LORDSBRIDGE TEAM OF CHURCHES



Welcome to the Lordsbridge Team Monthly Newsletter

November 2026

Worship with us across the Team

Our Weekly Worship at Home Resources:
https://lordsbridge.org/2025/06/16/worship-at-home/

Our Sunday Zoom Church meets every week at 11.00am at the following link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82311473640.
The service sheet is available on the website, via the link above.

Everyone is welcome.

Bible Readings

St John 6:37-40

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."
"Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

News

DBS Checks for certain Church roles may be arranged strictly by appointment by emailing thelordsbridgeteam@gmail.com



The installation of our new Team Vicar, Revd Jonathan Kimber, will take place at St Mary's Church, Comberton on Tuesday, 8 December, 2026 at 7.30pm.

Bishop Sarah will preach at the Service.

All are welcome.

If you would like to attend, please confirm in writing before Tuesday, 24 November to thelordsbridgeteam@gmail.com.



A QUIET SERVICE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

You are warmly invited to St Andrew's Church Toft

for a time of remembrance and thanks,

quietness, words and music

for

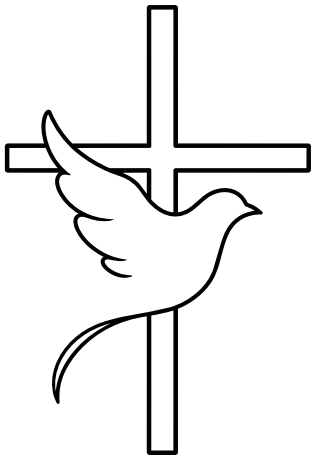
'Those we love but see no more'

At 3.00pm on Sunday November 1st



There will be refreshments following the service.

We look forward to welcoming you.



Services Spotlight



Saturday 31 October 4pm
St Peter's Church, Coton
All Souls' Service

Sunday 1 November 2pm
St Peter's Church, Barton
All Souls' Service

Sunday 1 November 3pm
St Andrew's Church, Toft
All Souls' Service

Sunday 1 November 3.30pm,
St Mary's Church, Comberton
All Souls' Service

Sunday 1 November, 5.30pm
St Peter and St Paul's Church, Dry Drayton
All Souls' Choral Evensong Service

Monday 2 November 6pm
St Mary's Church, Hardwick
All Souls' Service

Monday 2 November 7pm
Harlton Church
All Souls' Service



Barton - Sunday 8 November - 9.30am
St Peter's Church - Remembrance Service

Comberton - Sunday 8 November - 10.50am
St Mary's Church - Remembrance Service

Toft - Sunday 8 November 10.30am
Comberton and District Branch Royal British Legion Remembrance Service; gather as usual outside the former Methodist Chapel, now owned by the Plymouth Brethren, at 10.30am for brief service of Remembrance and wreath laying, then move (the parade will march) to St. Andrew's for 11.00am Silence and full service.

Dry Drayton - Sunday 8 November - 10.50am
St Peter & St Paul's Church - Remembrance Service

Haslingfield - Sunday 8 November 10.50am
Remembrance Service at the War Memorial followed by Church Service

Harlton - Sunday 8 November 10.50am
Harlton Church - Remembrance Service

Caldecote - Sunday, 8 November 10.50pm
Remembrance Service
At the Peace Garden, Highfields Caldecote and continues in the village hall, followed by refreshments kindly provided by the WI.

Great Eversden - Sunday 8 November 10:55am
St Mary's Church - Remembrance Service

Hardwick - Sunday 8 November 10.50am
St Mary's Church Remembrance Service

Coton - Sunday 8 November 10.50am
Remembrance Service at St Peter's Church
3pm - War Memorial - Remembrance Service with School Choir



Sunday, 15 November 11am
Harlton Church
Holy Communion

Sunday, 15 November 09.30am
Caldecote - St Michael and All Angels
Morning Prayer

Sunday, 15 November 9.30am
Comberton - St Mary's Church
Morning Worship



Sunday, 22 November 11am
Dry Drayton - St Peter and St Paul's Church
All Age Holy Communion



Sunday, 22 November 9.30am
Barton - St Peter's Church
Holy Communion

Sunday, 29 November 11am
Little Eversden - St Helen's Church
Sung Matins / Holy Communion



Sunday, 29 November 6pm
Haslingfield - All Angel's Church
Choral Evensong or Sung Holy Communion

Advent Sermon Series

Discovering Joy this Christmas: an art inspired journey through Advent

This Advent we will be focusing on how Christian art can deepen our understanding of the Christmas story and help us to grow in faith. Advent is the season of waiting, watching and preparing, readying ourselves to meet Jesus afresh. Making space to be challenged, to think more deeply about what we believe and how it affects and influences our lives. Each week we will be studying a new piece of art and exploring in turn the themes of light, hope, peace and love with related bible readings. For our Christmas festivities, we will focus on the joy Jesus brings into our lives and we will conclude our Sermon series at Epiphany, reflecting back on all we have learnt this season, to try and sense where God may be calling us next.

