

News Letter

**Brigstock with Stanion, Lowick and Sudborough
Sunday 16th January to Saturday 22nd January 2022**

ONLY THE BEST FOR GODS PEOPLE

There are certain people who can be relied on to get a party going. There's the 'comic' with a few jokes to tell. There's the 'talker' who will happily take centre stage in conversation. There's the 'host with the most' who will ensure everyone feels welcome. Behind the scenes there are others of course who lay the foundations for the party people. I am talking about the people who are good at arranging things and those who excel at providing great food.

Even the most dedicated 'party animal' among us can't compete with Mary of Nazareth and her eldest son. They turn up for a wedding party and their contribution was to transform water in-to wine. Now we can all do that if we follow the instructions for home- made wine. However, it this will take us months and we will need to gather the fruit, sugar, yeast and patience to add to that water! Jesus prays and the whole process is reduced to half an hour or so. You may notice, if you read the account of this event, that Jesus seemed reluctant to do this. Like any good son, though, he gives in to please his mum! No doubt many of us can remember times we have done that.

This episode at the beginning of his public ministry is so important to grasp. Jesus was determined not to be a Messiah who needed to perform tricks to confirm his message, hence his reluctance here. However, he does indeed heal and intervene miraculously on some occasions. Just as importantly he also criticises those who just come along asking for miracles, because they were missing the point. The signs and wonders were to help us understand the true heart of God and what God is really concerned about, particularly health of spirit, mind and body. The Son of God was quite entitled to shortcut the workings of nature, being one with the creator who put it all together. This was only one part of his mission to us all, which would end in reconciliation between his Father in Heaven and his friends on Earth (including you and I). You might accurately say that he entered our world to ensure that we, in spiritual terms, might drink of the best wine of the Kingdom rather than settle for any cheap alternatives.



*****Please note that the wearing of facemasks, unless exempt is compulsory in places of worship. *****

Sunday Services

16th January 9.30 a.m. All Saints Sudborough
11.30 a.m. All Age service St Peters Stanion



23rd January 10.00 a.m. St Peters Lowick
Also online service

30th January 11.00 a.m. Benefice Service St Peters Stanion

6th February 11.00 a.m. St Peters Stanion

Mid Week Services.

20th January 10.00 a.m. St Andrews Holy Communion

Please Pray for:

- **This Weeks Mind:** Florence Amey 1990, Dorothy Buckerfield 1995, Margaret Richardson 1987, Alfred Wood 2002, Susie Hector 2002, Jonathon Smith 2002, Ethel Stevenson 2002, Judy Ward 2018, John Stevens 2014, Leonard Hall 2000, Frank Grant 1981, Peggy Swingler 1989

Parish Notes

Rector: The Reverend Heather Lowe

Associate Minister (Church Army): Captain Alan Lowe,

Telephone: 01536 263550

Address: 14 Willow Lane, Stanion, Northamptonshire, NN14 1DT

Reader – Jackie Makepeace

Telephone: 01832 358978

Churchwarden Contact telephone numbers:

Lowick – Vacant

Sudborough – Sara Dixon 07970 597017

Brigstock – Acting Church warden
Carl Hector 01536 373410

Stanion – David Lafferty 01536 200175

Benefice Administrator & Safeguarding Officer – Allison Porter email:

beneficeoffice5@btinternet.com or telephone 01536 373509 or 07933 804432

Benefice website: <https://www.harpersbrookanglicans.org.uk>

The National Church of England has provided;

Daily Hope - a free phone number (0800 804 8044) offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

We hope you enjoy it and find it helpful.



Heather Lowe is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Prayer meeting.

Topic: Heather Lowe's Zoom Meeting

Time: Jan 20, 2022 01:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516439846?pwd=Ui8xMThhZlZ3g0U2tZaIBJQXVla1BZQT09>

Meeting ID: 825 1643 9846

Passcode: 086521

Brigstock

There will be an extraordinary meeting of the Parishioners of St Andrews Church, Brigstock on Tuesday 25th January 2022 at 2.30 p.m at St Andrews Church to elect a Church Warden.



Children's Society Boxes – Lesley Blakely will be hosting the opening of the Children's Society boxes on Saturday the 29th January at 10.30. a.m. Please do come along, bring your box and have a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake. If you are unable to attend please can you let Lesley have your box before the 29th.

Stanion

St Peter's Stanion raised £84.00 at their Christingle for the Children's Society. Huge thanks to Stanion Village Hall for very kindly allowing us to use their facilities, our Christingle maker, risk assessment writer, refreshment makers and servers, as well as the stewards and P.A man.

Winter Well Being Knitting Project 2021-2022



We are still collecting knitted hats, scarves and gloves. All contributions can be delivered to Whitehall House in Park Walk 01536 373213, or to Allison Porter at 5 Stable Hill Brigstock. Many thanks to everyone who has already knitted and donated.

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 36. 5-10**ALL SAINTS SUDBOROUGH**

Response: How precious is your steadfast love O God

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

R. How precious is your steadfast love O God

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgements are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

R. How precious is your steadfast love O God

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

R. How precious is your steadfast love O God

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

R. How precious is your steadfast love O God AMEN

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of glory,

you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:

fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

**Gospel Reading: John chapter 2 verses 1-11****The Wedding at Cana**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

COLLECT PRAYER

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by
the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

January 16th 2022 Second Sunday of Epiphany