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Benefice Newsletter
with Thought for Thursday

for the parishes of Etton, Glington, Maxey, Northborough and Peakirk

Thursday September 18th

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SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

Sunday 21st September

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

09:00 Harvest Festival with Holy Communion – Maxey

10:30 Harvest Family Praise - Northborough *

18:00 Evensong – Peakirk (with benefice choir)

All are welcome at all our services

*** Indicates a service designed with children and families in mind**

Thought for Thursday

Thought for Thursday: The Cost of Discipleship and Generous Giving

Jesus reminds us that discipleship is costly — but costly doesn't mean miserable. Sometimes, money and faith make us squirm, but at its heart, generosity is about freedom, joy, and choosing life (Deut. 30). Generosity isn't just about giving to the church; it's about how we share our resources with family, friends, and those in need. Think of generosity like spiritual exercise: much like a gym membership, it costs, but it gives life and joy.

Discipleship often means surrender, and surrender brings joy (Luke 14:33). Paul reminds us that giving flows from love, not guilt. Everything we have belongs to God first; we are stewards, not owners. Take a moment to reflect: if you looked back over your giving this year — to family, to charity, to your community, or to organisations you support — would you feel joyful and grateful, or would you barely notice it? Sometimes, like our Netflix habits, we only realise the impact of what we've given after the fact — and if we don't notice it, we may miss out on the joy.

There are different ways of giving. Opportunistic giving is like finding a fiver in your pocket — it's great in the moment, but unreliable. Regular giving is like watering plants — little and often keeps things alive. Planned giving goes even further, saying, "God, I trust you first, and

I'll organise my life around that." Starting the year with this mindset allows us to give joyfully from our increase.

How much should we give? The Old Testament tithe of 10% is a helpful guide, but the New Testament calls us to generosity and sacrifice. Think of generosity like cooking for friends — you don't measure three peas per guest; you pour it in with love. Giving is not seasonal; it's part of discipleship. Imagine having to share publicly what you gave last year — to family, to charity, or to causes you care about — how would you feel? Embarrassed? Proud? Joyful? This isn't about guilt, but about the joy of knowing you've blessed others and supported the communities and causes that matter.

Generosity is not doom and gloom — it's one of the most joyful, freeing ways to live. What's your attitude to giving? Is it an afterthought, or part of your discipleship plan? Living generously creates ripples of joy, and together, in all areas of our lives, we reflect the generosity of God to the world.

Rev. Keir Dow

18th September 2025

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; The Sanderlings, Peakirk; Vergette Road, Glington; and Neaverson Road, Glington.

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, Matthew Woodward, Matty Phillips and Peter Jarrold**. May they find strength, comfort, and restoration.

For Those We Hold in Our Hearts

We remember with love those who have gone before us: **Rosemary Eagle, Matt Pearson and Stephen Cookson**. 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 28th SEPTEMBER

09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough

10:30 Harvest Festival with Holy Communion - Glinton *

18:00 Taizé – Maxey

All are welcome at all our services

*** Indicates a service designed with children and families in mind**

DATES for your DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 21st September at 10:30am

St Andrew's, Northborough

Family Harvest Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving for the Restoration of the Chancel Roof

A chance to say thank you!

Please note that Church Street, Northborough is now closed until 5th December.

Car access is via Peakirk Road or there is
parking in the layby on Lincoln Road, or at The Packhorse

Friday 26th September

Benefice@theBoozer 20.00 onwards

The Bluebell Glington

Pubs do sell coffee and soft drinks too. Come long for a chat. All are welcome.