Light

Painting: The light of the world by William Holman Hunt, c1900, photograph by C Coates



Hope
Painting: The Annunciation
by Fra Angelico, 1443
photograph by C Coates



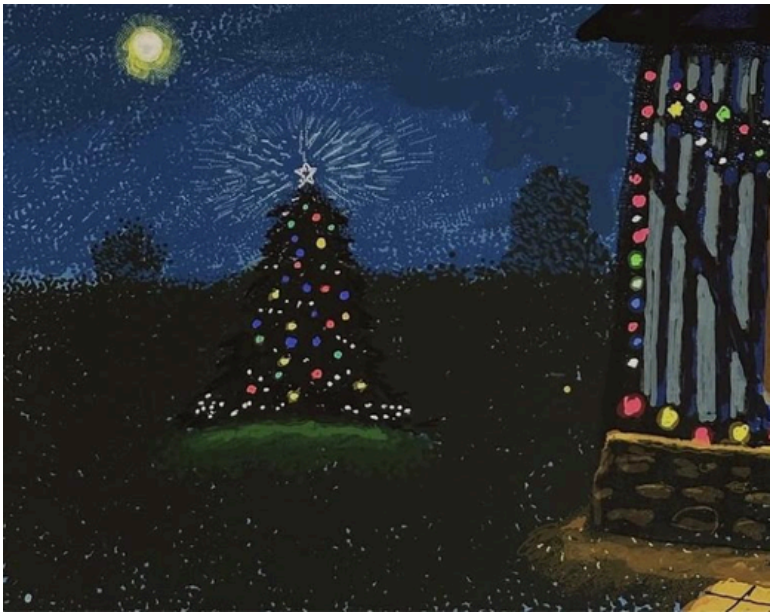


Peace
Painting: The Virgin in Prayer
by Giovanni Battista Salvi da -
Sassoferrato c1640-50,
photograph by M Coates



Love
Painting: Nativity by He Qi 2013,
photograph by C Coates

Joy
Painting: 5th December 2020, photograph by C Coates



Epiphany
Suggested artwork: The Adoration of the Magi, late C12th / early C13th Alabaster relief sculpture, photograph by C Coates



Lordsbridge Spotlight

Over the next few months we will be putting the spotlight on different teams and individuals within the Lordsbridge community. If there is a group you would like to know more about, feel free to get in touch.
We are beginning a new series by featuring each of the Parishes in the Lordsbridge Team.

An enormous thanks to Gordon Johnson for writing a fascinating account of the history of St Peter's Church and to Gordon Johnson, Jim Henton and Gordon Fuller for their pictures.



Barton - St Peter's Church

The oldest part of St Peter's Church, Barton, dates to the twelfth century and is still visible in the foundations of the chancel. The main structure – the nave – was built in the late 13th and early 14th centuries, and it may have been completed by the end of the 1320s. The tower and south porch are late 14th century additions. The chancel needed major repair in 1561, and at that time the rood loft was taken down, and possibly the nave roof was lowered. During the Reformation period, the wall paintings were covered over and stained glass removed. The fine oak pulpit was installed in 1635. In 1828 the lead from the nave roof was replaced with slates, and, in a substantial restoration in 1885-86, the nave roof was raised again to its original height. Pews made their appearance. The late 19th century building revealed the existence of wall paintings, and work was done in the 1920s to uncover some of them. A more sustained effort at uncovering and preserving the paintings was undertaken from the 1970s to the 1990s.

Although there have been some changes to the building since then - the north porch, new lighting, heating, and sound systems - the main challenges faced by the PCC has been to keep the late medieval structure in good repair and to accept responsibility for the care of the 14th century wall paintings.

Churches are expensive buildings. St Peter's was not built by local subscription, nor did it serve only local purposes. The village consisted of two or three manors, with a likely population of less than a hundred. There was an outlying hamlet, Whitwell, now only a house on Long Road, Comberton. But Barton is close to Cambridge, a prosperous market town, strategically placed on routes running north and south, east and west, connecting complementary regional economies. The town was an inland port, linked by the river to the North Sea, to other English ports, and to northern Europe. The town derived its wealth from extensive trading connections, which also doubled as pilgrimage routes.





