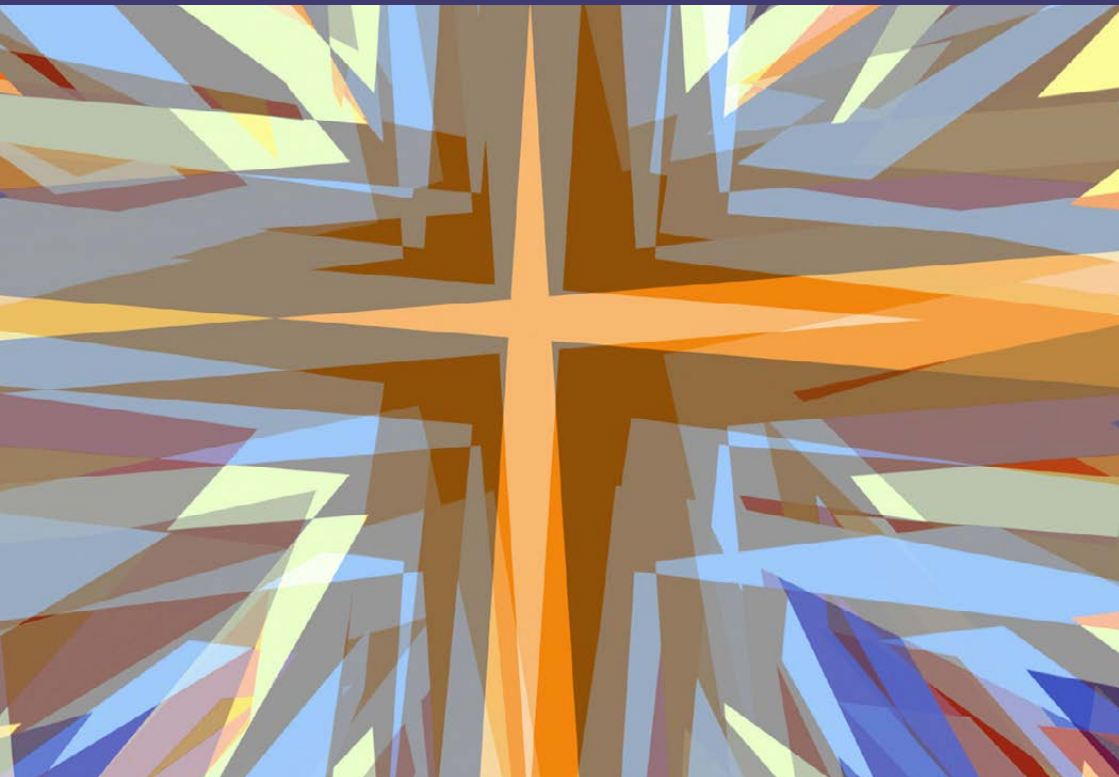


ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
H O L B E A C H

# ASHLINGS



APRIL - MAY 2020

[www.allsaintsholbeach.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsholbeach.org.uk)

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Deadline  
for the  
June - July  
edition is  
Friday 15th  
May

JOIN THE GLOBAL WAVE OF PRAYER

## Thy Kingdom Come | 21-31 May 2020



**Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.**

Since its start in May 2016, just four years ago, God has grown Thy Kingdom Come from a dream of possibility into a movement. In 2019 Christians from 172 countries took part in praying 'Come Holy Spirit', so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

This praying together has been across our diversity and differences as every person, household and church are encouraged to pray in their own way. Whilst an astonishing 92% of people said they were praying for

family and friends to come to faith in Jesus, and 40% of those taking part in 2019 did so for the first time, we recognise there is much more we can do together to help Thy Kingdom Come be fully in the lifeblood of the Church.

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, it is hoped that everyone who takes part will:

- Deepen their own relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for 5 friends or family to come to faith in Jesus
- Pray for the empowerment of the Spirit that we would be effective in our witness

Visit the All Saints Website and follow the link to find out more and to register.

