

**OCTOBER 2015 ROTA**  
**for the East Marshland Benefice**

**4th October 2015**

- 9.30 am Holy Communion at Tilney St. Lawrence Church  
9.30 am Taize Service at Tilney All Saints Church  
9.30 am Holy Communion and Harvest at St. Germans Church  
11.00 am Village Harvest Thanksgiving & Family Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church  
11.00 am United Café Service in Terrington St John Chapel  
17.00 pm Evensong at St. Germans Church

**11th October 2015**

- 10.00 am Benefice Service at Tilney All Saints  
11.00 am Morning Prayer at St Mary Magdalene Church  
17.00 pm Evensong at St. Germans Church

**18th October 2015**

- 8.00 am Holy Communion at Terrington St. John Church  
9.30 am Taize Service at Tilney St. Lawrence Church  
9.30 am Holy Communion at Tilney All Saints Church  
9.30 am United Breakfast Service at St. Germans Church  
11.00 am Family Service with Holy Communion at St. Mary Magdalene Church  
17.00pm Evensong at Wiggenhall St. Germans Church

**25th October 2015**

- 9.30 am Holy Communion at Tilney St. Lawrence Church  
9.30 am Holy Communion at Tilney All Saints Church  
9.30 am United Service at Wiggenhall St. Germans Chapel  
11.00 am Café Service at Terrington St. John Church  
11.00 am Holy Communion at St. Mary Magdalene Church  
17.00 pm Holy Communion at Wiggenhall St Germans Church

**EAST MARSHLAND BENEFICE**  
**GOOD NEWS PARISH MAGAZINE**  
**OCTOBER 2015**



## Letter from the Vicarage October 2015

I have just been reading a sermon from Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, in which he made some very perceptive remarks.

In his sermon he reflects on Passover, which is celebrated each year to remind the Jews how God had miraculously taken them out of physical slavery in Egypt into the Promised Land. He then went on to critique some of the forms of slavery that, over the years, the Jewish nation had been subjected, (such as the Spanish Inquisition and Chmielnicki massacres) culminating in the Holocaust.

But then he went on to say this:

*"..while we think we are free, we are still servants. We, who grow up in the West amid phenomenal pressures to conform, to own a bigger house, to work all hours of the day and night so that we have no time for family, community or religion, are perhaps the most enslaved generation of all. Think of all the millions enslaved to a superficial definition of success, which will laud a man who becomes chairman of his company, even though he has no reputation for integrity, is on his third marriage and is estranged from his children. Think of all those who are enslaved to the pursuit of pleasure at the expense of obligation and duty."*

Put another way, we all have a "God-seeking void" in our lives that we will fill with something.

It was Jean Paul Sartre, the famous French philosopher would was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964 (only to turn it down) and avowed atheist who wrote about this human dilemma with painful honesty:

*"That God does not exist I cannot deny,  
but that my whole being cries out for God, I cannot forget."*

## St Germans Methodist Chapel Services

### October15

4<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015 – No Service

11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015 - 9.30am Morning Service – Heather Brown

18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015 – 9.30am United Family Breakfast Service at Parish Church

25<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015 – 9.30am United Holy Communion –  
Revd. Alan Bennett

### Christmas Unwrapped!

#### Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December

#### Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene Church

10 am to 3pm.

Are you a young person aged between 6 to 11?  
Would you like to help us **Unwrap Christmas?**  
We do this with various activities, including,  
***singing, games, craft and drama.***

During the day we will rehearse a short Nativity Play and Carol Service, which you will perform to your parents and families at 2pm, after which tea, coffee and mince pies will be served.

What do you need to bring? Just yourself and a packed lunch (drinks and biscuits will be provided during a break in the morning).

What do your parents need to do? Send a registration form to Chris Hale by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December with £5.00 per child (cheques made payable to Magdalen PCC). Registration Forms are available from the back of Magdalene Church, Magdalen Village Hall or Chris Hale. If you need any further information, or would like a registration form, please contact:

**Chris Hale on 01553 810385  
(77, Stow Road, Magdalen, PE34 3DJ)**

## **Magdalen Church Barn Dance at Magdalen Village Hall**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 7.30pm  
£6.00 including a Ploughman's Supper.  
Bar applied for  
Tickets from Alan 01553 810796 or Betty King

## **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October Magdalen Village Harvest Thanksgiving and Family Service at 11.00am**

when the homework is to bring tins or packets of food for the Food Bank in Wisbech.

