

## Services for January 2017

<b>1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<b>Naming and Circumcision of Jesus (Gold)</b>		
<i>Numbers 6:22-end. Psalm 8. Galatians 4:4-7. Luke 2:15-21.</i>			
11.00am	East Norton	Covenant Service	Richard Curtis
<b>8<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Epiphany (Gold)</b>		
<i>Isaiah 60:1-6. Psalm 72:1-15. Ephesians 3:1-12. Matthew 2:1-12.</i>			
10.00am	Slawston	Family Communion	Richard Curtis
10.00am	Tugby	Morning Service	
4.00pm	Hallaton	Family Service	Richard Curtis
<b>15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany (White)</b>		
<i>Isaiah 49:1-7. Psalm 40:1-12. 1 Corinthians 1:1-9. John 1:29-42</i>			
9.30am	Hallaton	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
11.00am	Tugby	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
6.30pm	East Norton	Evensong	Richard Curtis
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany (White)</b>		
<i>Isaiah 9:1-4. Psalm 27:1,4-12. 1 Corinthians 1:10-18. Matthew 4:12-23</i>			
10.00am	Tugby	Holy Communion	
11.30am	Horninghold	Holy Communion	
5.00pm	Slawston	Evensong (BCP)	
<b>29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Candlemas (White)</b>		
<i>Malachi 3:1-5. Psalm 24. Hebrews 2:14-end. Luke 2:22-40</i>			
5.00pm	Tugby	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
<b>Into February 2017</b>			
<b>5<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Lent (Green)</b>		
<i>Isaiah 58:1-12. Psalm 112:1-10. 1 Corinthians 2:1-16. Matthew 5:13-20</i>			
8.30am	East Norton	Holy Communion (BCP)	Richard Curtis
10.00am	Hallaton	Family Communion	Richard Curtis
6.00pm	Tugby	Evensong (BCP)	Richard Curtis
<b>12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent (Green)</b>		
<i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20. Psalm 119:1-8. 1 Corinthians 3:1-9. Matthew 5:21-37</i>			
10.00am	Slawston	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
10.00am	Tugby	Morning Service	
4.00pm	Hallaton	Family Service	Richard Curtis
<b>19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent (Green)</b>		
<i>Genesis 1:1-2:3. Psalm 136. Romans 8:18-25. Matthew 6:25-34</i>			
9.30am	Hallaton	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
11.00am	Tugby	Holy Communion	Richard Curtis
6.30pm	East Norton	Evensong	Richard Curtis

## HEXAD January 2017 Edition

The Newsletter for the United Benefice of Hallaton and Allextun, with Horninghold, Tugby, East Norton and Slawston  
[www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk](http://www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk)

### Confirmation as a New Years Resolution?

I've just re-read my January 2016 musings and if it hadn't been dated I might have thought that I wrote my comments for this January. Looking back I was thinking that 2015 was an unsettling year! Not as unsettling as 2016!! The Brexit Vote, Presidential election in the USA, continuing conflict in Syria and many other parts of the world, the list could go on.

The New Year is historically a time for looking back and looking forward; taking stock of the past and planning for the future. But when we live in such 'interesting times'; when so many complex issues are on our minds with no apparent solutions (of course you could say with justification "twas ever thus") then perhaps it might be a time to look inwards as well as outwards.

The tradition of New Years resolutions is about looking at ourselves and thinking about what we might change, but so often we make our resolutions in haste and soon give up on them as the New Year begins. Perhaps the real New Years resolutions are the ones that we think about for a while and then start in the New Year. Of course you can start a New Years resolution at any time so if the New Year has got you thinking about things to change then it's not to late!

A few weeks ago I was talking with someone who was thinking about what they wanted to achieve before they turned 50; one of the things she wanted to do was to get fitter as a way of loosing a little weight and keeping this weight off. We got talking about 'Couch to 5k' as a way of starting to run and of 'parkrun', the weekly 5km runs that happen at 9.00am on a Saturday in parks throughout the country. So as a bit of fun I said I would run a 'parkrun' with her at the beginning of April which gives her time to do the 'Couch to 5k' and a few weeks spare. Now we've got a date in the diary there is a target to work towards.

Whatever we might have decided to do as a New Years resolution setting some targets and target dates can be helpful so we can measure our progress with our resolution as time goes on.

Although New Years resolutions are often about achieving a fitness or weight loss goal (particularly after the excesses of Christmas?) there could be a whole range of other targets we set ourselves. What about some spiritual targets? Would a date in the diary be helpful? Well if you've ever wanted to find out more about the Christian faith, if you've ever wanted to take on those promises made at baptism for yourself then how about thinking about preparing for Confirmation? There is going to be a local confirmation service on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017 and if you are interested in finding out a bit more about what that might mean then please get in touch.