[allsaintsholbeach.org.uk](http://allsaintsholbeach.org.uk)

# Reflection by Rosamund

## Psalm 121

1. I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?
2. My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.
3. He will not suffer your foot to  
stumble; he who watches over  
you will not sleep.
4. Behold, he who keeps watch over  
Israel shall neither slumber nor  
sleep
5. The Lord himself watches over  
you; The Lord is your shade at  
your right hand,
6. So that the sun shall not strike  
you by day, neither the moon  
by night.
7. The Lord shall keep you from  
all evil; it is he who shall keep  
your soul.
8. The Lord shall keep watch over  
your going out and your  
coming in, from this time forth  
for evermore.

As most of you will know we have been preaching on the psalms during Lent. They are turning out to be an extraordinarily prescient set of psalms for the times we are now in.

Psalm 121 was the one set for 8th March.

For the psalmist the enemy would come over the hills and would not be seen until they had reached the peak of the hill. Today we feel surrounded by an unknown enemy, we are afraid of what will appear over the hills at any time, we don't really know what contingency plans to put in place or quite how to live with them when we have put them in place.

The psalmist reminds himself and us all that our help comes from the Lord. The Lord watches over us both night and day and will keep us from evil. Whatever happens God will be there at both our coming in and our going out. Whether we live or die, God will be with us, and all we can do is simply trust in that.

Advice has changed on a day to day basis and now we have been told that churches can no longer hold public worship. This is a great blow to our way of life as Christians but please let me assure you that Morning Prayer will continue to be said every weekday morning and communion offered each Sunday on your behalf. We hope to be able to work out how to record worship for you to take part in via the website over the next week or so. But of course we are called to live out our lives as Christians in so many other ways than just in worship and I hope

that we can support each other and the wider community through this crisis.

I have divvied out the contact details of everyone on the Electoral Roll between members of the Ministry Team and hopefully someone will be able to keep in touch regularly during this difficult time.

More than ever today we are called to put our trust in God and be good neighbours to each other.

*Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you.*

*In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.*

*Amen.*





## APOLLONIUS. (d. 183) Roman martyr. Saints Day 28th April.

Apollonius was a Roman senator who was denounced as a Christian to the authorities by his own slave; he made an impressive verbal and written apologia to the senate. This comprised a criticism of paganism as futile because its idols are human artefacts without life, autonomy, reason, or virtue: hence they should be rejected. Christianity is superior because of its concepts of death and life; death is a natural necessity which has nothing frightening about it, while the true life is the life of the soul. Above all, Christianity surpasses paganism through the work of Christ, the revealing Word of God and teacher of moral life, who became man to destroy sin by his death. This last, predicted both by Scripture and by Plato, can be compared to the death of the prophets and of Socrates. He was mentioned by Jerome and Eusebius; his name is in early liturgical books; more light has been shed on him by the discovery of Acts in Greek and Armenian.

It seems certain that Apollonius was beheaded on the 21 April; his feast was kept in the Martyrology, book of martyrs, of Jerome on the 18 of April, but at Constantinople on the 23 of July.



## THE ODOSIUS OF KIEV (Of the Caves) (c.1002-74), Abbot.

Theodosius was born at Vasil'evo (near Kiev) of a wealthy family in the service of the prince, he passed most of his early life at Kursk. When still very young, he unsuccessfully attempted a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. His father died when he was thirteen, but his dominating mother of muscular build with a voice like a man tried hard to retain him in lay life and made a scene with the abbot when he became a monk. Theodosius fled to Kiev, taking refuge with the hermit Antony in a cave above the Dnieper. Here he received the tonsure and was ordained priest.

In 1062 he founded a monastery and built a church. He became abbot of the Caves monastery in 1063 and adopted the rule of Theodore the Studite. His monasticism was marked neither by Palestinian excess of mortification nor Byzantine political activism but resembled rather the ideals of Basil. He stressed the importance of community life and charity to all, first to other monks but also to guests,

the sick, prisoners (to whom he sent a cartload of food each week), and anyone of whatever class who sought spiritual counsel. Each monk had to study Scripture and as well as practising exemplary poverty. Always accessible to all, he would perform tasks distasteful to young monks such as the personal care for two years of an old monk almost completely



paralysed. Theodosius who was the archetypal spiritual father, dwelt in by God and so able to bring light and comfort to all. He said, 'Christ sought us out, found us, carried us on his shoulders and set us at the Father's right hand... It was not we who sought him, but he who sought us'. He died at Eastertide and was buried in one of the original caves. His monastery is still a place of pilgrimage, and in 1108 he was canonized by the Bishops of the province of Kiev.