## **Magdalen Village Harvest Supper**

in Magdalen Church **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October** 6.30pm  
£5.00 two course hot meal.  
Bring your own wine etc.  
Tickets from Alan 01553 810796 or Betty King

**Confirmation Classes** start on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm  
They will be held at Toll Bar Cottage, Magdalen.  
If anyone would like to attend please contact the Vicar or Alan

## **Family Services**

We have held our regular Family Services on the first and third Sundays at 11.00am and they have been fun with Children taking part.

**8<sup>th</sup> November 10.50am** Magdalen Village Annual Service of Remembrance

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November** Start Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fayre 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Because of a shortage of page space in the October edition a more detailed report will be given with a loose sheet for the residents of Magdalen village. If anyone would like a copy please let Alan know.

We all feel that cry for God has set that desire in our hearts.

With Harvest just being around the corner as I write this, it is good to remember God's provisions for us in Harvest – but let us not stop there – with our daily bread.

For in contrast to Sartre's despair, Jesus has offered us the solution for our God shaped void when he said:

*"I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." (Jn 6:35)*

If only you would open your eyes, Jesus was saying to the crowds who followed him, that supernatural bread to satisfy your desire for God is staring you in the face. But it is not a something but a someone.

But for many this bread was just too hard to swallow.

If Jesus had said that obtaining eternal life is a matter of giving to charity, there would be plenty who would go out and buy their spiritual insurance.

If Jesus had said that obtaining eternal life is a matter of practising yoga in your bedroom three times a day, there would be thousands who would be willing to undergo for that discipline.

If Jesus had said that obtaining eternal life is a matter of being successful in life, he would have had no shortage of takers.

But Jesus didn't.

He said that eternal life was not a possession but a gift. A gift received through a personal relationship with Him. A gift that was made possible by his death on the Cross.

The cross is not just a pretty piece of jewellery. Nor is the Cross just a beautiful symbol of heroism and self-sacrifice. It was a cruel and shameful death. Indeed people in polite Roman Society didn't talk about crucifixions, as it was simply horrific.

The message of Jesus is simply this. If you want to be right with God, if you want to have assurance about sins forgiven, and if you want eternal security, then your need to come to Jesus - the Bread of Life.

As St John records – all you have to do is to receive him into your life.

*But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. (Jn 1:12)*

It is as simple as that. For there is a proper way to fill the “God void” that we have.

With my best wishes

Revd Martin Dale (email:mndale@aol.com Tel: 01945 880259)

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Please forward all items for the **NOVEMBER** newsletter to

*Revd. Martin Dale at [mndale@aol.com](mailto:mndale@aol.com)*

No later than **THURSDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

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### **Tilney All Saints Church News**

Now summer is over we find ourselves moving through autumn. The days are getting chillier and the days shorter. It's a good time for curling up somewhere cosy with an entertaining book. Don't forget The Book Exchange: which has an amazing selection of books and jigsaws freely available for anyone to borrow. The Book Exchange is situated in the Meeting Room in the church and is accessed via the wooden door just past the War Memorial. This door is usually left unlocked although it does 'stick' occasionally.

Many people use the book exchange and we have been grateful for all the generous donations of books. Unfortunately we have completely run out of space to store any more books so no more donations for a while please!

### **MyPad'**

(Magdalen Young People's Activities and Discussion)

### **Are you aged 9+?**

### **Do you enjoy meeting people of a similar age and having meaningful discussions? Then why not give us a try?**

Starting Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 7 – 8.30 (and every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday thereafter), we are starting a Young People's Activities and Discussion Group (**MyPad**), for young people aged 9 years plus. This will run in Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene Church and will be organised and supervised by a dedicated team of volunteers who are interested in the thoughts and ideas of young people.

Refreshments offered will be tea, coffee, squash, juice, hot chocolate, nibbles and cakes/biscuits, and the discussion will be prompted either by a Bible passage or a recent local/world event which could be linked to a moral issue.

The heating and lighting in the church will mean we can be warm and comfortable even in the winter, and the area outside means that in the summer evenings an outside meeting will not be out of the question (although the cool of the church might be preferable!)