Cambridge and its hinterland was a centre of religious activity: nine churches within a mile on its main street, together with religious houses, hospitals, and schools, and colleges. Barton benefitted from its position just to the west of the town and was part of Cambridge's wider network. Unlike many other churches around Cambridge (Haslingfield, for example) St Peter's was small and simple: it has no aisles. Its patrons in the 13th and 14th centuries included the enormously wealthy Merton Priory in Surrey, the Bishop of Ely, and Barnwell Priory. These institutions drew revenue from land all over England.

The money for building St Peter's would have come from such resources. St Peter's was conceived as a chapel to support a vicar or priest, to say masses for the dead, and recite the daily offices. A convenient stopping place for travellers of all sorts. Hence the quality of the building, and the fact that the quality of the paintings suggest that they were done by highly qualified craftsmen with knowledge of the finest work in western Europe.

At their re-discovery it was realised that the paintings were of exceptional interest. They have been the subject of much research and more is needes. A record of how scholarly opinion about them, and about changing ideas on how best to conserve them, is held in the archives of the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. Professor David Park, in a lecture to the British Archaeological Association in 2018 argued that the paintings present a coherent narrative about healing and salvation. A key figure is the Virgin Mary. The Annunciation is depicted around the South Door where people would normally enter. The Annunciation signifies that the gates to Paradise, closed by Eve's sin, is re-opened by Mary's humility and obedience. Directly opposite above the North Door, Mary, by her intervention in the weighing of souls, performs the same function of opening Paradise to all believers. Along the north wall of the nave various saints, associated particularly with healing, are arrayed. A huge painting of the Last Judgement probably sat above the chancel arch. Scenes from the life of Christ continue along the south wall. There is a guide in the Church to make sense of the fragmentary remains of the paintings.

St Thomas de Cantelupe occupies a prominent position to the left of the north door. For a long time, it was assumed he was a local figure, but this is not so. Thomas (c.1220 – 1282) was born to a prominent Anglo-Norman family. He became Bishop of Hereford and was a powerful and controversial political figure in England and at the Papal Court. He died in Italy and his bones were carried back to Hereford Cathedral. Accredited reports of healing were associated with the places where he rested on his way home. A campaign for Thomas's canonisation began in the 1290s, and on 17 April 1320, in the Cathedral in Avignon, Pope John XXII canonised him. Along with Thomas a Becket he became an extremely popular English saint.

Thomas Cantelupe provides some of the evidence for dating the building of Barton Church. Moreover, the survival of his image on a church wall is now unique in England. Along with Becket, the Virgin, the cult of the Saints and pilgrimages, Thomas Cantelupe was swept away during the Protestant reformations of the 16th and 17th centuries – a cancelling of culture on a grand scale. Images of him survive in a few windows in the west country, and a medieval wall painting of him in Hereford Cathedral was drawn by the antiquarian William Stukeley in the 18th century but is now lost.







Barton Church sheds light on the history of the later Middle Ages. It also stands as a reminder that Christian practices change over time with broader social and cultural movements. When they were created the Christian message was disseminated graphically and by daily liturgical rituals, performed by priests and observed by worshippers. Religious knowledge was obtained pictorially, and worship involved being present at rituals, tied to the changing seasons and expressed in the repeated recitation of sacred texts. This style of worship gave way in the 15th century to the movements that placed more emphasis teaching in the form of sermons, and individual and collective bible study. The religious practices of the medieval world were swept away, the art that accompanied them was destroyed or covered up and forgotten. Church interiors became more like lecture halls and communal services emphasised instruction. Christian practices continue to change. The Oxford Movement of the 19th century began a return to ritual and to the rise in the 20th century of the Communion Service as central to worship. Officiants are brought nearer to the people in the nave. The furniture is moved about. The building continually adapts to meet current needs.

Part 2 will follow in the December Newsletter

Chamber Music Concerts

at

Dry Drayton Parish Church

'Si dolce tormento'

Renaissance songs from England and Italy

Helen Southernwood *soprano*
Richard Taylor *virginals*

A programme of songs and keyboard works by the greatest composers of the Renaissance, including Byrd, Monteverdi and Gibbons; and featuring the historic keyboard instrument, the virginals.