# 'WE BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION...'

When Christians gather together each week and proclaim their belief in the resurrection of the body, what exactly do we mean?

In the Bible, St Paul devotes a whole chapter to questions like this, and he includes this incredible statement:

*If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ - whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

(1 Corinthians 15.13–19; NRSV)

He goes on to make it extremely clear that what he is talking about is indeed a physical, bodily resurrection – we will be given new bodies, similar to but different from our earthly bodies. It is not, as the mistaken vestry prayer says, the 'souls of the faithful departed' which will 'rise in glory'. It is their bodies!

But the resurrection is a spiritual reality as well as a physical one. The idea of resurrection tells us that whatever the circumstances, however low things might get, there is nothing that God is unable to change. Even death itself could not hold Jesus, and there are no circumstances in our lives which are beyond his reach and beyond his redemption.

So, for what resurrection are you hoping and praying this Easter-time? Where in your life and circumstances are you looking for God's new life? Paul ends his chapter with this triumphant cry:

*"Death has been swallowed up in victory."*

*"Where, O death, is your victory?"*

*Where, O death, is your sting?"*

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks*

*be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

(1 Corinthians 15.54–57; NRSV)

John Leach

Growing Disciples Officer



## South Lincolnshire Blind Society

### JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO END LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION

South Lincolnshire Blind Society provides support and advice to help visually impaired people, improving their independence and increasing their quality of life.

**We have people living with sight loss who have been waiting for 6 months or more in your area!!**

Do you have a few hours to spare and enjoy making new friends??

Why not become a Volunteer??

We are looking for Volunteers to join our Home Befriending service

within the Spalding area. If you are friendly, outgoing, have a good listening ear and a bit of time to spare then please call us today...

Together we can end Loneliness.

Call: **01476 592775** or  
email: **slbs@blind-society.org.uk**

visit our website:  
**www.blind-society.org.uk**

Open Tuesday to Friday 9am – 5pm



Registered Charity: Number 1182486

## Prayers For Use During The Coronavirus Pandemic

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and  
distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious  
and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### For those in isolation

God of compassion,  
be close to those who are ill,  
afraid or in isolation.  
In their loneliness, be their  
consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;  
through him who suffered  
alone on the cross,  
but reigns with you in glory,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### For those who are worried

Loving Jesus, you are compassionate  
to those in need  
and heal the sick in body and mind.  
Look kindly on those who are fearful  
at this time.  
Help us all to put away  
all thoughts and actions

that separate us from you  
and from one another.  
Give us grace to live our lives  
confident in your promise that you are  
with us always.  
**Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need  
as if we were caring for you.  
In this time of anxiety, give us  
strength  
to comfort the fearful,  
to care for the sick,  
and to assure the isolated  
of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake.  
**Amen.**

### For those who are ill

Merciful God,  
we entrust to your unfailing  
and tender care,  
those who are ill or in pain,  
knowing that whenever danger  
threatens  
your everlasting arms  
are there to hold us safe.  
Comfort and heal them,  
and restore them to health and  
strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### For hospital staff and medical researchers

Gracious God,  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom  
to those searching for a cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be  
restored to health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### For those who are ill or isolated

O God,  
help me to trust you,  
help me to know that you are with me,  
help me to believe that nothing can  
separate me  
from your love  
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### Prayers for when you can't get to church

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your  
disciples, 'I am with you always'.  
Be with me today,  
as I offer myself to you.  
Hear my prayers for others  
and for myself,  
and keep me in your care.  
**Amen.**



### A prayer at bedtime

Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the World, we pray  
That you, with steadfast love,  
would keep  
Your watch around us while we sleep.  
Tonight we pray especially for (names  
family or friends who are affected  
by Coronavirus) and the people of  
(country or place which is affected by  
Coronavirus).  
Give skill and wisdom to all who are  
caring for them.  
**Amen.**

Remembering that God is with us  
Lord God, you are always with me.  
You are with me in the day  
and in the night.  
You are with me when I'm happy  
and when I'm sad.  
You are with me when I'm healthy  
and when I am ill.  
You are with me when I am peaceful  
and when I am anxious.  
Today I am feeling (name how you  
are feeling) because (reasons you are  
feeling this way).  
Help me to remember that you love  
me and are with me in everything  
today.  
**Amen.**



## Prayers For Use During The Coronavirus Pandemic (continued)

Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.  
From St Patrick's Breastplate  
A prayer for the world  
God of love and hope,  
You made the world  
and care for all creation.  
But the world feels strange right now.  
The news is full of stories about  
Coronavirus.

