

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2020
in the Benefice of the Upper Nar & Launditch

OCTOBER

1st SUNDAY 4th October - Trinity 17 St Francis (Green)
10:00am Group service on ZOOM - John Blore, Kevin preaching

2nd SUNDAY - 11th October - Trinity 18 (Green)

Isaiah 25.1-9 | Psalm 23 | Philippians 4.1-9 | Matthew 22.1-14

9:00am	Little Dunham	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp
9:15am	Great Fransham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
10:15am	Litcham	Holy Communion	Kevin Blogg
10:30am	Mileham	Morning Prayer	Heather Butcher
10:30am	Weasenham	Mattins	Peter Brown
11:15am	Gressenhall	Morning Worship	Julia Hemp

3rd SUNDAY 18th October - St Luke's Day (Red)

| Isaiah 35.3-6 | Psalm 147.1-7 | Isaiah 35.3-6 | 2 Timothy 4.5-17 | Luke 10.1-9

9:15am	Stanfield	Iona Communion	Heather Butcher
9:15am	East Lexham	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp
9:15am	Rougham	Iona Communion	John Blore
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Churchwardens
10:30am	Weasenham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
10:30am	Longham	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Julia Hemp

3rd SUNDAY - 25th October - Trinity 20 (Green)

Nehemiah 8. 1-4, & 8-12 | Psalm 119.9-16 | Colossians 3.12-17 | Matthew 24.30-35

9:00am	Little Dunham	Holy communion	Heather Butcher
9:15am	Gt. Dunham	Kevin Blogg	
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Churchwardens
10:30am	Weasenham	Matttins	Peter Brown
10:30am	Tittleshall	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
10 30am	West Lexham	Morning Prayer	John Bore
11:15am	Gressenhall	Iona communion	Kevin Blogg

1st SUNDAY - 1st November All Saints (White)

10am Zoom Service

Kevin Blogg - John Blore, preaching

ALL SOULS SERVICES

SUNDAY 1st November - Gressenhall at 3pm

MONDAY 2nd November - Weasenham St Peter at 7:00pm

This is a quiet and moving service for all who wish to remember loved ones at this special service
where candles are lit and names read.

Readings are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary

(CW) - service conducted according to Common Worship (2000)

A full list of all the services for the Upper Nar and Launditch group of parishes can be viewed or downloaded from the Litcham website, visit www.litcham.org and click on 'Services' link at the top of the page. (www.litcham.org/Litcham/Services.html)

All enquiries should be directed to:

The Priest in Charge, Upper Nar and Launditch Group of Parishes

Canon Heather Butcher (Rector)

The Rectory, Pound Lane, Litcham, PE32 2QR

Phone: (01328) 700 071 or e-mail: canonhdb@gmail.com

or **Revd Julia Hemp** (Vicar)

The Vicarage, 4 Lodge Farm Meadows, Gressenhall, NR20 4TN

Phone 01362 861380 or email: reverendjulia@gmail.com

or **Revd Miriam Fife** (Curate)

Phone: 01328 700765 or email: miriam.fife@btinternet.com

REMEMBRANCE 2020

**When you go home, tell them of us and say,
"for your tomorrow, we gave our today"**

John Maxwell Edmonds

When I was growing up the grown ups' language was often peppered with the phrases "before the war" or "during the war". You do not hear it nowadays. It has gradually dawned on me that I grew up very much in the shadow of the war, even though, as a child I was unaware of it. I realise now that my parents memories of the war must have been very fresh when we were children.

My parents had a very different experience of the war. After a brief training in Weybourne and Scotland, dad was shipped across the world. I think the training had been fun, though I do not much fancy the idea of sleeping in a barn at Weybourne with rats running over me, as dad described it. I still have the Robert Burns book of poetry, bought in Scotland and the letter he wrote when he sent it to his dad in Dereham. After two weeks in action in Singapore, dad was captured by the Japanese and like many Royal Norfolk's, endured nearly four years in a prison camp.

By contrast Mum lived on a farm in Scarning, so there was always plenty to eat. The nearest the war came to her was when a German plane came down in a field in Scarning. She could see the fires of Norwich lighting the sky after bombing raids. Dereham was surrounded by American air force camps so there was a ready supply of young men to attend the local dances. The 'yanks' arrived with nylons, chewing gum, chocolate and oranges and could they dance!

Mum and dad met after the war and married in 1947, the same year as the Queen. After a long life my wonderful and dearly loved dad died some years ago. Mum at 94 has dementia, she cannot even remember dad. It makes me realise what a remarkable couple the Queen and Prince Philip are.

Dad was a brass bandsman all his life and we never missed a Remembrance Day parade. No doubt your family stories run along similar lines to mine. Many of you will have been born during the war or shortly after and will have been brought up to remember. It is wonderful that our children continue to honour their grandparents' generation.

I write all this because we had expected Remembrance 2020, the year of the celebration of 75th anniversary of VE and VJ day and the final end of the war, to be special. Sadly life is very restricted at the moment. The Royal British Legion have stopped house to house collections and large parades have been cancelled. This will not affect our smaller churches with their smaller services which can remain socially distanced. Our larger services will not fit into a church safely and current restrictions would make it very difficult for more than 30 people to gather outside.

