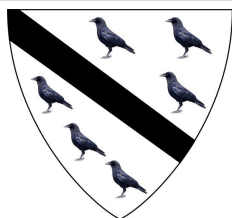


HIGH FRAMLAND NEWS

PARISHES OF
BRANSTON : CROXTON KERRIAL : HARSTON
KNIPTON : SALTBY : SPROXTON



The Revd Rowena Bass — tel. 01476 870749
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December 2013

As I write this, the news is all about the disaster in the Philippines and the devastation wrought by typhoon Haiyan. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this disaster.

The news is also full of the incredible amount of money raised in the UK for both this disaster and for the Children in Need appeal. £31 million so far for Children in Need, and over £13 million to the Philippines (and this figure is rising all the time).

Amazing! The generosity of the British public is phenomenal, especially as we are only just emerging from a long recession, and facing the costs of winter and Christmas.

Giving is an integral part of Christmas and this custom has ancient roots. The Romans, before the birth of Jesus, held end of year celebrations to honour Saturn, god of harvest, and Mithras, god of light. Fine meals, wine and giving presents were all part of the festivities.

When Jesus was born the Magi came from the east, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. St Nicholas, who was a bishop in 4th century Myra (in Asia Minor) was known for his kindness and generosity, especially towards children. According to tradition, he threw 3 bags of gold coins into a poor man's house to save him from selling his daughters. These gold coins landed in stockings hanging above the fire, and so the tradition of Christmas stockings was born. St Nicholas (whose feast day is 6th December) has evolved into the modern-day Santa Claus.

And giving at Christmas has evolved into an often frenzied, stressful, expensive and unnecessary activity. This year, as we enter the season of Advent, then Christmas, hopefully we will have time amidst the consumer rush, to reflect on the extraordinary generosity of British people all around us. Hopefully we will applaud this giving to the vulnerable and needy and realise that, paradoxically, giving to those who really need it, also enriches our lives. As St Francis said: **"It is in giving that we receive"**.

Have a joyful, generous Christmas.

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IN THE PARISHES

BRANSTON	Churchwarden:	Edmund Robb, 870809 Susan Wells, 870240
Readers:	22nd December	To be arranged
Flowers/brasses:		To be arranged
Cleaning:		To be arranged

THE PASCAL CANDLE IS IN BRANSTON CHURCH

CROXTON KERRIAL	Churchwardens:	Nalda Shipman, 870258 Barbara Jefferson, 870073
Readers:	1st December 24th December	OT Suzanne Pennells; NT Audrey Hatch OT Kim Ranns; NT Suzanne Pennells
Altar flowers:	8th December 22nd December	Mrs K Evans Mrs A Fairbrother CHRISTMAS

HARSTON	Churchwardens:	William Hurrell, 870123 Barrie Grice, 870452
Readers:	8th December 22nd December	OT Angela Skailes; NT Derek Carruthers OT Carol Scrimshaw; NT Serena Bradbeer

KNIPTON	Churchwarden:	Freda Hart, 01949 842732
Readers:	15th December 25th December 29th December	Edmund Robb Edmund Robb Edmund Robb

SALTBY	Churchwardens:	Mrs S Hill, 860398 Mr D Tebb, 562019
Cleaning:		Mrs J Tebb
Flowers:	No flowers in Advent All for Christmas	
Visiting bellringers:	No ringers booked for December	

SPROXTON	Churchwardens:	William Ennis, 07584 255340 Malise Graham, 01476 860266
Readers:	1st December	sproxtonchurchwardens@gmail.com OT Gillian Ennis; NT Roisin Ennis
Cleaning & flowers	December and January - <u>Helpers needed</u>	

BENEFICE NOTICES

MIDWEEK COMMUNION

On most Wednesdays of the month Rowena celebrates Holy Communion in Croxton Kerrial church at 9.30 am. On the 4th Wednesday Matins or Morning Prayer is led by a parishioner.

DIVINE OFFICE

Rowena says the Divine Office (said, not sung) in Harston Church each Tuesday at 8.00 am. Do join her if you would like to.

