

THE A20 BENEFICE DIARY – NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2017

NOVEMBER 2017

November 2017	Time	Church / location	Service / Event
Friday 3 rd NOVEMBER	6-7 pm	Brabourne	Start the month with First Friday – drinks, nibbles and chat. All welcome. Julia and Keith Heustice, our hosts this month are sure to give us an excellent evening. Please do come along.
Saturday 4 th	from 9.30am	Brabourne	Churchyard tidying. All help very welcome.
SUNDAY 5th (1 st Sunday) 4 TH BEFORE ADVENT	10.00am	Brabourne	Family Service (Lay-led) – Celebrating All Saints The service is followed by refreshments
	9.30 am	Mersham	Family Morning Praise
	5.00 pm – 6.30 pm	Mersham	Youth Group where youngsters from the Benefice can meet in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Games, discussion, free time, sharing ideas etc.
	11.00 am	Sellindge VILLAGE HALL	Celebration Praise A fresh style of informal service that starts with coffee and cake. ALL Welcome
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Smeeth	Service of All Souls at Smeeth. If you would like someone remembered at this service please contact either Di Dawson (01303-813398) or Anne Puttick (anneputtick@yahoo.com). If it is easier, please ask your Churchwarden to convey the information to Di and Anne.
Monday 6 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer

Friday 10 th NOVEMBER	2.30 pm	Smeeth Oak Room	Knit and Natter Please come along and knit, natter, sew, colour etc.... and enjoy a cuppa and company.
SUNDAY 12th (2 nd Sunday) 3 RD BEFORE ADVENT	10.45 am	Mersham	Service of Remembrance
	10.30 am	Sellindge	Lay-led Remembrance Service with contributions from 1st Sellindge Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, 1st Sellindge Scouts and the Parish Council.
	10.30 am	Smeeth	Brabourne and Smeeth Service of Remembrance
Monday 13 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer
Thursday, 16 th	10.30 am – 12 noon	41, Mountbatten Way, Brab'ne Lees	Coffee Morning in aid of Smeeth Church, courtesy of Margaret and David Kitney. Coffee and cake, produce, books and plenty more besides. Please make sure you don't miss this.
Saturday 18 th	10.00 am – 2.00 pm	Sellindge Village Hall	Sellindge Christmas Fair. There will be a variety of stalls with crafts, cakes, raffles, tombola and more. 1 st Sellindge Rainbows and Brownies will be singing Christmas carols – AND – children can have lunch with Father Christmas!! There will also be cooked lunches for adults.
SUNDAY 19th (3 rd Sunday) 2 ND BEFORE ADVENT		Brabourne	No service at Brabourne – but please watch this space for January, February and March
	9.30 am	Mersham	Morning Praise
	11.00 am	Sellindge	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Stowting	Family Service – Creative time of worship for children and adults of all ages
Monday 20 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer
Friday 24 th	3-4.45 ish	Smeeth Oak Room	Fridays@3 - A quiz devised by George Taylor, followed by a delicious tea. All welcome. For transport, please contact Di Dawson (01303 – 813398)
Saturday 25 th	10.00 am – 2.00 pm	Brabourne and Smeeth Village Hall	Friends of St Mary Brabourne's Annual Christmas Craft Fair – tea, coffee, lunch and lots of craft work on sale including a huge range of Christmas presents
	10.30 am – 2.00 pm	Mountbatten Hall, (Village Hall) Mersham	Mersham's Christmas Fair – Craft work, Christmas presents, tea, coffee and lunch

SUNDAY 26th (4 th Sunday) CHRIST THE KING	11.00 am	Brabourne	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Mersham	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Monks Horton	Evensong
	11.00 am	Sellindge	Party Praise – Lay led. Special Stir-Up Sunday service during which children will learn about the story of Advent and Christmas. The service will conclude with a candy cane hunt around the church.
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Morning Service
	8.00 am	Stowting	Holy Communion
Monday 27 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer

