

The Benefice of Mitford and Hebron
Newsletter November/December 2021

Dear Friends

New Seasons

Last month, we talked about the new seasons and natural rhythms of nature. This month we focus on the new Church seasons, as we begin a new Church year.

Advent marks this beginning, a time when we prepare and look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus and as we prepare and look forward to Jesus returning in glory.

In the hustle and bustle of our busy lives may we find the time, to ponder, like Mary on the incredible, extravagant gift of love that was given to us at Christmas.



We do not know what the New Church year or indeed what 2022 holds in store for us. But we do know that our God, who came to us at Christmas, will walk with us into the future He has planned for us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Service of Worship and Fellowship

Thursday 25th November 2pm – Hebron Church

Please see Anna Chaplaincy Blog for more details (later in Newsletter)



Prayer Morning

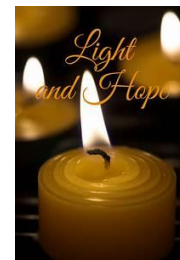
Saturday 27th November 10 am- 12 noon– Mitford Church and Stable Room

See article for full details.

Service of Light and Hope

Saturday 4th December – 4.00pm – Mitford Church

A time to remember and give thanks for those we love who are no longer with us.



Advent Service

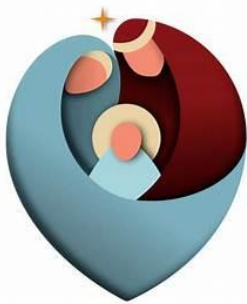
Sunday 12th December – 10.30am Hebron Church (please note this replaces the 4.00 pm service for that day)

Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday 19th December – 5.00pm – Mitford Church

Carol Service

Friday 24th December – 6.00pm – Hebron Church



Christmas Day Communion

Saturday 25th December – 9.30 am – Mitford Church

A family friendly service to celebrate the birth of Jesus

Boxing Day Service

Sunday 26th December – 9.30 am – Mitford Church – BCP Service.

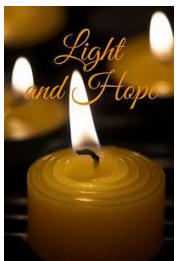


Anna Chaplaincy Blog

There will be a service of Worship and Fellowship on Thursday 25th November 2pm in Hebron Church.

This is primarily for our older members of the church family who find it difficult to access an early morning service, but of course everyone is welcome to join us.

The service will be followed by a short time of fellowship sharing a cup of tea and a mince pie.



We will be holding our annual service of “Light and Hope” on Saturday 4th December at 4pm in Mitford Church.

This service is for all who have been bereaved and gives us all the opportunity to remember our loved ones by lighting a T light and hanging a star on our memory tree.

We are planning to decorate the churchyards at Mitford and Hebron at the beginning of Advent – by placing a ‘prayer in the crib’, and a Christmas Tree for people to hang a memory bauble or a ribbon as well as decorating the gates. Please feel free to add your prayer requests, baubles or ribbons.



We are also planning to distribute a special “Advent” bag to our older members of the church family as well as several evenings of Carol Singing outside individual homes and the Care Homes. More details to follow.

The weather is getting colder and the days darker, so take care and wrap up warm. If you would like a visit or a telephone call or know of anyone else who does, do get in touch with us.

Love and prayers,
Mary and Janice



Prayer Morning

You are warmly invited to join us for a morning of prayer on **Saturday 27 November 2021**. The church will be open and available between **10.00am and 12 noon**.

'And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you asked for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and the door will be opened to you.'

Luke 11:9

The purpose of this special morning is to come together as God's family, to spend time with our heavenly Father and pray. There will be time to pray for the mission of our church here in this area and the work of the wider diocese. There will also be time to pray for our church family during this time of vacancy and for our new minister, as well as for those we love who are in special need. A small prayer team will be available to pray with you if you have any particular needs or concerns. For an outline of the morning, see below:

10.00am Stable Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship • Sharing the vision • Prayer in small groups • Refreshments
11.00am Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer stations • Prayer walk • Time to be still • Prayer team available to pray with individuals
11.50am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing worship song and blessing

If you prefer to pray silently or individually, or would just like time to still, you are most welcome to spend all, or any part of the morning in the church building.

For further details, please contact Izzy Quinby on 01670 504188, email: isabel.quinby@gmail.com or speak to Sheila Rowley, Bev Morris or Alan Travis.

An Appeal from Tritlington School

Tritlington School have asked if any of our church family would be willing to be involved in helping to run a couple of after school clubs- people who were good at crafts particularly, however anyone with enthusiasm and the ability to work with and relate to children are equally welcome.