“ASPECTS OF PRAYER” - ADVENT COURSE

The Revd Rowena Bass will be running an Advent course on “Aspects of Prayer” on



Tuesday 3rd December
 Tuesday, 10th December, and
 Tuesday, 17th December
 at 7.00 pm in the vicarage.

PARISH NOTICES

KNIPTON

Tea at Three. Please note there will be no Tea at Three in December.

Table Top Sale. Knipton church are having a bottle stall at the Table Top Sale on Saturday, 7th December, in the Village Hall. Donations of bottles of any description (wine, squash, sauce, water etc.), can be left with Linda Caney, Lilac Cottage, 4 Nursery Lane, Knipton.

SALTBY

Salty 2000 are hosting a Christmas Fair in Saltby Church on Saturday, 7th December, from 11.00 am until 3.00 pm.

SPROXTON

The Village Hall pages of www.sproxton.org.uk have been upgraded to include a calendar of bookings, both private and for village events. This is viewable by all and should give the latest information. A look at the calendar before you make your booking will show what is available. In addition minutes of Village Hall meetings will be posted as soon as they are available. As always, I am most happy to receive digital photos to add to the gallery (photographer will be acknowledged). na.cooke1@gmail.com.

Carol Singing. This will take place as usual on Christmas Eve. We meet at 6.45 pm at Stonesby Road corner. Do join us. No previous experience needed. Voices of all types or none welcome. Carol sheets provided by Judy and Janet.

Village Hall 50/50 Club, October winners

1st (59) Mrs M Smith : 2nd (39) Mrs D Hollingworth : 3rd (3) Mr R Bennett

Village Hall Lunch. Wednesday, 11th December at 12.45 pm. Main course, dessert, plus tea/coffee for just £3.00. *All welcome.*

Village Hall breakfast. Sunday, 22nd December, 9.00 to 10.00 am. £3 per head, or £10 per family. All welcome.

	1st December Advent 1 PURPLE	8th December Advent 2 PURPLE	15 December Advent 3 PURPLE	22 December Advent 4 PURPLE	29 December 1st after CHRISTMAS WHITE
2013 Year A	Isaiah 2, 1-5 Romans 13, 11-14 Matthew 24, 36-44	Isaiah 11, 1-10 Romans 15, 4-13 Matthew 3, 1-12	Isaiah 35, 1-10 James 5, 7-10 Matthew 11, 2-11	Isaiah 7, 10-16 Romans 1, 1-7 Matthew 1, 18-25	Isaiah 63, 7-9 Hebrews 2, 10-18 Matthew 2, 13-23
Branston				9.00 am Holy Communion	
Croxton Kerrial	9.00 am Holy Communion	JOINT			
Harston		SERVICE		10.30 am Holy Communion	
		at			
Knipton		HARSTON		10.30 am Holy Communion	10.00 am Said Eucharist
Saltby		10.00 am		6.00 pm Joint Carol Service	
Sproxton	10.30 am Holy Communion			10.00 am Village Hall service	3.00 pm Christingle service

**Sproxton Village Hall service on 22nd December:
 Coffee and biscuits at 10.00 am, service starts 10.15 am**

CHRISTMAS EVE: MIDNIGHT MASS at CROXTON KERRIAL, 11.30 pm?
 Readings: 2 Samuel 7 (1-5, 8-11, 16); Acts 13 (16-26); Luke 1 (67-79)

CHRISTMAS DAY
HOLY COMMUNION at KNIPTON, 10.00 am
 Readings: Isaiah 9 (2-7); Titus 2 (11-14); Luke 2 (1-14, 15-20) ??



Copies of this newsletter can be found at
www.sproxton.org.uk and www.saltbyvillage.co.uk.
 Would you please pass any items for January 2014 by Sunday, 8th December, please,
 either to Nick Cooke, tel 01476 860745, email na.cooke1@gmail.com
 or Sue Watford, tel 01949 861256, email SueWatford@aol.com.