Ticket reservations at:
sidolcetormento.eventbrite.co.uk
suggested donation on the door: £15/£5
to include wine/juice afterward

Saturday 21 November; 6 pm

lasting one hour

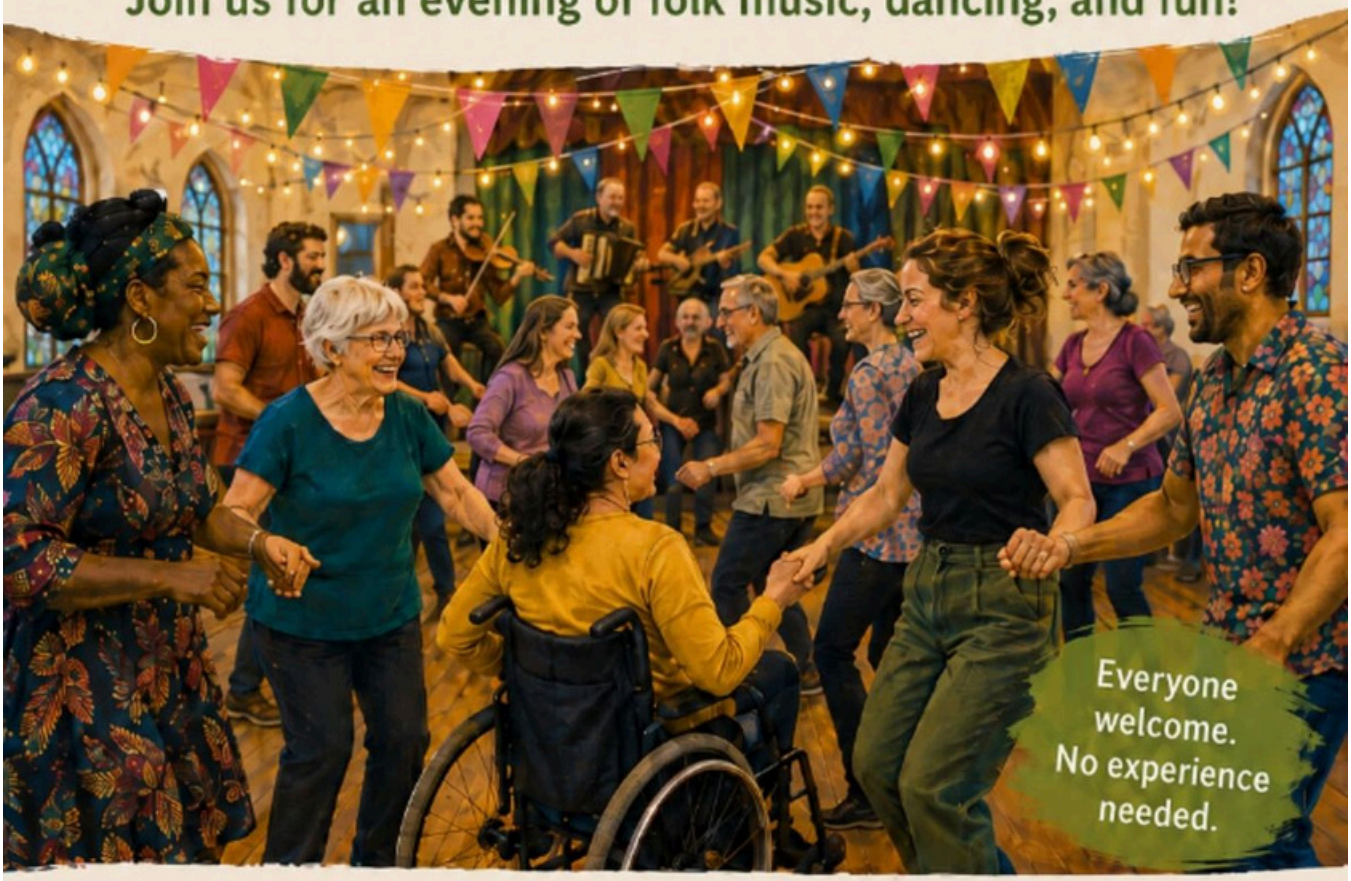
The Wellbeing Ceilidh

WELLBEING CEILIDH

with

the Magog Ceilidh Band

Join us for an evening of folk music, dancing, and fun!



Downing Place United Reformed Church, Cambridge

Saturday 14 November 2026

Arrival from	Dancing begins	Finish
7.00pm	approximately 7.10pm	by 9.45pm

This is an alcohol-free event.
Soft drinks and cakes included in the interval.

Come alone or with a partner, all are welcome, newcomers encouraged!

Eddington
COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

CONCERT

A delightful afternoon of music
featuring a selection of

Christmas Songs

and music from

The Pirates of Penzance

So you can enjoy some seasonal cheer
without getting your Christmas
music overload too soon!

Sunday
29th November
3.00pm

Histon
Methodist Church
CB24 9JD

FREE ENTRY

Donations at
the end welcome



Tea, coffee and
mince pies served
afterwards

Come and support this fantastic
intergenerational community orchestra!

THENOT SO BLEAK MIDWINTER II

St Mark's Arts & Events

present

AN AFTERNOON OF SONGS, READINGS AND MUSIC TO CHEER A WINTRY DAY

featuring the CANTORES SINGERS and guests

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY at 3pm



Contact Us

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