

# In & around the Benefice....

22nd April | Fourth Sunday of Easter

Our Rector is The Reverend Paula York  
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[www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk)



We welcome our guest preacher for our services today:

The Reverend Canon Steve Benoy,

Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocations & Formation Team Leader

## Worship in our churches...

### Today...

9.00am	Castle Ashby	Holy Communion
11.00am	Yardley Hastings	All Age HC
4.00pm	Grendon	Worship For All (followed by APCM)

### Next week 29th April, Fifth Sunday of Easter ...

11.00am	Grendon	Benefice Service - All Age HC
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### Midweek Services

Weds 9.30am	Grendon	Holy Communion
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## Please hold in your prayers this week...

- ◇ Our Bishops Donald and John
- ◇ Our curate Amanda and her husband Darren and family as she prepares for ordination
- ◇ Bishop Donald's pilgrimage to the Holy Land: 26 April to 5 May
- ◇ Persecuted Christians around the world
- ◇ Those affected by war in Syria, especially Eastern Ghouta
- ◇ Those in residential care and the housebound, among them: Gwen Brimacombe, Audrey Desborough, Ruth Williams.
- ◇ Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them: Betty Eyre, Delsie Greasley, and Hayley Singlehurst-Mooney.
- ◇ The recently departed, among them, Molly Hurst, and all who grieve at this time.



#PLEDGE2PRAY

Explore the Christian faith on a 6 week study course following the Pilgrim material on the Lord's Prayer

Saturdays, 9.15 - 11am, Grendon Church Room, starting 12th May

See separate flyer for more details and please book your place with Reverend Paula

To add events to the benefice [website](http://www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk), email [yardleyhastingsbeneficewebsite@gmail.com](mailto:yardleyhastingsbeneficewebsite@gmail.com)

To add events to the benefice [newsletter](http://www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk), email [yhbeneficenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:yhbeneficenewsletter@gmail.com)

## Dates for the Diary...

Sun	22nd	5.00pm	Grendon APCM (following service)
Tues	24th	7.00pm	Castle Ashby APCM
Weds	25th	7.30pm	St Mary's Community Choir, St Mary's Grendon
Thurs	26th	10.30am	Castle Ashby Community Coffee Morning, The Buttery, Castle Ashby
Thurs	26th	6.30pm	Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon
Fri	27th	3.30pm	After School coffee and cake, St Margaret's Denton
<b>May</b>			
Weds	2nd	11.00am	Little Fishes, St Mary's Grendon
Weds	2nd	7.30pm	St Mary's Community Choir, St Mary's Grendon
Weds	2nd	7.45pm	Benefice Choir Practice, St Andrew's Yardley Hastings
Sat	5th	9.30am	Ministry Team Meeting
Su/Mo	6th&7th	11am - 5pm	Totally Tulips Event, Yardley Hastings Memorial Hall
Weds	9th	6.30pm	Youth Group, St Mary's Grendon
Weds	9th	7.30pm	St Mary's Community Choir, Church Room Grendon
Weds	9th	7.45pm	Benefice Choir Practice, St Andrew's Yardley Hastings
Sat	12th	9.15am	Pilgrim course on the Lord's Prayer - first session, Church Room Grendon
Sat	12th	7.00pm	Safari Supper, Grendon
Fri	18th	10-12am	Christian Aid coffee morning and bring and buy sale, St Andrew's Yardley Hastings

There are several weekly coffee mornings in the benefice:

**Wednesdays** 10am, Grendon, see church noticeboard for venue

**Thursdays** 10.30-11.30am URC Yardley Hastings

**Fridays** 10am-12pm, St Margaret's, Denton



A COURSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY



## The Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*(or)*

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

## First Reading

*Acts 4: 5-12*

The Jewish rulers, elders and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

This Jesus is

"the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*1 John 3: 16-24*

We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*John 10: 11-18*

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, O Lord*

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Post Communion

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:

keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**