



Chet Valley Churches

Weekly News 19 January—Christian Unity

Welcome to this church. We hope you will find the service thoughtful, prayerful and a chance to meet with God. If you are new to the church, or are a visitor, do introduce yourself to the person taking the service or to someone near you. The churches in our group have different facilities. The person handing out books can tell you such things as if there is a hearing loop, and if the building has a toilet.

Readings for today

Isaiah 49.1-7
1 Corinthians 1.1-9
John 1.29-42

Psalm 40.1-12



Prayer for today

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Dates for your diary

This section is only useful if you tell us what's on! The contact details for this newsletter are on the back page.

- Mon 20 Monday Mardles, 10am-12noon, Chedgrave Church Centre
- Mon 20 Sisland PCC, 7.30pm
- Tue 21 Seniors' Lunch Club, 12.15, Loddon Junior School (book on Mon via church office)
- Tue 21 Informal Communion with blessing, 7.30pm, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Tue 21 Chedgrave PCC, 7.45pm
- Wed 22 Noah's Ark for children and parents, 9.15-12noon, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- Wed 22 Home group, 2.30, Lodge Farm, Sisland
- Wed 22 Licensing of Rev'd Nick Garrard to the Rockland benefice, 7pm, Surlingham church
- Thur 23 Xtra! service, 3.45, St John's Chapel, Loddon

Advance Dates

- 29 Jan Loddon JCC, 7.30pm
- 8 Feb Just Desserts (where you eat much pud), 7.00pm, St John's Lecture Hall (see inside)
- 21 Feb Quiz and Food at Chedgrave (See inside)
- 22 Feb Coffee Morning, 10am-12noon, Avocet, Norwich Road
- 5 Mar Evening with Bishop Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich, St John's Chapel, Loddon
- 14 Mar Quiet Day led by Belinda Barwick at Quiet Waters (See inside)

Prayers Please...

Please pray for people and situations in the locality and beyond...

Especially let's pray for people we know who worship in churches elsewhere, that their ministry may be a beacon of hope in their place. On a wider scale let's pray that churches in Britain and across the world may strengthen their bond with one another and focus on their joint task of living out the gospel.

Use the Prayer Shower

We have a 'prayer shower' for urgent prayer requests. Contact Ros Hoffmann email roshoffmann2011@gmail.com tel 01508 548200. Also contact Ros if you would like to pray for urgent needs as part of the shower.

Time for Prayer

On Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm we meet at St John's Chapel in Loddon for 'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'. On the third Tuesday of the month this takes the form of an informal communion service with blessing. Just turn up or contact Jill Haylock on 01508 520248.

Morning Prayer in Church

You are welcome to come to Morning Prayer at 9am as follows:

Mon & Thurs:	St John's, Loddon
Tues:	St Margaret's, Hardley
Wed & Sat:	All Saints, Chedgrave
Fri:	St Mary's, Sisland

News and Events

Just Desserts (and more!)



Tickets are already selling well for Just Desserts so make sure you get yours as soon as possible. Neatly sandwiched between the diets of January and the Lenten disciplines of March it's a chance to eat your starters followed by puds galore. We'll also have a raffle and some fun—last year we had a table-based foodie quiz and a napkin folding challenge.... What will it be this year? It's all taking place at 7pm on Saturday 8 Feb, and tickets costing £7.50 (family £25) and can be bought from Nina Owen on 01508 522993, email theroamingfenlander@gmail.com or from the church office. If you can make your favourite pud too that would be a great help.



Xpressions—Thanks and Request

Slipped in to this week's News is an article about Xpressions Café, which is currently heading towards running its 150th session. It's a thank-you to someone who has put a lot of time and effort into 'fronting' the coffee-and-cake side of Xpressions, and an outline of how the whole thing works. When you've read it, the team would be very grateful if you could think whether you could get involved, even on an occasional basis, as we could do with more helpers.

