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**Benefice Newsletter**  
**with Thought for Thursday**

**for the parishes of Etton, Ginton, Maxey, Northborough and Peakirk**

**Thursday July 31st**

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**SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE**

**Sunday 3rd August**

## **Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

**09.00 Morning Worship      St Benedict's Glington**

**10.30 Sung Holy Communion      St Pega's Peakirk**

**18.00 Celtic Evening Prayer      St Andrew's Northborough**

## **Thought for Thursday**

I have been privileged to do two things that a Reader rarely gets to do in the last week.

Firstly, I led a service of Communion by Extension at St Benedict's - Derek taking the service at Northborough. That involved a trip to Helpston to take part in a Communion service where the bread and the wine for both of our churches were consecrated by Rev Gary. It also involved some adaptation to the words in the service and some of the prayers moved around a bit.

The other special event was taking a wedding rehearsal while Keir was on his holiday.

It was a joy to be able to lead the young couple and their family and friends through the ceremony, rehearsing their vows, getting the bridesmaids to slow their walk down and instructing the bride's father not to step on the train. (I know from experience the results of that mistake).

The Communion Service and the Marriage Service are both occasions which (in the Church of England) involve acts which are "reserved to an ordained priest" - the consecration of the bread and wine, and the marriage ceremony itself.

These acts – blessing the bread and wine, or officiating at a wedding – aren't reserved to priests because they're more important people or closer to God. It's more that, at certain moments, the Church says: "This bit matters so much, we're going to be careful who does it." It's about safeguarding meaning, rather than guarding power.

When a priest leads Communion, they're not just speaking for themselves – they're standing in for the whole Church, and in a symbolic way, for Christ himself. The same goes for weddings: it's not just two people making promises to each other, it's a public act of worship, and the priest represents the Church's blessing on those vows.

Readers – like me – can do a lot: preach, lead worship, take funerals, and, with permission, lead a Communion service using bread and wine that's already been consecrated. But there are still some lines we don't cross, and I think that's okay. It's not about who's allowed to do the holy bits – it's a reminder that all of us, lay and ordained, have our part to play. None of us does this alone.

Personally, I find that reassuring. It reminds me that even the most special moments in church life are never just about us and what we say or do — they're about God's presence, and the whole Church, holding us together.

Reader Simon

### **Benefice Prayers**

Our benefice prayers are taken from the previous week's pew sheet.



#### **For Our Community**

We lift up in prayer all who live in High Street, Maxey; Westbourne Drive, Ginton; Walker Road, Ginton; and Vergette Road, Ginton.

May they be surrounded by love, peace, and the presence of God in their daily lives



#### **For Those in Need of Healing**

We pray for all who are suffering in mind, body, or spirit, especially those dear to us: **Chris Skillman, Ann Rata, Sheila Merrill, Violet Green and Matthew Phillips**. May they find strength, comfort, and restoration.



#### **For Those We Hold in Our Hearts**

We remember with love those who have gone before us especially **Malcolm Spinks**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



#### **For the Growth of Our Church**

We pray for the **9 Bridges Benefice 2030 - Releasing people for Mission** group as they work to strengthen and shape our churches for the future. May their efforts be guided by wisdom, unity, and a shared vision of faith.

### **SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 10th AUGUST**

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>St Pega's Peakirk</b>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>St Stephen's Etton</b>
<b>18.00</b>	<b>Joyful Journey</b>	<b>St Benedict's Ginton</b>

## DATES for your DIARY

### AUGUST

**Tuesday 5th 10.00**

BCP Service of Holy Communion St Peter's Maxey

**Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 August**

**The Pedalling Peasnells 24hour bike ride for St Pega's Church**

Saturday 19.00 Wave us off! Sunday 19.00 We finish! And lots in between!

(see below)

## NEWS



### The Pedalling Peasnells

**19.00 Sat 16 Aug -**

**19.00 Sun 17th Aug**

Some of the highlights while we pedal on Sunday:

**3.00am Fly-by-night** - Brian will bring a model aeroplane and fly it around the inside of the church!

**4.00am Storytime** Join us as we read through St Mark's Gospel

**9.00am Bacon Butties for Breakfast** A tasty way to start the day.

**12.00 - 2.00pm Bring a picnic** We will be pleased to see you. Perhaps help us with a little pedalling.

Decorate a 'Congratulations banner' for Jayne and Rhiannon

**11.00am - 4.00pm**

Come to see the flower displays  
incorporating the Cathedral crests  
Cathedral Themed Family Trail in the  
Churchyard

Refreshments will be available

**6.00pm Hymns and Pimms** Sing away  
the last hour of the challenge with your  
favourite hymns and a glass of Pimms.

**7.00pm Celebrate with us! All are welcome!**

To donate: JustGiving/page/pedallingpeasnells donation bucket in church.

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Thank you to everyone who supported our Messy Church Sale on Sunday. We raised £75.00. Joseph was our Super-salesperson!

There is no Messy Church in August and our next one will be **Sunday September 14**. Note the date as the Village Hall was not available on the first Sunday.

### **Ethan's Walk: Land's End to John O'Groats**

Unfortunately, Ethan and his walking companion Luke were laid low by a food poisoning bug earlier in the week. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

However, prior to that, the CEO of Hope into Action, Jon Kuhrt, joined them for a day's walking.



You can find more about Ethan's progress and ways you can support Hope into Action here:

<https://www.hopeintoaction.org.uk/blog/no-fixed-path-my-walk-for-hope>

He's happy to have company if any keen walkers would like to join him for a mile or two!

**Is your safeguarding training up to date?**

**Safeguarding Leadership Training Courses - New Dates Available**

You can now book new dates for the Safeguarding Leadership Training Course in September and October. Book your place via the portal.

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org>

**Derek's Cryptic Clues**

**Solutions to clues from last month**

**1 HAGGAI** (prophet) anagram (rescheduled) of **AHA GIG**.

**2 GENTILES** A lurker (found in) rea**GENT I LES**sened.

**3 BEERSHEBA** (Jewish city) **BEER** (Ale) **SHE** (that woman) **BA** (Barbara, shortly)

**4 SOLOMON** (wise king) **SOLO** (Alone) **MON** (moon loses 0).

**5 REVELATION** (Last book) anagram (rewritten) of **IN ELEVATOR**.

**This month's clues**

1 Ah! Most confused doubter. (7)

2 5.71 weeks – that's fast for Jesus. (5,4)

3 Crime hub reformed for angels. (8)

4 That woman with a degree follows ale to city in Israel. (9)

5 Superheat switched to river. (9)

blessings

Jane

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