



**Oswaldbeck
Benefice**

Churches in Beckingham, Clayworth, Gringley, Misterton, Walkeringham & West Stockwith

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate use

Monday 7 June 2021

WALKERINGHAM PARISH CHURCH OPENS AFTER 2-YEAR CLOSURE - SERVICE OF CELEBRATION ON THURSDAY 22 JULY at 7.00pm

Walkeringham Parish Church re-opens next month, after a two-year closure, with a celebratory service on Thursday 22 July at 7.00pm. This date is also the Church's 'birthday' – its Patronal Festival – the feast day of St Mary Magdalene, to whom the Church is dedicated. All residents are invited, as well as those from neighbouring parishes. The service will be led by Rev Richard Spray, and will welcome the new Archdeacon of Newark, Venerable Victoria Ramsey, who will preach during the service.

Walkeringham Parish Church was closed due to health and safety concerns, resulting from a fall of material from the roof, in 2018. Remedial work has now been completed and the architect and the Archdeacon of Nottingham have confirmed that the building is safe to open again for public worship.

The plan is to open the Church for a limited number of occasional services with support from the other parishes within the Oswaldbeck Benefice. The Benefice is currently without a vicar but once in place there can be further discussions about the services at Walkeringham.

Residents of all Oswaldbeck parishes (Beckingham, Clayworth, Gringley, Misterton, Walkeringham and West Stockwith), are welcome to attend services at any of the churches in the Benefice, which are held on a rota basis. Details can be found on the *A Church Near You* websites for each church and on the Facebook page for All Saints' Parish Church Misterton.

A letter is being distributed to all residents within the Parish of Walkeringham explaining the current situation.

Note to Editors

For further information, contact Hazel Brand on (01427) 891376 or by e-mail at hazelbrand@hotmail.com.

The Archdeacon of Nottingham (Phil Williams) or the new Archdeacon of Newark (Victoria Ramsey) can be contacted via Jo Padmore at archdeacons@southwell.anglican.org