

BECCLES PARISH

| Being Good News | Living Faith |
| Serving Beccles and Villages |

WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY



Extended Christmas Edition

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace Isaiah 9 v6



Welcome to this bumper edition Christmas Bulletin. We wish you a very happy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year. As the parish office will be closed from Monday 23rd December until Friday 3rd January, this bulletin covers the next three Sundays. Should any urgent issues arise during this time, then please contact one of the members of the ministry team. Their contact details can be found on the last page.



PRAYER REQUESTS If you would like prayer for yourself or someone else over the Christmas period please email becclesprayer@gmail.com You can also telephone 07585695064 or contact any of the ministry team whose details appear on the last page of this bulletin. All requests will be treated confidentially.



WORSHIP SUNDAY 22nd December – Advent 4

9am Holy Communion (BCP), St Michael's
9.30am FEAST, St Luke's
10.30am Holy Communion, St Michael's
6.00pm Carol Service, St Michael's

BIBLE READINGS

Hebrews 10: 5-10
Luke 1: 39-55

COLLECT

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our Saviour,
so may we be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK Please pray for Brian and Judy Taylor. For all those who have contacted Ping A Prayer with prayer requests. For Angela Ottoway, Steph's dad and Darryl's cancer treatment. We also remember the families of Brian Lyons and Pam Bontoft and those facing the anniversaries of bereavement.

Community As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ in Bethlehem, we pray for those in our community who have faced conflict or pain this year. Please pray for peace beyond our community as we look towards the Middle East - for a softening of hearts on both sides of the Israel/Hamas conflict. Pray for peace on Earth and goodwill to all people. May the oppressed be set free, the hungry fed, and the homeless given a home through the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout the world.

Mission Focus prayer for Dec 22 At this Christmastide please hold in yours prayers all our Christian brothers and sisters living in Israel, the Palestinian Territories and all the neighbouring Arab countries. They are facing a time of great persecution and hardship and they need to feel that they are being supported both in prayer and financially as they cope daily with so many difficulties.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS ... my true love gave to me a link to the Everyday Faith App. From Christmas Day until Sunday 5 January the app will feature "Calm and Bright, Meditations for the Twelve Days of Christmas". For details on how to download the app see <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/exploring-faith/everyday-faith>

ST MICHAEL'S 10.30am SERVICES – As it is now officially winter and the weather, and with it the church, is turning increasingly colder, from Sunday 29th December, the 10.30am services at St Michael's will be held in the **Undercroft**.

NORTH COVE CHRISTMAS FAIR – Thank you to everyone who so generously supported the Christmas Fair in the village hall on Saturday 7th December. Thank you to all those who made soup, cakes, donated items to sell and worked so hard serving on the stalls throughout the day. Even though the weather was not very nice, together we raised the marvellous sum of £408. Thank you very much.

GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW – Again, thank you to all those who supported the Beccles Parish Grand Christmas Draw. It raised £1,383 and this will be shared between Beccles, Worlingham, Barnby and North Cove churches for the Parish Share. We could not have achieved such success in either of these events without your help and support. Thank you all very much. **Judy Thacker.**

Nativity Wordsearch

C J E P M L I L C C P D M X V Q O W M V L H N T X C
W J G K T S A E V K P F E C N L E W R I X H T V O P
J Q R P K P I C E V V U X O K F V N X Q F W H L Z X
K N D J X O Y C B B S J T M P G N U J S D G O A M B
I H N E W V O J U J T Z U S G F Y I O Q A C K F T T
U Q W I C K K A J E A Q R R J Q O J Q Q I X A S T E
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D T U M E M T I H C L Q G Q G P I A E I G A M K U K
V L W R Y J W Y J K E N Y A V N D H F U Z W E J Z G
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O H T H Y X K D H Q I H I T U Q Z N T G M H M N R T
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MANGER
STAR
NATIVITY
MYRRH
MARY
NAZARETH
ELIZABETH
CAMEL

ANGEL
WISE
STABLE
GOLD
JOSEPH
DONKEY
GABRIEL
INN

SHEPHERD
GIFT
FRANKINCENSE
JESUS
BETHLEHEM
ZECHARIAH
MAGI
HEROD

WORSHIP TUESDAY 24th December – Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service, St Michael's
11.30pm Midnight Communion, St Botolph's
11.30pm Midnight Communion, St Michael's

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2:1-20

COLLECT

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with
the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

WORSHIP WEDNESDAY 25th December – Christmas DAY

9am Christmas Day Communion (BCP), St Michael's
9.30am Christmas Day Communion, St Luke's
10.30am Christmas Day Communion, St Botolph's
10.30am Christmas Day Praise, St Michael's

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 52:7-10
John 1:1-14

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven
touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise,
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen.**

WORSHIP SUNDAY 29th December – Christmas 1

10.30am All Together, St Michael's

BIBLE READINGS

Colossians 3: 12-17
Luke 2: 41-end

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share in the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK Please continue to pray for Brian and Judy Taylor, for Angela Ottoway, Steph's dad and Darryl's cancer treatment. Remember also the families of Brian Lyons and Pam Bontoft and those facing the anniversaries of bereavement.