Quiz and Food in Chedgrave

On 21 Feb at 7pm there's a quiz at Chedgrave with a supper of jacket potatoes and fillings followed by puddings from Spooncake. Tickets cost £10, £7.50 for concessions or £30 for families and are available from Alison Ball on 01508 528126, email ball880am@btinternet.com

Next Sunday—two services for you

- In the evening it's Last Sunday Praise, where the theme for the evening is 'hope' and where we will be singing God's praises in songs old and new as well as listening to God's challenge to us.
- In the morning, because it's the Sunday at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we'll be having a combined service for all our churches as well as inviting members of the Roman Catholic congregation to join us. We use this service as an chance to renew our commitment to God, both as individuals and as the church in our locality. Please come—it shows we want to work together to be the church of Christ across the Chet Valley.

Lent on the horizon—Souper effort needed!

The first of this year's Lent Lunches will be on Weds 4 March. Last year some of our kitchen and serving staff were called upon to make a big commitment during Lent due to lack of volunteer helpers. If you can help in any way, do sign up when the rota becomes available. And don't forget—as we are hosting the lunches it's also up to all of us to invite people to come along.

Lent Groups

There may be several groups running during Lent, either as an extension of our usual study/discussion groups or as an extra option. One of these will be a series of 6 meetings on Monday afternoons starting at 2.30pm on 24 February at 4 Market Place, Loddon. It will follow a similar format to the Dig Deeper meetings that took place a couple of years ago. It would help if you can let either David or Nina Owen know that you're coming, although if you don't manage to do that you can just turn up!

Quiet Day—a date for your diary

There will be a chance to stop and reflect in the middle of Lent this year, on 14 March at Quiet Waters, the Christian Retreat Centre in Bungay. Sometimes it seems impossible to find any space to stop the noise and busy-ness of our lives. If you feel you could use a quiet space with time to think (and no mobile phones!) then please consider coming along—it will run from 10am to 4pm and the theme will be 'Change'. There is a charge of £20, but if you can't afford this we can help out. Speak to David Owen or Belinda Barwick (520516) for details.

Things to Note

Food Bank—Thank-You

Thank you to all who have given to the Food Bank for the last twelve months in Loddon and Chedgrave and surrounding villages. We have collected 80 trays of food, each having 30lbs of food in them. This will help to feed people with enough food for 160 local people who are in crisis, for three days. From our distribution point we have helped 41 local people during the year:- single people, couples and families.

Information

Licensed Clergy

Rev. David Owen 01508 522993
david.chetvalley@gmail.com (Not Thur)

Rev. Ros. Hoffmann 01508 548200
roshoffmann2011@gmail.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Alison Ball 01508 528126
ball880am@btinternet.com (Not Fri)

Rev. Jill Haylock 01508 520248
jillhaylock@aol.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Louise Morrissey 01728 830733
delilah.morrissey@googlemail.com (Methodist)

Church Office

To contact the Church Office call 01508 521179 or email office@chetvalleychurches.org
The Church Office is just inside the door at St John's Chapel, Loddon. It opens Mon & Fri 10am-4pm and Tues, Weds & Thur 10am-1pm .

Prayer Shower

For situations that need urgent prayer, or to pray for others, contact Ros Hoffmann: 01508 548200, roshoffmann2011@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Send items for the Weekly News to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com (preferred) or on paper to the Church Office or by phone to the Office on 521179, by Wednesday mid day. Please include your name and phone number or email address.

Newsletter By Email?

Would you like to receive your Weekly News by email, making sure you get the news even if you can't be in church on Sunday? If so, send an email to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

Website, including events diary

(www.chetvalleychurches.org)
To submit information for the website, email david.chetvalley@gmail.com

Food Bank Contributions

To donate items to the Norwich Food Bank put them in the collecting boxes in Chedgrave church or St John's Chapel, Loddon.

Services and readings next week—26 January Epiphany 4

10.45am	Unity service with Holy Communion	Loddon (St John's)
6.30 for 7.00pm	Last Sunday Praise	Loddon (St John's)

You might take time to look at next week's readings:

Isaiah 9.1-4, 1 Corinthians 1.10-18, Matthew 4.12-23, *Psalm 27.1,4-12**

Tailpiece	Definition of church: Church is what happens when the impact of Christ on a situation brings two or more people together. (Rowan Williams)
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