

# GRABBIST HILL BENEFICE BULLETIN

Alcombe

Dunster

April

Timberscombe

Wootton Courtenay

You can see the Benefice Holy Week Services on the next page

St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe  
**Chance Encounter** April 19  
**Souper Thursday** April 2, 16, 30  
 soup following the Thursday 11 am Eucharist NB  
 NO Thursday Eucharist on April 9  
 Seeds of Hope - Wednesday 1st April, 2-3.30pm

St Petrock's, Timberscombe  
**Warm Welcome** 2, 23, 30 April  
 10am - 12 noon Hot drinks & refreshment.  
**Poetry Reading** 27 April 6.30 (FREE)

All Saints', Wootton Courtenay  
**Songs of Praise** April 19

St George's Dunster  
 Prayers in the Chantry Chapel Thurs 2 April 10am  
**Coffee Morning** Friday April 24  
 Tea, coffee, sweet & savoury treats & raffle  
**Popular music Choral Concert** - with Gregory  
 Steward 12 April at 3 pm

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed Alleluia!

## GRABBIST HILL BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA: APRIL 2026

Service Leaders	Date:	5th	12th	19th	26th	NOTES
KC=Rector Revd Kenneth Cross	Sunday:	EASTER DAY	EASTER 2	EASTER 3	EASTER 4	
	Liturgical	GOLD OR WHITE	WHITE	WHITE	WHITE	
NB=Revd Nicola Butcher	Colour:					
	Readings:	<i>Please check readings with the service leader</i>				
NMB=Revd Nicola Butt	0930					
LC=Revd Lore Chumbley	1000	ALCOMBE Easter Communion <b>NB</b>	ALCOMBE HC (CW) <b>KC</b>	ALCOMBE HC (CW) <b>NB</b>	ALCOMBE HC (CW) <b>NB</b>	
EC=The Venerable Elwin Cockett	1100	DUNSTER Easter Communion <b>KC</b>	TIMBERSCOMBE HC (BCP) <b>EC</b>	DUNSTER HC (CW) <b>KC</b>	DUNSTER MP (CW) <b>LC</b>	
RP=Revd Rik Peckham		TIMBERSCOMBE Easter Communion <b>NMB</b>	WOOTTON COURTENAY HC (BCP) <b>NB</b>	TIMBERSCOMBE HC (CW) <b>EC</b>	TIMBERSCOMBE MP (CW) <b>EC</b>	
Local= arranged locally		WOOTTON COURTENAY Easter Communion <b>EC</b>		WOOTTON COURTENAY Songs of Praise <b>Local</b>	WOOTTON COURTENAY HC (CW) <b>RP</b>	
	1530			ALCOMBE Chance Encounters <b>Local</b>		
	1700		ALCOMBE Evensong <b>Local</b>		ALCOMBE Evensong <b>Local</b>	

## OTHER EVENTS

Every Wednesday	9am	ALCOMBE	Eucharist			
Every Thursday	10am	TIMBERSCOMBE	Warm Welcome			
Every Thursday	11am	ALCOMBE	Eucharist			

HC=Holy Communion MP=Morning Prayer BCP=Book of Common Prayer CW=Common Worship

## View from Grabbist, April 2026

I'm slowly, painfully slowly, coming to see, to glimpse, to *behold*, that all the greatest theological or philosophical pontifications we can utter about death and new life are meaningless.

Meaningless, that is, without *participating*...

I missed a ceilidh recently. My nephew got married, and I was at the ceremony but had to retreat early because I had been ill the previous evening (food poisoning - and don't worry, I got over it!). I've seen the pictures. I was told it was great. But, really, no amount of frozen images on a screen or detailed descriptions by others can tell me what it truly was. The Caller could tell me precisely how to do the Dashing White Sergeant after the event. Another Caller might tell it in another way. But none of this would do me any good. To comprehend the ceilidh, I have to *get on the floor and dance!*

And that's the problem we have at Easter. All the many words we can say (words are necessary - I am, after all typing words now!) dribble down our chins if they remain mere concepts. Abstract ideas about the deep mystery of suffering, death, life and hope are of no use, and worse, get us into dispute with others who use different words. Most of our disputes about these deep mysteries are akin to different people using different kinds of maps with different symbols - and arguing over who has the best map! The maps are all fine, on their own terms. But they are of no use unless you pull your boots on and walk up on to that moor. Then you'll meet others who got up there by another route, maybe using a different map!

So, all I want to offer this Easter is this: the Jesus story speaks powerfully of hope in despairing times, of life in the face of death. But don't try to get your head round it all! That's like pinning a map on the wall and pretending you've been somewhere. No. Get up and *dance*. Tango the letting go. Whirl the connecting ceilidh. Strip the Willow and let go of the distractions, and run through the arches of hope with a partner as new possibilities open up. *Live* Easter, take your steps as though love *really* has overcome the worst that hate can do. *Dance*, then see what happens.



Happy Easter

*Kenneth*

### GRABBIST HILL BENEFICE SERVICE ROTA: HOLY WEEK (Monday-Saturday) 2026

Service Leaders	Date:	Monday 30th March	Tuesday 31st March	Wednesday 1st April	Maundy Thursday 2nd	Good Friday 3rd	Holy Saturday 4th
KC=Rector Rev'd Kenneth Cross							
NB=Rev'd Nicola Butcher	Readings:	<i>Please check readings with the service leader</i>					
NMB=Rev'd Nicola Butt	0930			TIMBERSCOMBE NMB Easter Meditation	TIMBERSCOMBE NMB Easter Meditation	TIMBERSCOMBE NMB Easter Meditation	
Local= arranged locally	1030						
HC=Holy Communion	1200					ALCOMBE NB Stations of the Cross	
CW=Common Worship	1300					ALCOMBE NB CW (HC) & Vigil	
	1400					DUNSTER KC The Last Hour with Choir (LC)	
	1900	ALCOMBE Local Compline	ALCOMBE Local Compline	ALCOMBE Local Compline			
	1930				ALCOMBE NB & KC HC & Stripping of Altar		
	2000						ALCOMBE KC Service of Light

## WHO'S WHO

**Incumbent:** Rev'd Kenneth Cross 07708 925800, kennethjcross@gmail.com, usual days off: Monday & Tuesday  
**Associate Priests:** Rev'd Nicola Butcher 07740 081070, rev.nicolabutcher@gmail.com, usual day off: Monday (Alcombe)  
 Rev'd Nicola Butt 01643 84171 3 (Timberscombe & Wootton Courtenay)

**Admin:** Tracey Staples 01643 709491, dunsterbenefice@gmail.com or alcombeangeloffice@gmail.com  
 Usual hours: Mondays (1.30pm-5pm) and Wednesdays (11.30am-1.30pm)