We will be charging a nominal fee of £1 per evening to cover the costs of refreshment and any resources.

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### **ALL ENQUIRIES ON CHURCH MATTERS**

(including weddings, baptisms and funerals)

to Revd Martin Dale

01945-880259 or by email to [mndale@aol.com](mailto:mndale@aol.com)

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## Wiggenhall St. Germans News

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who supported the Hog Roast in July when £281 was raised towards the toilet project. It was a very enjoyable evening in lovely surroundings and we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who helped and especially to Peter Webb for hosting the event.

The installation of the toilet cubicle is progressing with the roof and wiring now in place. It is expected that the soundproofing and wall linings will be in place in the next week or so.

As our stock for the church bookstall has been depleted we would be very glad to hear from anyone who has any books they would like to donate. These can be given to any church member or left in the church.

### Harvest Open Day

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Come and see the flower arrangements in the church

Stalls: Nearly New \* Books \* Harvest Food

Light refreshments available

**Our Harvest Festival will be held on**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30 a.m.**

Any perishable goods will be available after the service for a small donation. Tinned goods will be donated to the food bank

### Youth Club

**The Next Club Night is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**7.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.**

At Wiggenhall St. Germans Methodist Chapel

Run by members of the local churches this is open to all young people

11 years and over - Come and have fun

Table Tennis – Badminton – Pool - Activities – Cooking

£1 per night

Contact Angie on KL 617518 for further information.

## Church Roof:

We have a great deal of money to raise in order to properly repair the Church Roof. If anyone has any fund-raising ideas or would be willing to make a regular donation via direct debit, please get in touch.

## Dates for your Diary:

### Harvest Festival

Will be at 10am on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> October in TAS church. Please come along. Donations of produce will be very welcome and will be 'sold' (by donations) at the end of the service. Money raised will be shared between Water Aid and CLIC Sargent, a charity caring for children with cancer.

Memorial Service for the bereaved.

Will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> November at 2.30pm in TAS church.

### Remembrance Day Service:

10.30am 8<sup>th</sup> November Tilney All Saints Church.

### The Christmas Carol Service

3pm 20<sup>th</sup> December in TAS church. (Donations to be shared between Shelter and another charity yet to be decided.

### Crib Service

4pm, 24<sup>th</sup> December in TAS church

The Church is your Church although the Church is its people, not the building. It's an organisation that is there for you. No-one needs an invitation, everyone is extremely welcome to join in services or visit the building whenever they choose. When you visit, we hope you will find a place of prayerful peace and serenity.

Rev'd Barbara Pearman

01553 828808 - email - [barbarapearman@hotmail.com](mailto:barbarapearman@hotmail.com)

**Winter Fair on Saturday 28th November 2015**  
**at the TSJ Methodist Church 9.30 to 11.30**

STALLS      GAMES      RAFFLE

COMPETITIONS - details below

ADULTS: Make a Christmas Themed Table Decoration on a Plate

CHILDREN: Make a Christmas Tree Decoration

AND bring on the day, to be judged

Prizes for both categories

We look forward to seeing YOU

**Tilney St Lawrence**

There will be a Bingo at Tilney St Lawrence Village Hall on 5th November. Eyes down 7:15pm. Proceeds for Tilney St Lawrence Church. Prizes would be gratefully received. To donate a prize or any info, please call Sandra on 079 907 504 28. Refreshments will be available.

Many thanks  
Sandra Jacklin

**Summer Fun' at Magdalen Parish Church - Chris Hale**

Following last year's Summer Event, 'TRUST', it was decided to try a change of format, so rather than having an event held on one day a week for four weeks, we would try four consecutive days in one week. We talked to the parents of our regular attenders and the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> August was voted to be the one that the fewest of them would be away.

**News From Wiggenhall St Mary The Virgin**

**Thank you!**

A big thank you to everyone who cleaned, baked, exhibited, helped, and came to support our Art Exhibition on August Bank Holiday weekend. Together we raised over £536 pounds!

The Kenyan Orphanage Project received over £311 pounds of this, the rest went to the Churches' Conservation Trust, this was the condition for using the church.

It was so successful we plan to do it again next year!

