

**The United Benefice of Cogenhoe and Great Houghton
and Little Houghton with Brafield on the Green**

www.theunitedbenefice.org.uk

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***Sunday 17 February 2019
The Third Sunday before Lent***



COLLECT

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity, give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger, draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Diary of Events this week

Monday 18 February
7.45 p.m. Bell Ringing Practice, Cogenhoe

Tuesday 19 February
10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning, 114 Station Road, Cogenhoe

Wednesday 20 February
7.45 p.m. Bell Ringing Practice, Brafield

Thursday 21 February
8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist, Cogenhoe
12 noon Midday Prayers and Lunch, Little Houghton

Friday 22 February

Saturday 23 February
Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155

Sunday 24 February
The Second Sunday before Lent
8.00 a.m. Prayer Book Communion, Brafield
9.30 a.m. Family Service, Cogenhoe
11.00 a.m. Family Communion, Great Houghton
6.00 p.m. Sung Evensong, Little Houghton

Daily Reading

2 Chron 2.1-16

2 Chron ch 3

2 Chron ch 5

2 Chron 6.1-21

2 Chron 6.22-end

2 Chron ch 7

Gen 2.4-25

Rev ch 4

Luke 8.22-25



Please hold in your prayers the late **Keith Clayton** of Great Houghton, **Michael Bray**, formerly of Great Houghton, and **Ron Corin** formerly of Cogenhoe and their families.

Grant them rest eternal, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. **Amen.**

Please pray for all who have died in the faith of Christ and whose anniversaries fall at this time

Important Notice for the Church Electoral Rolls

This year we are required to draw up a new Electoral Roll rather than revise the old one. Forms are available in each church and can be downloaded from the church website at

<http://www.theunitedbenefice.org.uk/electoral.html>

Completed forms can be left in your church or returned to your Electoral Roll Officer

Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in their bodies or minds. Especially Doreen Gibson, Ann Cadd, Sue Deacon, Christine Craven, Phil Scarboro,

Soothe their pain and ease their worry.
Give them your peace and comfort. **Amen.**



THE GOSPEL - Luke 6:17-26

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets." "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Lent Course

Lent is approaching fast so please take the opportunity to join a Lent Study group. Two options will be available to join as a Benefice to explore our faith together by watching Casablanca over the course of five weeks. The film deals with the themes of love, loss, faith and sacrifice, all of which can help us reflect on the message of the Gospel. The options available are Wednesday afternoon 2 - 4pm St Peters Church Rooms, Cogenhoe, and Thursday evening 7pm - 9pm St Mary's Church, Little Houghton, beginning on 13th and 14th March. Please sign up and indicate your preference on the sheet at the back of church.

Please speak to me if you have any queries.

Reverend Irene

FIRST READING - Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

SECOND READING - 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? 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. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

.REAL EASTER EGGS

I plan to order 'Real Easter Eggs' from the Meaningful Chocolate Company during the first week of March.

- Fair trade chocolate
- plastic free packaging
- tell the Easter story
- profits support charity
- Original Milk chocolate egg (150g) with story/activity book £3.99
or Dark Chocolate egg (180g)with Easter guide and Easter sharing book £5.50

Please let me know how many eggs you would like me to order by the end of February. Jenny Smith. tel:891166 jennysmith@hotmail.co.uk

The Bishops Bible Day is on the theme of

'The Bible and Mission'

9.30am-4pm

Saturday 9th March at Peterborough Cathedral or

Saturday 16th March at Northampton High School

Booking is free but donations are welcome. (it costs the diocese approx. £5 per person). Please book by Friday a week before the event: 01604 887049 or email: bookings@peterborough-diocese.org.uk