



FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY BLYTHBURGH

11 March 2024

Dear Friends

I am delighted to introduce to you our new Team Rector, Revd Russell Gant. He was welcomed and installed at St Edmunds Church, Southwold on 21 November last year. Since then, he has been doing a wonderful job of getting to know us all. As you know, the Friends are a very widely spread group from all over the country, so we have asked Russ to introduce himself to you, care of this Newsletter.

**Russell writes:**

Dear Friends,

It is a great joy to be able to write to you and introduce myself as the new Team Rector of the Sole Bay Churches.

Although I have come to the Sole Bay Team from the Diocese of Guildford, I grew up in Suffolk, near Stowmarket, and was often driven past the imposing church at Blythburgh by my parents on various excursions along the coast. Back then, we never darkened the doors of churches and so I never dreamed I might one day become the Rector of such a fine 'Cathedral of the Marshes' – what a privilege!



My coming to Christian faith was as much a surprise to me as it was to many others, but through Christ I have found peace, purpose, and hope in life. Our beautiful places of worship help me, and I pray you too, to draw close to the divine. They are 'thin' places where heaven touches earth.

I am extremely grateful to the Friends of Holy Trinity for all your hard work, along with the congregation, PCC and clergy in supporting and maintaining the building and its Christian presence in Blythburgh.

I look forward to meeting you at Holy Trinity Church.

With all blessings in Christ,

Revd Russ Gant, Rector

**Save the date: Friends' Open Afternoon 2024**

This year our open afternoon will be held on Trinity Sunday, 26 May 2024 from 2.30 – 4pm. Your invitation will follow.

### **Easter services**

Here are the dates and times of our Easter services this year.

We are happy to host the **Maundy Thursday** service for the whole Sole Bay Team of Churches on **6 April at 8pm**.

On **Good Friday 7 April at 5pm** we'll be continuing our Blythburgh tradition of inviting everyone, especially families and children, to help build our **Easter Garden**, to retell the Passion Story and to join in the hunt for Easter eggs in the churchyard.



**Easter Day service of Holy Communion is at 11am on Sunday 8 April.**

I do hope some of you can join us for at least some of these events.

With very best wishes

Meryl Doney, on behalf of the Friends of Holy Trinity