**New Church Opening Times:**

From 1<sup>st</sup> October the church will be open at weekends between 10am and 4pm. The key can be obtained at other times from the house at the bottom of the drive.

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***"The Benefice Council would like to thank Linda Cobb for the many years of service as our editor.***

***Now she has stepped down we are looking for a new editor. We are able to offer the use of a two year old HP Pavilion computer***

***Please contact Revd. Martin Dale at [mndale@aol.com](mailto:mndale@aol.com) if you are willing to help or you know someone who might."***

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The next **Superbook Movie Night** will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October in Terrington St John Methodist Church 5.30 for 6pm start. - £2.00 per person  
A fun filled family night with film, food, drink, quiz, prizes and art and crafts to be held once a month.

To book please contact Maddy Dale on 01945-880 259

**SMELL:** Steam Railways, Wood piled ready for the winter, Wooden Pews in English Church, Wood in Wood-Carving Centre; Alpine Flowers; Oil, fuelling the Rack Railways; Freshness of the Mountain Air

**TOUCH:** Fur on a Bernese Mountain Dog at the top of Schilthorn Mountain (no brandy, just wearing a Swiss Scarf!!!); making up our Picnic lunches after Breakfast each day; Souvenir Buying and Packing for Family and Friends, Holding our Rover Tickets to show on Every Form of Transport in the Interlaken Area; Handshakes with People we met and during the Peace at the Church. Pat held on tight whilst doing a Tandem Para-Glide. We were in awe of her courage and “get up and go”!!

10 of us stayed for a week at the Artos Hotel, Interlaken in the Bernese Oberland of Switzerland. Artos means “Bread” in Greek and bread is baked daily at the Hotel. The ethos of the Hotel is based on Christian principles and there is a very Caring, Hospitable, Friendly Atmosphere throughout the building. The Rooms are Well-Appointed and the Cuisine is Highly Recommended. There is a Chapel at the Hotel for times of Devotion.

St Bernard’s Church in Wengen was built by the Intercontinental Church Society for English-speaking residents and visitors. All Ministers or “Seasonal Chaplains” work there voluntarily. The timber-framed Church was built in 1927 and it underwent major repair and refurbishment between 2002-2006.

We saw Schiller’s play, “William Tell”, set in 1291, in a theatre with an open-air stage. Cows, sheep, horses and a cast of hundreds of local people took part in the play about the reluctant hero, Tell. We all know about him shooting the apple off his son’s head but the reasons why and the aftermath are not so well known. Maddy, Martin and my programme can explain all!!!

Altogether a Super Holiday, Many thanks for ALL the organisation to Maddy and Martin Dale and for the Fellowship of our Group. The Hotel has been booked for The Dale Group from 23<sup>rd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> July 2016, so it’s up You.....???

Brenda Steel

We also decided to give our Summer Event a ‘name’ – we have ‘Christmas Unwrapped’ and ‘Easter Cracked’, and after much discussion amongst the leaders – ‘Summer Fun’ was conceived.

So if you were around Magdalene Church from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> August between 10am and 2pm (3pm on the 13<sup>th</sup>) you would have seen twelve leaders and between sixteen and twenty 6-11 year olds having ‘FUN’.

### **Day 1 – The Parable of the Prodigal Son**

All children had arrived by 10am and their first activity was to colour banners to go in the church. After a juice break, we heard the story of the Prodigal Son ably told by Daisy and Granddad, two of our resident puppets. Craft activities included a plate telling the story, and making a photo frame out of pasta which was taken away and spray painted. This was presented to the child at the end of the week with a group photograph of all the children in it. After lunch, we moved outside to ‘party’ with balloons, which had to be popped and the words found inside had to be put in order, there were then other traditional ‘party games’. The day finished with a practice of the hymns for the Final Celebration and saying the Lord’s Prayer together.

### **Day 2 – The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

Today started with the colouring of a stained glass ‘Samaritan’ story, which was followed, after the juice break, by Sam’s woeful tale of his ‘thorn in the toe’, when no one was prepared to help him. Daisy was quite unsympathetic, but he had been helped by Mrs Tibbs, who Christine told him was his neighbour – Sam found the concept of a neighbour living at the other end of the village quite difficult – the children on the other hand did not! After lunch, the children thoroughly enjoyed making a ‘picture’ of the Good Samaritan scene using stickers – it was surprisingly effective, and they were all delighted with the finished product. We then went outside to play a game of ‘tag’ based on the Samaritan, and they ran off some energy. We again finished by singing and saying the Lord’s Prayer.