Friday 26th - Sunday 28th September

Nine Bridges Charity Beer Festival

The Golden Pheasant Etton

Friday 4pm - close: Live Music

Saturday 12pm - close: Afternoon Quiz, Live Music

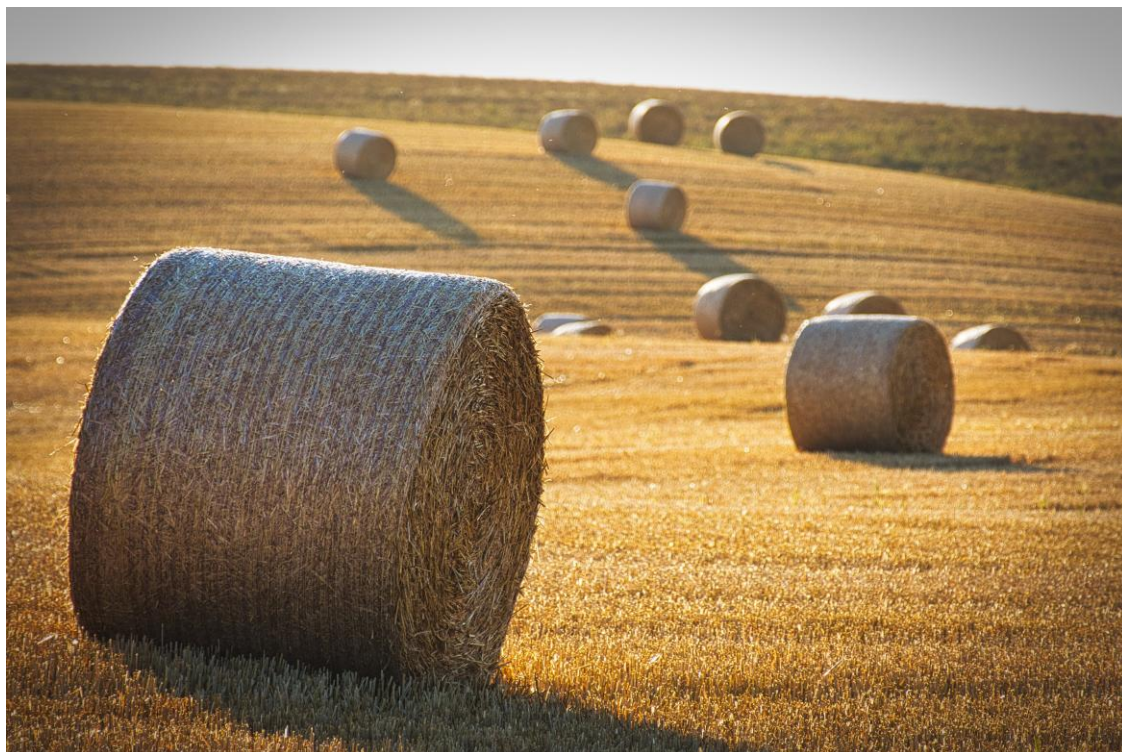
Saturday 12pm - close: Live Music

IMPORTANT DATE

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8TH

Benefice Mission Day. Bishop Debbie is coming! More details shortly.

NEWS



Harvest Festival Donations

Donations collected at the Harvest services, unless otherwise communicated, will be given to Deepings Foodbank, who 'help local people in crisis'. I am co-ordinating with Peakirk cum Glington and Northborough Primary schools in this regard.

Deepings Foodbank are in need of any **tinned or packet food** and would really appreciate **Tinned Fruit / Tinned Rice Pudding / Tinned Meat / Long Life Milk / Long Life Fruit Juice / Biscuits / Crisps** in particular.

As always, your support is very much appreciated.

Simon Clayton - Administrator

Knitted Bible Stories

3RD - 14TH OCT 2025



**Enjoyed the longest yarn earlier this year?
Come and wonder at 30 stories from the
Bible, handcrafted in wool.**

Open between 10am-4pm

St. John's Church, Cathedral Square, PE1 1XB

☎ 01733 563 978 ✉ office@peterborough-stjohns.org.uk

Entry free - donations appreciated



Everyone Welcome!

We'll continue to share events and activities from across the wider community

**ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH
GLINTON**

**COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR
HARVEST SUPPER**

on

**Friday, 10th October, 2025 at
7 p.m.**

GLINTON VILLAGE HALL

**£15.00 for mains, a pud and
tea /coffee**

RAFFLE

TABLE QUIZ

B.Y.O. DRINK

FOR TICKETS CONTACT

JULIE FITZJOHN

01733 252712

**Or from St. Benedict's
church**

I chose the picture at the top of this newsletter, my own confirmation cross, to acknowledge not only the Confirmation Service on the 16th September but also to reflect on the baptism of a family member at Thorney Abbey last Sunday. Reflection is a wonderful tool I underutilise.

Simon

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