

The BROADSIDER

June 2020



Covering the Broadside Benefice parishes of
Ranworth with Panxworth, South Walsham, Upton & Fishley, and Woodbastwick

A NOTICE TO ALL WHO MAY BE WISHING TO VISIT OUR CHURCHES IN JUNE

Our churches will remain closed during June, although you may still visit the churchyards. There is an indication from the government that churches might reopen in early July but it may be quite a while for services with congregations to begin again; we don't know and we shall have to wait and see. The consensus is that private prayer may be possible then. There is a lot to consider with the reopening of Ranworth Church as there is a high volume of visitors. We will need to take advice on how this might be achieved in a safe way for all concerned. It will be impossible to open Ranworth Church tower while there is any distance regulation in force. There is also no date to announce when the Visitors' Centre in Ranworth churchyard may reopen for refreshments. Many of our volunteers are in the older age-bracket, although none are likely to admit to it, and apart from the fact that there is no advice on opening cafes, we also have to think about everyone's safety. Although 'locals' are likely to be aware of this information, it is written here to guide those who may be visiting the area from further afield. If you are traveling to our villages we respectfully ask you to consider local people when visiting the area.



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Dear Friends,

This letter is being written on the 50th day after Easter Day – Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is exactly seven weeks after Easter and is also known as White Sunday or Whitsun. It is meaningful to all Christians because it is the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, followers of Jesus and by inference on all of us. As in the picture above the Holy Spirit is often represented as a dove.

These are the words of Revd. Ron Ingamells who lives within the Broadside Benefice:

“All those who read this will be well aware of the importance of Pentecost and Trinity Sunday as important church festivals.

‘It shall come to pass in the last days that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. Your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young shall see visions, and your old shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, will I pour out my Spirit.’ [Joel 2:28].

Perhaps we have become even more aware during these weeks of lockdown the relevance of the ‘gifts of the Spirit’ St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Galatians ‘... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control’”.

Ron mentions Trinity Sunday which falls a week after Pentecost. It was the day he was ordained, back in 1958 in Ripon Cathedral. In Christian religions, the Trinity is used to explain that there are three really distinct ‘persons’ making up God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (who is sometimes called the Holy

continued on page 3.

Ghost). In my youth I always thought that this image of God, made up as three persons, was very distant and very non-inclusive — to start with it didn't even include me. It is not until I started thinking about things that I realised that I was one of those three 'persons', as we all are. God is in us all and we are part of God, because the Holy Spirit has been gifted to each one of us. Whether we believe in God, or not, or perhaps just a little, it has still been gifted. We are that third person and as such, we are empowered, and it is our duty, to reflect the Holy Spirit in our lives.

**Keep safe, keep well
and best wishes
David Benham**

Churchwarden, St Helen's Church, Ranworth

Prayers for our times

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 tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake. — Amen.

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;
reveal to them your Holy Spirit;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. — Amen.

THE BROADSIDE BENEFICE CONTACT LIST

**Rector
Position Vacant**

**Benefice Administrative Assistant
Janet Duncan**
(usually available on Monday and Thursday mornings)

**Email: officebroadside@gmail.com
Telephone 07887 544 408**

**Letters and mail should continue to be
addressed to**

**The Broadside Benefice
The Rectory, The Street,
South Walsham, Norfolk NR13 6DQ**

Pastoral Care of Parishioners

If anyone requires visiting or wishes to make arrangements for a baptism, marriage or funeral, please inform one of your churchwardens listed below.

CHURCHWARDENS

RANWORTH with PANXWORTH

David Benham
01603 721546

John Ley
01603 270158

WOODBASTWICK

Kit Cator
01603 720276

SOUTH WALSHAM

Sue Hitchcock
01603 270212

UPTON

Lee Smith
01493 750764

Joyce Warren
01493 752237

FISHLEY

Ivan Barnard
01493 751265