TVH, Saturday February 10, 10.30 —3.30pm . £5.00 and something for a shared lunch.

Music Evening – Sunday February 11: International musicians **Tim Kliphuis Trio** (think Stephane Grappelli), some classical, some world music, all brilliant! Usually a sell-out so book tickets now (840774).

Book and Film Club (840605): Thursday February 25, 4.00 pm at The Saddle.

Twyford Recreation Ground Committee annual meeting: Twyford Village Hall, Thursday February 22, 7.30pm.

First meeting Twyford Computer Club: Wednesday February 28, 10.15 am, village hall.

Village Hall Bookings: Twyford Village Hall is available for booking for your party, wedding, meeting or other event, please call Chris (07811 859813/840774).

Who to contact in the South Croxton Benefice

Priest in charge (Rector Designate): The Revd Neil Stothers

The Rectory, 19 Main Street, South Croxton LE7 3RJ

Tel: 01664 841278 or email: revneilstothers@yahoo.co.uk

Please contact Revd Neil for all wedding, funeral, baptism or home communion visits, or urgent pastoral matters in the first instance. When Revd Neil is on leave, kindly contact the administration office (01664) 561909 or the appropriate contact from the list of Churches below.

The South Croxton Benefice is part of the South West Framland group of Churches and has an administrative office that deals with official and authorised forms that you may have to complete, and for collection of all fees for the services we provide. This office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays (01664 561909); or by email: clusteradmin@btinternet.com

For general matters relating to one of our Benefice Churches, visits, or record searches, please contact: (All numbers preceded by 01664):

St Mary Ashby Folville & Barsby: Rosemary Holt – Warden (840783).

St Luke Gaddesby: Daphne Tucker – Warden (841184).

St John the Baptist South Croxton & Beeby: Ann Crawford – Warden (840231) or Brian Piper – Warden (840627)

St Michael & All Angels Thorpe Satchville: Jane Smith – Warden (840333)

St Andrew Twyford: Dorothy Edwards – Warden (840591)

■ The Wardens may direct you to other contacts who will assist your enquiry as necessary.

For matters relating to this magazine, contributions, news items, celebrations or events contact Glyn Tucker (841184) or email churchmaged@gmail.com

■ **The deadline for the March newsletter is February 22.**

February 2018

Where to Worship in the South Croxton Group

February 1 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
February 4 2 before Lent	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Thorpe Satchville
	3.00pm	Evensong	South Croxton
February 6 Tuesday	7.00pm	BCP Holy Communion	South Croxton
February 8 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Thorpe Satchville
February 11 Sunday before Lent	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Gaddesby
February 14 Ash Wednesday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	South Croxton
February 15 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Gaddesby
February 18 Lent 1	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Twyford
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	South Croxton
February 20 Tuesday	7.00pm	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
February 22 Thursday	9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Thorpe Satchville
February 25 Lent 2	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Ashby Folville
	10.30am	Worship with Eucharist	Twyford

For other services in the South West Framland Group (SWF)
please contact the SWF Office on 01664 561909 or
clusteradmin@btinternet.com

Newsletter online

If you have friends or relatives who would like to see an electronic version of our newsletter – or would like to receive your own copy – please send your email address to the editor, Glyn Tucker, at churchmaged@gmail.com. Copies are sent as “blind” carbons so others will not see your email address. Alternatively look for “newsletter” at www.gaddesby.org.uk (with thanks to Simon Hargrave). *Editor*