DECEMBER 2017

December 2017	Time	Church / location	Service / Event
Friday 1 st DECEMBER	6.00 pm	Brabourne	First Friday's First Christmas Party – hosted by Ben, Bev, Janet, Joe... and others. Hope you can make it. Should be good fun.
	7.30 pm	Mersham	Another Great Classic Film Night. Film will be advertised in Mersham Church or please email wombatdancing@btinternet.com to find out what the film is.
Saturday 2 nd	from 9.30 am	Brabourne	Churchyard tidying – all help very welcome.
Sunday 3 rd (1 st Sunday)	10.00am	Brabourne	Family Service (Lay led). Advent and Christmas Please stay for coffee after the service
ADVENT 1	9.30 am	Mersham	Family Morning Praise
	5.00 pm – 6.30 pm	Mersham	Youth Group where youngsters from the Benefice can meet in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Games, discussion, free time, sharing ideas etc.
	11.00 am	Sellindge Village Hall	Celebration Praise A fresh style of informal service which starts with coffee and cake. ALL Welcome
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Holy Communion
	7.00 pm	Smeeth	We are delighted to welcome back Lees Court Music to St. Mary's, Smeeth for a concert of Music for Advent Sunday. Tickets available on the door.
Monday 4 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer

Friday 8 th DECEMBER	10.30-12.00 noon	Smeeth Oak Room	Christmas Coffee Morning in aid of Smeeth Church. Coffee and tea in abundance, stalls selling Christmas food - and a raffle. Quite definitely an event not to be missed!
	2.30 pm	Smeeth Oak Room	Knit and Natter Please come along with your knitting, sewing etc..... and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.
SUNDAY 10 th (2 nd Sunday) ADVENT 2 Human Rights Day	11.00 am	Brabourne	Holy Communion – Rev. Paul Miller
	9.30 am	Mersham	Family Communion – Rev. Tim Wilson
	3.00 pm	Monks Horton	Holy Communion – Canon Caroline Pinchbeck
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Second Sunday Special: Creative times of worship for children & adults – followed by refreshments.
Monday 11 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer
Saturday 16 th	5.00 pm	Mersham	Village Carol Service – with wine and mince pies.
SUNDAY 17 th (3 rd Sunday) ADVENT 3	9.30 am	Mersham	Morning Praise
	4.00 pm	Sellindge	Carol Service
	9.30 am	Smeeth	Family Communion – Canon Caroline Pinchbeck
		Stowting	Carol Service (details to be confirmed). It may be on SATURDAY evening
Monday 18 th	8.30 am	Mersham	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 20 th	7.00 pm	Brabourne	Carol Service
SUNDAY 24 th (4 th Sunday) CHRISTMAS EVE	10.00 am	Brabourne	Crib Blessing and Coffee. Whether or not you are a regular worshipper, please come and join in this short blessing of the crib which is lovingly assembled each year by Oliver Trowell. This is the first time we have had a crib blessing at Brabourne. Children (of any age) are welcome to dress up for the occasion. After the crib blessing there will be plenty of opportunity to catch up with friends, drink coffee, tea and probably have something nice to eat.
	4.00 pm	Mersham	Crib Service. As usual, the crib service in Mersham on Christmas Eve will be an imaginative retelling of the Christmas story. It is a magical occasion when young children dress up with gowns, tea towels,

SUNDAY 24th (4 th Sunday)			angel wings and glitter to recreate the wonderful Christmas message together. Just as much enjoyed by parents and grandparents too.
CHRISTMAS EVE	10.00 pm	Mersham	'Midnight in Bethlehem' - Midnight Communion – Canon Caroline Pinchbeck
	6.00 pm	Monks Horton	Carol Service
	11.30 pm	Sellindge	Midnight Communion – Rev. Paul Miller
	4.00 pm	Smeeth	Crib Service – bringing the Christmas story to life.
	11.30 pm	Smeeth	Midnight Communion – Canon Caroline Pinchbeck
Monday 25 th	10.00 am	Brabourne	Family Service and Communion – Canon Caroline Pinchbeck
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.30 am	Mersham	Family Service
	10.30 am	Stowting	Family Service and Communion – Rev. Roger Martin
Friday 29 th	3-4.45 ish	Smeeth Oak Room	Fridays@3 Christmas Sing-Song with Christmas cake and mince pies. Perfect for winding down after Christmas. For transport, please contact Di Dawson (01303 – 813398)
SUNDAY 31st (5 th Sunday)	10.00am	Benefice Service at Monks Horton	