



THE NORTH BOSMERE BENEFICE

Coddenham, Creeting St Mary,
Creeting St Peter, Crowfield,
Earl Stonham with Stonham Parva,
Gosbeck, Hemingstone,
Stonham Aspal and Mickfield



**IN LIGHT OF THE INCREASING RATE OF COVID-19
INFECTION IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT SERVICES IN
CHURCH BUILDINGS IN THIS BENEFICE ARE SUSPENDED
FOR THE TIME BEING.**

**HOWEVER, CHURCH BUILDINGS ARE OPEN FOR PRIVATE
PRAYER IN LINE WITH THE NEW COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS.**

**All services are on Zoom and are Benefice services.
All are welcome.**

To join a Zoom service: email reader.ruthdennigan@gmail.com.
at least 2 days before the service. Click on the link she sends.

THIS SUNDAY 14 February – Sunday before Lent

Readings: 2 Kings 2.1-12, 2 Corinthians 4. 3-6, Mark 9. 2-9

9.30am Zoom Service to launch Kagera Lent Challenge
Reading for Kagera Service Romans 12: 4-11

**Ash Wednesday 17 February 7.00pm Zoom
Reflective Service**

Friday 19 February 6.30pm Zoom Evening Prayer

NEXT SUNDAY 21 February – Lent 1

Readings: Genesis 9. 8-17, 1 Peter 3. 18-22, Mark 1. 9-15
9.30am Zoom Morning Worship

Rector: Revd Philip Payne 01449 711684
revphilippayne@btinternet.com

READINGS 14 February - Sunday before Lent

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

⁴ Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰ He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory

of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Mark 9:2-9

² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

REGULAR CHURCH OPENING TIMES

Coddenham	Thursdays 8am-5pm
Creeting St Mary	Sundays 2pm-4pm
Creeting St Peter	Sundays 10am-3pm
Crowfield	Sundays 10am-4pm
Earl Stonham	Sundays 12pm-4pm
Gosbeck	Wednesdays and Sundays 9am-6pm
Hemingstone	Every day
Stonham Aspal	Sundays 10am-4pm

CHANGES TO CHURCH OPENING TIMES

Coddenham Church

Open on Sunday 28th Feb instead of Thursday 25th Feb

Stonham Aspal Church - Closed on Sunday 20 February

WHAT'S ON

Lent Groups on Zoom for 2021!

If you'd like a way to help you to specially mark Lent this year, why not join one of our Lent Groups. Running on Zoom only due to the current restrictions, we will meet to follow "Living Lent with Mark" - six sessions looking at the events we remember during Holy Week, from Jesus' last supper with his disciples, to their awaiting his resurrection. How can we better understand this story and what it means for us, now? How might it help us draw closer to God this Lent, Holy Week and Easter?

- Six Tuesday evenings from 23rd Feb-30th March, 7.30-8.30pm, led by Henry (contact henrystanford@btinternet.com for more information and to book your place)
- Six Wednesday mornings from 24th Feb-31st March, 10-11am, led by Ruth (contact reader.ruthdennigan@gmail.com for more information and to book your place).

A PRAYER FOR WINTER

There is a winter in all of our lives, a chill and darkness that makes us yearn for days that have gone or put our hope in days yet to be.

Father God, you created seasons for a purpose.

Spring is full of expectation, buds breaking, frosts abating and an awakening of creation before the first days of summer.

Now the sun gives warmth and comfort to our lives, reviving aching joints bringing colour, new life and crops to fruiting.

Autumn gives nature space to lean back, relax and enjoy the fruits of its labour, mellow colours in sky and landscape as the earth prepares to rest.

Then winter, cold and bare as nature takes stock rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right.

An endless cycle and yet a perfect model.

We need a winter in our lives a time of rest, a time to stand still a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live.

It is only then that we can draw strength from the one in whom we are rooted, take time to grow and rise through the darkness into the warm glow of your springtime to blossom and flourish bring colour and vitality into this world your garden.

Thank you Father for the seasons of our lives

© John Birch, 2016 www.faithandworship.com

For your event here or to receive this by email, contact Liz on 01449 711365 or lizandjohnnce@gmail.com by Tuesday