Currently there will be no hymns. It is all rather sad but of course understandable. We have yet to decide what to do about the larger services but please keep an eye on the Litcham parish website, the November magazine and the Launditch and Upper Nar website for details of services. In this special year, one of the things I hope we can do is hold a short act of Remembrance at each of our war memorials across our 17 churches on Wednesday 11th November at 11am. I will produce a short service sheet that can be used by a church member or member of the public to lead these. We shall also hold a zoom service on the morning of Sunday 8th, when we will keep the 11am silence, and we will publish the zoom invitation on websites and in magazine. You are very welcome to join us on any of these occasions.

Heather Butcher

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2020 **in the Benefice of the Upper Nar & Launditch**

NOVEMBER

1st SUNDAY - 1st November - All Saints Day

10:00am - Group Zoom Service - Link in weekly email

ALL SOULS SERVICES

Sunday 1st November - 3pm at Gressenhall with Heather

Monday 2nd November - 7pm at St Peter's Weasenham
with Heather, Shawn and Miriam

A quiet and moving service for all who wish to remember loved ones, where candles are lit and names read. Please ring Julia 01362 861380 or Heather 01328 700071 to book as we have to ensure social distancing.

2nd SUNDAY - 8th November - Remembrance Sunday

This year will be different, many parades have been cancelled.

Everyone coming to church has to wear a mask and be socially distanced so we are restricted as to numbers.

Outside services are restricted to 30 people

**PLEASE HELP US TO LIMIT NUMBERS BY WATCHING
THE ZOOM REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT 10:50am.**

To obtain the zoom code please

email Miriam Fife at miriam.fife@btinternet.com

10:50am - Beeston Church and American War Memorial
led by Heather Butcher

A service for representatives of organisations, numbers limited to 30

Beginning at the memorial at Beeston Church and moving
to the American memorial at approximately 11.20am

Other Remembrance Services

10:50am	Little Dunham	Kevin Blogg
10:50am	Longham	Malcolm Wood

10:50am	Little Fransham	John Blore
10:50am	Weasenham St Peter	Peter Brown
10:50am	Litcham	Church Wardens
10:50am	Tittleshall	Philip Butcher
10:50am	Mileham	
	Remembrance in Village Hall with Tom Butler Stoney	
10:50am	Gressenhall	Julia Hemp
6:30pm	Mileham Evening Prayer with Remembrance Tom Butler Stoney	

WEDNESDAY 11th November - Remembrance Day

10:50am - Weasenham St Peter

Service at war memorial with school children

3rd SUNDAY - 15th November

2nd Sunday before Advent - Trinity 23 (Red or White)

Zephaniah 1. 7 & 12 to end | 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11

Psalm 90 | Matthew 25. 14-30

9:15am	Stanfield	Iona Communion	Julia Hemp
9:15am	East Lexham	Holy Communion	Kevin Blogg
9:15am	Rougham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
10:00am	Zoom Service: link in weekly email or contact Miriam Fife		
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Church Wardens
10:30am	Weasenham St Peter	Communion	Kevin Blogg
10:30am	Longham Holy	Communion	Julia Hemp

4th SUNDAY - 22nd November - Christ The King

Sunday next before Advent (Red or White)

Ezekiel 34. 11-18 & 20-24 | Ephesians 1. 15 to end

Psalm 95. 1-7 | Matthew 25. 31 to end

9am	Little Dunham	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp
10am	Zoom Service - link in weekly email or contact Miriam Fife		
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Church Wardens
10:30am	Tittleshall	Morning Prayer	John Blore
10:30am	Weasenham St Peter	Mattins	Peter Brown
10:30am	West Lexham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
	Gressenhall	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp

5th SUNDAY - 29th November Advent Sunday

10am Zoom Service - Farewell for Heather and Philip Butcher

Link in weekly email or contact Miriam Fife

Readings are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary

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'GOODBYE' OR IN LONG HAND - GOD BE WITH YOU.

This feels like a very strange time in life. I have always worked at least part time and now at the end of this month, I shall be retired. Isn't that what old people do? It's a bit of a shock. What is ahead? I scanned the bible to read what it has to say about the future.

Here's a favourite passage from Jeremiah.

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah didn't live a comfortable life, he is branded a traitor, was imprisoned and often in danger of his life. He didn't hold back in prophesying doom for the people if they didn't mend their ways. Yet always hope runs through his prophecies, God, the God who can't help himself loving them will restore them.

Our own Julian of Norwich lived in a time of plague and dreadful poverty and suffering for many ordinary people. She was able to say "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well"

This is not wishful thinking on the part of Jeremiah and Julian, it is a sign of their faith in an ever loving God, who like a parent will always be there, always wills the best for them, who in the end will bring them home. This is hope, not that there will be no difficulties but that God will bring us through.

The Psalm most familiar to me, because in my 22 years of ministry it has been read or sung at almost every funeral, is psalm 23. It speaks of God's constancy, watching over us like a shepherd, leading us to lush pastures, being alongside in times of darkness and bringing comfort, anointing us with the oil of blessing and following us with goodness and love all our days.

I leave with a mixture of emotions not knowing what retirement will bring but trusting in the God who loves me like a father and will never leave me.

I am looking forward to a rest and leisure time with no deadlines. But I know there will be much I shall miss. Most of all of course will be the people. To all of you, thank you so much for your friendship, your kind words so often spoken or written to me, for your support and encouragement. This time in my ministry has been great, I have loved working with all the different parishes and the variety of church buildings. I have loved all the different people, it has been such an interesting time.

May God be with You.

Deep peace of the running wave to you.

Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the gent night to you.

Moon and star pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

With every blessing Heather