Preparing for confirmation is not about passing some sort of test or committing yourself at the outset to being confirmed at the end. Confirmation preparation should be an opportunity to think a bit more deeply about ones faith and to have an opportunity to ask questions and explore their answers. So how about making a New Years resolution that looks inwards to the spiritual part of ourselves?

*Wishing you a joyful New Year*

*Richard Curtis*

### Confirmation?

A confirmation group will be starting soon into the New Year. If you are interested in finding out more do get in touch.

*Richard Curtis*

### Shoe Boxes:

A grand total of 109 beautifully decorated boxes were collected from the Benefice (32 from Hallaton and 77 from Tugby). Our special thanks go to the Hallaton and Tugby Schools who contributed so many. The Shoe boxes packed with presents went to Swaziland, Liberia and the Ukraine. More details to follow shortly.

Thank you everyone!

### Mothers' Union:

Our meeting on Tuesday 10th January will be at Silva, Uppingham Road, East Norton at 7.30pm. The AGM will be followed by a social evening and members (and visitors) are invited to bring their favourite Christmas card to share with the group.

### Hallaton 'Film & Food Night' on Saturday 4th February 2017 @ 7.00pm:

Brighten up a cold February night with a trip to The Stenning Hall, Hallaton to enjoy a cinematic blockbuster and share good food and drink with family and friends.

Film, food and price details to be announced shortly.

### Benefice Boots:

The group will be meeting on Thursday 12th January at 10.00am at the Fox and Hounds, The Green, Exton, Rutland LE15 8AP for a circular walk. We shall be returning around 12.30 for lunch and as ever, non walkers are warmly welcome to join us. These walks are a great way to exercise, get some fresh air and enjoy the beautiful Leicestershire countryside.

### January 1917 Key Events:

- The final Ottoman Army on the Sinai Peninsula are captured at the Battle of Rafa by the British 'Egyptian Expeditionary Force, Desert Column'.
- Danish West Indies is sold to the USA for US\$25M. The islands are now known as the US Virgin Isles.
- Austria-Hungarian troops capture Forlani, Province of Treviso in Italy.
- The most powerful explosion ever to occur in London takes place when the munitions factory in Silvertown, West Ham is flattened by a blast from over 50 tons of TNT. 900 homes are destroyed, 73 people die and more than 400 are injured. Red hot debris is scattered across London causing many fires and fragments hit the gas holder at Greenwich causing it to explode. The explosion was heard as far away as Southampton and Norwich.

### Hallaton Family Tea Time Service: Epiphany: The Arrival of the Kings

Our Family service for ALL ages will be on Sunday 8th January at 4.00pm in Hallaton Church. The short service will be followed by tea, cake and the activity table.

### Horninghold Church Restoration Project: SPIRE:

If you buy items from AMAZON please go to our website first @ [www.horninghold.org.uk](http://www.horninghold.org.uk)

and click the Amazon link at the bottom of the Home Page.

There is no effect on the price you pay, but our Church restoration fund will earn commission on every purchase you make.

SPIRE HIRE: Garden Pavilion 6M x 3M for £10 plus Cutlery set [100] for £4.

Call Katie Holmes on 01858 555664

### A thought for the New Year:

Nature that framed us of four elements,  
Warring within our breasts for regiment,  
Doth teach us all to have aspiring minds:  
Our souls, whose faculties can comprehend  
The wondrous architecture of the world,  
And measure every wandering planet's course,  
Still climbing after knowledge infinite,  
And always moving as the restless spheres,  
Will us to wear ourselves, and never rest,  
Until we reach the ripest fruit of all,  
That perfect bliss and sole felicity,  
The sweet fruition of an earthly crown.

*Christopher Marlowe [26th February 1564 - 30th May 1593]*

### Keeping Fit:

'Parkrun' details can be found at: [www.parkrun.org.uk](http://www.parkrun.org.uk)

'Couch to 5K' information is available at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/c25k/Pages/couch-to-5k.aspx>

### The Benefice Web Site: [www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk](http://www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk)

The Benefice Web site contains all the latest news and events, activities and photographs covering Hallaton, Allexton, Horninghold, Tugby, East Norton and Slawston.



### Occasional Offices:

For enquires about Baptism, Confirmation or Weddings please contact Richard Curtis.

Contact: The Reverend Richard Curtis

Phone: 07855 746041

Email: [Richard@hathens.org](mailto:Richard@hathens.org)

Web: [www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk](http://www.ourbenefice.btck.co.uk)

Address: The Vicarage, Oakham Road, Tilton-on-the-Hill, LE7 9LB