Many people are anxious because of it.  
Many people are anxious  
that they might get ill.  
Many people are anxious about their  
family and friends.  
Be with them in their worries and help  
them to find some peace.  
We pray for the doctors and nurses  
and scientists who are working to  
discover the right medicines to give  
hope to those who are ill.  
Thank you that even in these strange  
and worrying times, you are with us.  
Help us to look for the signs of your  
goodness and love towards us.  
**Amen.**



## Holbeach Community Larder & Cafe



### Food Bank and Cafe

We are very sorry that due to the current Covid 19 restrictions we are going to have to temporarily suspend the provision of lunches on a Friday.

However we are determined to keep the Food Bank open every Friday from 10.00-1.00 and anticipate an increased demand for our services. We will be putting strategies in place to minimise the risk of cross infection and will consider setting up a delivery service for those who cannot come to the Reading Rooms.

Because of the increased demand we are likely to be running short of some of our essential items and hope that the community will respond to our appeals for donation. We will be in particular need of UHT milk, soaps and toilet rolls alongside all the usual items on our wish list.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to all our stalwart volunteers who turn up week by week and help out in so many ways.

#### Food Bank

**10.00-1.00 every Friday**

Food parcels available for those in need

#### Hot Lunches

**Served from 12.00 - 1.00**

*(Free or for a small donation)*

**Holbeach Reading Rooms**

*(next to the old library Church Street)*

Do you .....

Live alone  
Have poor cooking facilities  
Have limited cooking skills  
Feel lonely & prefer company  
Have nothing much in the fridge  
Need a hot meal

***Come and see what our team of volunteers have on the menu today and meet some new friends.***

#### Always Needed

Please leave items in the black tub at the back of the church.

Contact Rosamund Seal - 01406 424989

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| • Dried Milk          | • Pasta Sauces           |
| • UHT Milk            | • Cereal                 |
| • Tinned Custard      | • Shower Gel             |
| • Savoury Rice        | • Hand Soap              |
| • Tins Potatoes       | • Toilet Rolls           |
| • Noodles             | • Dog & Cat food         |
| • Jam                 | • Cup-a Soup             |
| • Tinned Rice Pudding | • Toothpaste             |
| • Tinned Steak Pies   | • Tinned Fruit           |
| • Gravy Granules      | • Tinned Tuna & Sardines |
| • Tinned Cold Meats   | • Washing Powder         |

## Bishop Nicholas' Visitation

It was lovely to have Bishop Nicholas with us at the end of January. He spent a day in the parish, exploring the High Street, calling in at a few of the long established shops and businesses and hearing about the possibility of regeneration

of the Ministry Team, the PCC and the Mission and Outreach group and helped us think about the strengths and weaknesses of the parish. I think he found it a very useful exercise and it certainly left him with a better sense of who we are



and briefly visited the Deanery Office and William Stukeley and Holbeach Bank Schools. He then spent time with members

as a parish and the challenges we face here in Holbeach. He returned on Sunday to preside and preach at our morning Eucharist,



though we all felt, that like a number of us, he felt rather blindsided by the House of Bishops statement on Civil Partnerships that had been issued earlier that week. As part of that service he welcomed Theresa Howes into Communion

with the Church of England and gave certificates to our three new choristers, Rose, Liam and Timmy, to mark the end of their probationary period. We certainly make him work hard when he comes but it was lovely to have him with us.



# William Stukeley

## Church of England Primary School



### Hilltop - Year 6 Residential

Year 6 had the most amazing time at Hilltop! Considering the forecast before we left of persistent rain and strong winds, we were so lucky with the weather, only experiencing one light shower!

It is always uplifting to see the children overcoming the challenges of the different activities that they experience and we know that the lessons they learn whilst on this type of activity will last them a lifetime.

The children were an absolute credit to the school and to parents / carers and we are very proud of each and every one of them.

