

THE VILLAGE OF LOUND



Lound lies in beautiful Suffolk countryside, bounded by the Norfolk border to the north, the A47 to the east, Blundeston to the south and Ashby and Somerleyton to the west. Lound Lakes, which are public water supply reservoirs, are managed as a nature reserve by Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and are open to the public. The Lound Lakes Volunteers have been helping at the site for over 20 years, and are always glad to welcome new members.



The parish is essentially rural and based on agriculture, surrounded by working farmland. We do also have a residential nursing home, a pub, a café, a traditional plant nursery plus two other garden centres and a village hall. This last is well used, and well equipped for holding church events such as the Lent Lunches and Harvest Supper.



There are also regular classes and groups which use the hall - computer class, art class, craftwork, ballroom dancing, band practice - and it can be hired out for children's parties and other family functions.



Traditionally we have given the produce from our Harvest Festival, which has for many years been donated by our local farmers, to the pensioners of the village, the nearby nursing home, and a halfway house for vulnerable people in Oulton. Lound has a Poor Trust of which the Rector or Priest-in-Charge is expected to serve as a Trustee.



Lound has a lively and efficient civic Parish Council, which has run a number of community projects in which the church has also joined, for the benefit of the whole parish.



THE WIDER AREA

There are two primary schools, one of which is Church of England Voluntary Controlled, and thriving pre-schools in neighbouring villages. There is a variety of higher education establishments beyond the parish, including the University of East Anglia, and young people travel to Beccles, Gorleston, Loddon, Lowestoft and Norwich. Regular trains operate between Norwich and Lowestoft, stopping at Somerleyton, about 3 miles away.

Somerleyton Hall is a minor stately home, open to the public, and which is now a major player in the current, wider East Anglian 're-wilding' project.

Nearby villages offer all sorts of interests - Blundeston local history society, the Somerleyton strummers' ukulele band, bell-ringing, Women's Institute, bowls, bingo, 'villages in bloom', Women's Link....

There are many public footpaths across the area, wonderful for walking, including a section of the Angles Way. The Broads are on our doorstep; there is a marina at Somerleyton and another, plus a boatyard at St. Olaves, just outside Fritton and Herringfleet. We are part of an area which attracts many tourists and holidaymakers - quietly rural yet within easy reach of its two adjacent towns, and the Cathedral City of Norwich.



What we are looking for in our new priest

- A man of prayer, rooted and grounded in the catholic tradition of the Church of England.
- A priest who appreciates and delights in the beauty of holiness and will maintain and develop the sacramental life of the church.
- A fellow-traveller who prays for and with us, to enrich our worship and its relevance to the everyday.
- Above all a pastor who is joyful and interested in people, committed to visiting and able both to lead us in faith, to support us in our daily lives, and to help us to bring new and younger people into the congregation.
- An engaging preacher and teacher and communicator of Gospel truth.
- Someone who will discern the talents of his people and encourage them in their lay ministry within the church and wider community.
- A person who enjoys the countryside and understands village life, and will be able to tune in to the local culture and environment, who understands the advantages of good administration and communication, and of being seen in the parish

Pre-Covid we met for Parish Mass on three Sundays each month, with High Mass for special days and occasional Evensongs for such as the Patronal Festival and Harvest. Through Covid and the subsequent interregnum we have been limited to one service approximately every six weeks. With the generous help of one of the retired priests from Hemsby, we have recently been able to resume two services each month. Eventually we would hope to be able to have a service every week, to revive the relationship with GSS/CBS, and to re-activate the Walsingham cell, both of which have been drifting because of the background circumstances.

We can offer you

- A warm welcome in beautiful countryside.
- The opportunity to work with a cheerful, committed, willing and hard-working team of church officers and congregation.
- Our prayerful support.
- Accommodation; a house will be provided to serve the two parishes.

If you would like to discuss this situation further, please contact

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