Community Pray for those who have suffered so much over the last year as a result of war, injustice, sickness or bereavement. Give thanks for the emergency services and all other organisations who help those in need or distress.

Mission Focus prayer for Dec 29 As we are about to start a new year we give thanks for all the support given to our Mission Focus partners during the past year. Please pray that in the coming year we will be resolute in our prayer support for them and that we will continue to give generously.

WORSHIP SUNDAY 5th January – Epiphany

9am Holy Communion (BCP), St Michael's
9.30am Holy Communion, St Luke's
10.30am Holy Communion, St Botolph's
10.30am GATHER, St Michael's
NOTE: There is no WILD CHURCH at All Saints today

BIBLE READINGS

1 John 3: 22-4:6
Matthew 4: 12-17, 23-end

COLLECT

O God, who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to
the peoples of the earth
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK Please pray for Brian and Judy Taylor and all those who contacted Ping A Prayer during the past few weeks. For Angela Ottoway, Steph's dad and Darryl's cancer treatment. Also do remember the families of Pam Bontoft, and Brian Lyons, whose funeral will take place this Monday.

Community Pray for 2025 that this may be the year in which our local, national and world leaders take the threat of climate change seriously and act to reduce the use of fossil fuels.

Pray for a new year filled with the joy and hope for all people that is only to be found in Christ. That we as His Body in Beccles, Worlingham, North Cove and Barnby may be able to share that hope and joy with all who do not yet know him.

Mission Focus prayer for Jan 5 This month we pray for the work of the **Children's Society** and its support for young people and their families. We give thanks for the Children's Society shop in Beccles and pray for all those who work there and all who support it.



What do elves do after school?

Their gnome work!

Which Christmas carol do dogs like best?

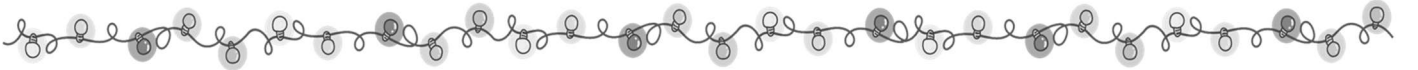
Bark! The Herald Angels sing ...


Why did the choir have to cancel their carol concert?

Because they all caught tinselitis!

What did the farmer get for Christmas?

A cowculator!



Connect through one of our regular coffee mornings	If you need food and support	
<p>Every Friday Friends of St Michael's Coffee Morning 10am -12noon at St Michael's</p> 	<p>Every Saturday Coffee & Chat 9.30am -11am at St Luke's a chance to catch up over coffee, toast, or a bacon roll.</p>	<p>Foodbank at St Luke's Mondays 2-3pm Fridays 2-3.30pm Parish Pantry Pop up Shop Saturdays 9.30am-11am at St Luke's Christians Against Poverty 0800 328 0006</p>

WORSHIP DURING THE WEEK – everyone is welcome to our services, whether online or in church!

MORNING PRAYER – Monday & Tuesday 8.30am on Zoom, Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am at St Luke's, Beccles

Join on **Zoom ID 985 0957 8510** passcode **405454** **EVENING PRAYER Tuesdays** 3.30pm at St Botolph, North Cove

MIDWEEK COMMUNION Tuesdays 10am at All Saints Worlingham, **Thursdays** 10am at St Michael's

NOTE: There will be **NO MIDWEEK COMMUNION OR EVENING PRAYER** services on Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th Dec!

Parish Office at St Luke's Church Centre, 61 Rigbourne Hill NR34 9JQ

Administrator Doreen Page

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✉becclesparish@gmail.com

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☎07985 320320

✉rector@becclesparish.org.uk *(Day off Friday)*

Associate Priest Revd Philip Cudmore

☎07709 417515

✉phil.cudmore1@gmail.com *(Day off Wednesday)*

Curate: Revd Doreen Page

☎07585 695064

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Sue Son ☎01502 713066

Beccles St Luke

Roger Bennett ☎01502 712584, Fran Tuck ☎07717 060728

Worlingham All Saints

Position Vacant

North Cove St Botolph

Ben Blower ☎07771 802643, Charles Detheridge ☎01502 476346

Barnby St John

Charles Detheridge ☎01502 476346

Please send any items for the Weekly Bulletin to becclesparish@gmail.com by 12noon on TUESDAYS



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