### Sport2day Competitions

Our children had a successful time in different sporting competitions

#### Volley Ball:

Two children in each year group (Y3 – Y6) took part in a volley ball competition with six other schools at the Holbeach Hub. As usual, the children did their best and showed their good sportsmanship towards the other competitors. Well done to all the children!

#### Tchoukball:

Eight children in each year group (Y3 – Y6) took part in a tchoukball competition at the Holbeach Hub with seven other schools. Our school finished in fantastic second place (silver medal position) - the children were very well behaved and brilliant sports people.

### Chapel Hill Duo

Our children recently watched a live music performance from The Chapel Hill Duo. They played a variety of music from classical to modern day pop on violin and cello. The children enjoyed singing along to songs from The Greatest Showman and Ed Sheeran. They were particularly good at guessing the film tunes that the duo played in their 'guess the theme tune' quiz.

### Stukeley University

Another exciting semester of Stukeley University will end at Easter. A huge thank you all of the staff and volunteers that make Friday afternoons a hive of excitement and learning for our pupils.

### Chinese New Year

Foundation Stage and Key Stage One celebrated the Chinese New Year, the year of the Rat. The children looked fabulous in their animal masks! There were many different activities during the day. Children learnt about the story of how the years were decided and they heard the story of the Nian Monster. They took part in craft activities to make different decorations and each child got to make and take home a lucky

red envelope!

A huge thank you to parents to help fund the cost of the specialist teacher who brought along a 'real dragon' to dance with. The dance experience was invaluable and children amazed us with memorising the dance moves. They managed to put the moves together with fans, parasols and even controlled the huge dragon to perform a simple dragon dance!



Dragon dance

*We would like to wish  
our school community a  
Happy Easter.*

Office - 01406 422102

Head Teacher -  
Mr T W Emery





If anyone has a couple of hours free on a Saturday from 10.00am to 12.00 noon your help would be greatly appreciated with tidying and maintenance work both inside and outside of the church.

As mentioned before no special skills are required just a willingness to roll up your sleeves and get stuck in. Doughnuts and tea will be provided free to keep your energy levels up (if you can't manage the doughnut

someone else will be happy to eat it for you ie me) and if you have any gardening or cleaning tools please bring them along with you as there are not always sufficient amounts of equipment at church to go around everyone. We will be meeting up on the following dates, 18th April, 16th May, 20th June, 25th July, 29th August and 26th September. If anyone is available for any of those dates you will be most welcome and the following is a list of jobs that need tackling.

If you need more information please talk to Mick Boylan

## List Of Jobs For The Saturday Gang 2020

1. Work on the north porch gates to be completed by Philip and Margaret – may work on them midweek and paint midweek one gate at a time.
2. Leaves and weeds to be cleared from the slate border, cremated remains area, blower room steps and roof. Flowers dead headed.
3. Wooden border around the slate to be creosoted
4. Cremated remains area to be completed with slate and liner. Additional slate to be purchased to complete and top up.
5. Finish painting the church railings (weather permitting).
6. The floor at the altar should be cleaned with distilled water with vinegar added.
7. Michael Slater has volunteered to come in to clean the bell tower and carillon room with assistance from other Saturday Gang attendees. Face masks and gloves will be required to do this work.
8. Clear leaves from and tidy the south porch.
9. Rope handrail for tower.
10. Mary Bass room upper side windows to be cleaned.
11. Re-arrange prayer books so that they are used more evenly.
12. Woodworm to be treated.
13. Rose garden to be weeded, edged and dug over.
14. General cleaning inside of the church.

## No Diary Dates in this issue due to the Coronavirus crisis

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. This means that there will be no public services or events at All Saints Church until the situation changes.

As of Tuesday 24th March, due to the increased Government restrictions, the Church is completely closed and will be kept locked at all times. We will be saying morning prayer on everyone's behalf at home at about 8.30 am each day.

[www.allsaintsholbeach.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsholbeach.org.uk)



You are welcome to join in from home by following the prayer service for the day, just visit the All Saints Website and follow the link on the home page.

Please visit our website and Facebook group regularly for updates.

