**Lent, Holy Week and Easter**

**2018**

**Opportunities**

**for worship and study**

**in the Brooke Benefice**

**Ash Wednesday**

**Holy Communion**

**with the Imposition of Ashes**

This service of Holy Communion, with liturgy from Common Worship, and hymns, marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Our time together will include an invitation of receive the sign of the cross, in ash, on our foreheads, as a reminder of our humanity and need of God’s love.

**St Peter’s Church, Brooke**

**Wednesday 14th February**

**10.00am**

**LENTEN COMMUNION**

**Holy Communion**

We gather in the warmth and comfort of the Vicarage to share in this time of worship together. The liturgy is from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. To mark the season of Lent we include an extended time of intercession for those close to us, our communities and Benefice and the wider world.

**Brooke Vicarage**

**Wednesdays 21st, 28th February,**

**7th, 14th, 21st March**

**10.00am**

**Lent Study Group**

**My Life : My Faith**

An exploration of God at work in our lives.

Lent is traditionally a time to consider and to seek to deepen our faith. Our study group this year will be encouraged to recognise and celebrate God at work in their own lives, past, present and future, and in the life of our Benefice and communities. Each week, following refreshments, and in the context of opening and closing times of prayer, our invited guest will share with us some of their experiences of God at work in their lives. There will be opportunities for questions and discussion and the offer of activities to take home, so that those who wish to can consider where God is at work in them in their own times of reflection and prayer.

All are welcome and there is no expectation of a commitment to attend every session.

**Brooke Vicarage**

**Wednesdays**

**7.30pm**

Invited guests:

21st February Mr Roger Madgett

28th February Mrs Sue Page

7th March Mr and Mrs Gordon and Angela Reynolds

14th March Rt Revd Dr Alan Winton, Bishop of Thetford

21st March Mrs Sheila Hanmer

**mothering Sunday**

**Mothering Sunday Service**

A special service to celebrate mothering in all its forms. We look forward to welcoming by the choir of Seething and Mundham Primary School. There will be an opportunity to remember mothers we cannot be with, for whatever reason.

**St Margaret’s Church, Seething**

**Sunday 11th March**

**10.30am**

**Mothering Sunday Tea Service**

The afternoon version of Café Church. We gather at Brooke Village Hall to share tea and cake and to consider all aspects of mothering. There will be craft activities and prayer activities. We will share in a short and informal act of worship as we thank God for the gift of mothering.

**Brooke Village Hall**

**Sunday 11th March**

**4.00pm**

**Palm Sunday**

**Holy Communion with**

**the Blessing of Palms**

A traditional service of Holy Communion from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer during which Palm Crosses will be blessed and distributed.

**St Peter’s Church, Mundham**

**Sunday 25th March**

**9.00am**

**Café Church on Palm Sunday**

Our regular monthly Café Church service with a Palm Sunday twist. Everyone is welcome as we gather for coffee at the beginning of our informal service. We remember the first Palm Sunday as we (weather permitting) have our own procession. We then remind ourselves of the events of Jesus’ last days and get ourselves and our church ready for the days ahead.

**St Peter’s Church, Brooke**

**Sunday 25th March**

**10.30am**

**Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Holy Week**

**Compline**

This ancient evening service comes from the monastic tradition and marks the close of the day. We gather in darkness and silence to make a space in our lives to listen for God’s words and to bring our prayers. On Monday and Wednesday we use the form of service from the Order of the Holy Paraclete, a monastic order still worshipping and working today. This is in contemporary language. On Tuesday we use a service inspired by the Celtic Tradition, drawing on images and language linked to nature and the cycle of creation. Many people find Compline a very touching experience, and most want to return for more.

**St Peter’s Church, Brooke**

**Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th, Wednesday 28th March**

**8.30pm**

**Maundy Thursday**

**The Chrism Mass**

This service takes place every Maundy Thursday at Norwich Cathedral as the clergy of the Diocese meet with their Bishop to worship together and to renew their Ordination Vows. Each year members of our parish churches are encouraged to attend too; to pledge their commitment to supporting their priests and to offer their own lives to the service of God. The service includes Holy Communion. During the service the Bishop also blesses the holy oils. A light lunch is provided for those attending in the transepts after the service. Anyone is welcome to attend this service, but please let the vicar know a week beforehand if you would like to be included in the lunch numbers.

**Norwich Cathedral**

**Thursday 29th March**

**11.00am**

**The Lord’s Supper**

On this evening we remember Jesus’ last supper with his disciples before his arrest. We are reminded of his example of service as he washed their feet. We share in Holy Communion, just as he commanded them to do whenever they ate bread and drank wine together. At the end of the service, as we listen to the account of his arrest, the altar is stripped and the church made ready to keep Good Friday in simplicity.

**St Peter’s Church, Mundham**

**Thursday 29th March**

**7.00pm**

**Good Friday**

**Walk and Meditations**

As we remember Jesus’ journey through Jerusalem to the cross we go on our own pilgrimage around the churches of the Benefice. At each church we will pause for a short meditation before setting off on our journey again.

All are welcome. Come just to walk or just to pray. You may wish to join in by car. You may want to come to some of the day, or you may wish to be with us for all of it. Four legged friends who like to walk are welcome to come along too.

Hot cross buns and a cup of tea or coffee will be provided at Seething Village Hall. You are welcome to add your own picnic if you wish.

Meditations begin at the times listed below and last approximately ten minutes. We will leave a few minutes after each one for the next venue.

**Friday 30th March**

**10.00am St Mary’s Church, Thwaite**

**11.20am St Peter’s Church, Mundham**

**11.55am Seething Village Hall - Lunch Stop**

**12.50pm St Margaret’s Church, Seething**

 **1.50pm St Margaret’s Church, Kirstead**

 **2.30pm St Peter’s Church, Brooke**

**Holy Saturday**

**Barney Bear’s Easter Egg Trail**

Join Barney Bear as he celebrates Easter. There’ll be Easter refreshments and craft activities and an exciting Easter Egg trail for children under seven and their families. Barney will organise songs and a Bible story for everyone to enjoy during the afternoon.

This is a “come and go” event which will be open during the times below.

**St Peter’s Church Rooms, Brooke**

**Saturday 31st March**

**2.00pm – 4.00pm**

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**Easter day**

**Easter Celebration**

**and Community Breakfast**

Everyone is invited to come along to celebrate the dawning of Easter Day. There will be a short open air act of worship as we remember the disciples discovering Jesus’ Resurrection and celebrate the hope of new life by lighting the Easter fire. At the conclusion we will go indoors to share together in a celebration breakfast.

**Seething Village Hall**

**Sunday 1st April**

**8.00am**

**Family Worship**

**with Holy Communion**

A service suitable for the whole family, as we meet in church to celebrate the Easter message. Our traditional service of Holy Communion, taken from Common Worship, will be interwoven with an “all-age” talk and active intercessions, so that all can take part.

**St Peter’s Church, Brooke**

**Sunday 1st April**

**10.30am**