### Day 3 – The Parable of the Lost Sheep

After the introductory picture and juice break, the story of the Lost Sheep was told by Alan, who had brought with him the ‘lamb’ that was lost from the story. It was difficult to understand lamb to start with as he would only speak ‘sheepish’ but Alan explained that he needed to talk English. Things went smoothly after that, although Lamb did have a tendency to exaggerate! After the telling of the story, the children made lambs themselves, followed by playing a game using sponges and water – no-one got thaaaaaaat wet! Whilst this game was going on – the sheep got itself lost again in the church yard and the children were sent on a mission to find it. After lunch we played a game of ‘sheep, sheep shepherd’, then another sheep – a child dressed in a sheep’s outfit – hid in the bushes, and the children had to find him.

We again finished with singing and the Lord’s Prayer.

### Day 4 – The Parable of the Sower

And so to the final day. The children arrived, bright and full of life (the leaders not quite so full of life!)

We began with some more banners and a picture to colour about the Sower. After the juice break, Chris and Sam told the story of The Sower (which Sam first thought was about a man doing embroidery!!)

The children then made a ‘door hanger’ showing the parable on it, and we went outside to play with water pistols to water the seeds – all got a little wetter this time (note to self, next time buy better pistols!) and a game where the teams had to compete to keep the flowers or seeds, but get rid of the rocks and thistles within their area, whilst fighting off birds..... The children loved it and asked if they could play it again!

During lunch, parts were allocated for the Final Celebration, the readers had been selected on Day 1, and after lunch whilst Alan played a quiz of Snakes and Ladders the children were put into their costumes. Revd. Barbara Pearman concluded the day with prayer.

My thanks to all the many helpers who enabled this event to be put on.

Chris Hale

## SENSES FROM SWITZERLAND

**HEARING:** Bells of all sizes on cows, sheep and goats; 3 Alpine Horns played by a family group on Rothorn Mountain; Thunder Claps both natural and technically produced during a performance of “William Tell”, Actors Voices and Horses Hooves during the same performance; the Sounds of Trains, particularly the Rack and Funicular Railways; Water being moved by the large wheels of Paddle Steamers; Languages from all over the World; Piano Music (Bach, Daquin, Chopin, & Liszt among others) at a Recital in our Hotel, also, during supper one evening, a local Trio played Traditional Swiss Tunes on their Accordions and a Double Bass; Jazz Concert in “The Meadow” in town; Aeroplane Engines as we flew between London Luton and Basel and Coach Engines between Vicarage and Luton, Basel Airport and Interlaken Hotel; Words of our Holy Communion Services at the English Church in Wengen and the Church in Interlaken attended by Veronica and Rosemary; Guitar playing by Martin at the English Church during the Hymns

**SIGHT:** Swiss Flags with a white cross on a red background were flying everywhere; Amazing Scenery, Breath-Taking Panoramas; Jungfrau was the Highest Mountain at 13,642ft, closely followed by the Monch (13,449ft) and the Eiger (13,026ft); Highest Mountain we went up was the Schilthorn (9,748ft); Villages on Lakes Brienz and Thun; Chalets of all sizes in villages or isolated up mountains.

Waterfalls cascading down but very little Snow and few Glaciers these days; Medieval Castles, (we visited Oberhofen Castle); Alpine Flowers such as Edelweiss, Gentian, Alpine Columbine (Aquilegia Alpina) & Carlina Thistle. As the holiday was just after the 1<sup>st</sup> August, the Swiss National Day, there were many red Geraniums abounding in gardens, pots and on balconies

**TASTE:** Just say “Swiss Food”, need I say more!! Dishes and Soups using Herbs & Interesting Sauces; Ice Creams; Almond and Jam Tarts; Swiss Salads; Pork Fillet; Turkey Escalope in Batter; Emmental Cheese; Felchen, a Fish caught in Lake Thun; Chocolate; Maddy’s Cold Ovaltine 35 degrees daily!!!; Gallons of Tea & Coffee; Bread and Wine at Holy Communion held in an English Church in Wengen.