**STAY AT HOME BUT CONTINUE TO PRAY, TO LOVE, TO CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE**



## All Saints Ladies Group

**Holbeach All Saints Ladies Group met on Thursday 20th February 2020. Members and two visitors were welcomed by Sharon Cole.**

There were ten apologies received mainly due to illness and weather. The January minutes were available to read they were signed as seen. A two-minute silence in respect of the recent deaths of member Mrs Jean Vince and Mr Duncan Temple husband of Gillian Temple. Jean Vince had been a member of the group for many years supporting committees and always ready to lend a hand, she will be greatly missed. An early notice of the forthcoming community Flower Festival at Holbeach Church dates Friday 22nd May to Monday 25th May 2020 was noted, (this has subsequently been cancelled due to the current crisis).

Business concluded Sharon introduced Anthony Grunwell. He had brought along a fine array of various spices and sauces to include in his cookery demonstration called. He gave hints and tips how to use ingredients to produce tastes of European style cooking. We shared his completed dishes, tasting them was quite an experience. He was thanked by Sharon and received a donation towards the Spalding

Roman Catholic Charities fund. Refreshments were served and the raffle drawn. Our March and April meetings have been cancelled due to the Corona virus crisis. The 21st May meeting will be reviewed nearer the time.

Members and visitors are welcome at our evenings for a small charge of £1 at the door; refreshments 30p. We are a small group of ladies who enjoy each others' company supporting one another at difficult times. Part of our ethos is to welcome new faces all ladies of any age bring a friend.

**For further information contact Sharon Cole 01406426568 or Rita Norris 01406423474. Please stay safe and look after one another.**



*Fine array of spices*

## Mission & Outreach Group

### The Gathering

The Gathering met on Saturday 14th March and were joined by a few church members as we combined it with the Lent Lunch. We had an enjoyable look at Psalm 8 - linking in with our Lent Course on looking at Caring for God's Creation and enjoyed soup, bread and cheese and our first Hot Cross Buns. Given the current guidelines we will not be going ahead with The Gathering on 25th April but hope that we might be able to be back in action on 6th June. Only time will tell.



*The Gathering*

## From the Parish Registers

### Baptisms

We welcome into the church family:

**23rd February  
Thea Roxborough  
William Fathers**

### Funerals

We offer our sympathy to the families of:

**3rd February  
Molly Stafford**

**12th February  
Barbara Hunn**

**20th February  
Ralph Young**

**25th February  
James Giles**

**26th February  
Duncan Temple**

**4th March  
Fiona Anderson**

**5th March  
Rhoda Candler**

**13th March  
Jean Vince**

**16th March  
Vera Francis**

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

It is with regret that our meetings have had to be cancelled for the foreseeable future due to the current crisis. All members have been contacted and we will try to stay in touch with one another by telephone. If anyone needs help or a chat, please contact Joyce on the number below. In the meantime, we must pray that everyone stays safe, please take special care at this difficult time.

The Mothers' Union is a worldwide Christian organisation dedicated to promoting marriage and family life. It has 3.6 million members in 76 countries. The Mothers' Union was started in 1876 by Mary Sumner, the wife of an Anglican vicar. It is open to all baptised men and women and encourages all members to attend church and to read the Bible regularly.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Joyce Fines on 01406 420160. We look forward to welcoming you to be a part of a wonderful worldwide organisation.



## Save Your Stamps for Holbeach Mothers' Union

Don't forget to continue saving your stamps for All Saints Mothers' Union. Just leave your stamps on the table at the back of the church and we will see that they are used to support this important Charity. All the stamps collected over the last year were recently delivered to EACH and they were very grateful for all our efforts.

EACH supports families throughout their experience of caring for children with life-threatening conditions and complex healthcare needs. EACH maintains three hospices situated in Ipswich, Milton and Quidenham.



## Floodlight Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor the running of the church floodlights please contact Clare. It costs the church about £1000 a year to run the floodlights but for £10 you can sponsor a day in memory of someone or to celebrate a special occasion, or if you prefer your donation can remain anonymous.

Clare Stupples: 07771 531481

### April

- 5th - In loving memory of David Dacey
- 9th - Happy birthday to Claire Taylor

### May

- 3rd - Happy birthday to Adam Taylor
- 7th - In loving memory of Bill Massey
- 22nd - In remembrance of Margaret Hopkin

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[www.natalie.blanchflower.org.uk](http://www.natalie.blanchflower.org.uk)

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