Janice Robinson would be willing to lead a Messy Church as one after school club but would need a team of at least 3 others to help.

Timing would be 3.30 to 4.30 and approximately 10 children.

Please contact Janice Robinson (contact details at the end) if you think you can help.



A Message from Janice



Thank you to everyone for making our Harvest In The Barn this year, such a success.

It was so good for us to be able to worship together in the most appropriate space for harvest, to sing our praises, give thanks for all our blessings and to share food and fellowship.

All ages were present from babes in arms to many Grandparents and indeed Great Grandparents, a truly all age event which was so meaningful.

We also welcomed many families whose children attend our church school at Tritlington together with their two Headteachers.

At the service we received a leaf with this verse from Jeremiah (29:11)

“For I know the plans I have for you. Declares the LORD.

Plans to prosper you and not to harm you.

Plans to give Hope and a future.”

Hope for the future is something we all need as we live in these uncertain times.

Hope for the future of our Benefice is something we all have to cling to as we continue in vacancy, a vacancy that could last some time, and we are not alone, for in Morpeth Deanery there are 11 vacant parishes, which means human resources are very stretched.

However, we are very blessed in this Benefice that we have so many human resources who have been led to recognise their individual, valuable ministries, serving God and helping to build up the church and communities both in Mitford and Hebron

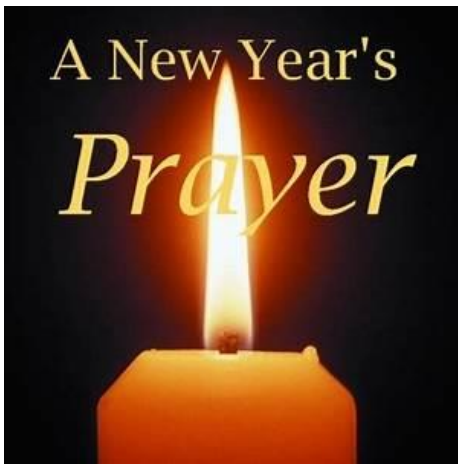
We need to give thanks for each other, we need to be open to every opportunity to encourage one another and appreciate one another in everything we do.

We need to protect ourselves from disillusionment, cynicism, petty grievances, discouragements and remain united in praying for each other, praying that God’s will and God’s plans come to fruition – holding fast to the promise that God’s plans will give hope and a future for us all.

Janice



A Prayer for the New Year – from a prayer of Billy Graham



Our Father and our God, as we stand at the beginning of this new year we confess our need of Your presence and Your guidance as we face the future.

We each have our hopes and expectations for the year that is ahead of us—but You alone know what it holds for us, and only You can give us the strength and the wisdom we will need to meet its challenges. So help us to humbly put our hands into Your hand, and to trust You and to seek Your will for our lives during this coming year.

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, assure us of the certainty of Your unchanging love.

In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, help us to turn to You for the stability and comfort we will need.

In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, help us not to lose our way but to have the courage to do what is right in Your sight, regardless of the cost.

And in the midst of our daily preoccupations and pursuits, open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are friendless and in need.

As we look back over this past year we thank You for Your goodness to us—far beyond what we have deserved. May we never presume on Your past goodness or forget all Your mercies to us, but may they instead lead us to repentance, and to a new commitment to make You the foundation and center of our lives this year.

And so, our Father, we thank You for the promise and hope of this new year, and we look forward to it with expectancy and faith. This we ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, who by His death and resurrection has given us hope both for this world and the world to come.

Amen.

PASTORAL CARE

"A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you"

We must indeed care for each other as he commands us.
If you need help, support, advice, or prayer.

PLEASE know that you can contact the Pastoral Care Team.

Dick Quinby 07960792198

Mary Dowswell 07890269028





Alpha 2022

Coming Soon!

An opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, informal setting.
Please pray for the Alpha team and for all aspects of planning the course.

Let's begin to pray about who we might invite to join the exciting course.

More details to follow.

We hope you will wish to receive these updates and will find them helpful. If you have a friend or neighbour who has not received this Newsletter and who would like to receive them, please get in touch. Also, if you have any queries, comments, or articles for inclusion, please contact us.

Contact details are below.

Contact Details:

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Dick Quinby	Pastoral Care	d.quinby@mitfordchurch.org Tel: 07960792198

Sunday Service Pattern

Sunday	Service
Sunday 1	9.30 am Morning Praise and Holy Communion MITFORD
Sunday 2	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD 4.00 pm Contemplative Worship HEBRON
Sunday 3	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD
Sunday 4	9.30 am Café Church HEBRON 9.30 am BCP Service MITFORD
Sunday 5	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD