

[View this email in your browser](#)



Benefice Newsletter
with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday January 8th

[Click for Website](#)



SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

Sunday 11th January

09:00 Morning Worship - Peakirk

10:30 Holy Communion - Etton

18:00 Joyful Journey - Glinton *

All are welcome at all our services. * Indicates a service designed with children and families in mind

The Collect and Readings for the services can be found at the foot of this newsletter

Thought for Thursday

Stepping into the New Year with Hope

The New Year has a way of encouraging reflection — often beginning with the thought, “Where did the time go?” followed closely by “Did I really eat that much chocolate?” While looking back has its place, God gently reminds us that we are not meant to live there.

Scripture speaks often of God doing new things: new mercies, new beginnings, new life. Hope grows when we remember that God is not confined to last year’s successes

or failures. Whatever the past twelve months contained — moments we'd happily frame and others we'd rather quietly recycle — none of it has the final word. God does.

Looking forward with hope doesn't mean pretending everything will be easy. It means trusting that God is already present in the days we haven't yet lived. We step into the year ahead not knowing all that it holds, but knowing the One who holds us — even on the days when the diary is full, the plans wobble, or the resolutions quietly disappear by mid-January.

So, as we move into this New Year, may we travel lightly: grateful for what has been, hopeful for what will be, and confident that God walks with us into whatever lies ahead. Hope, after all, is not about having all the answers — it's about trusting the journey.

Rev. Keir Dow

Benefice Prayers

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

For Our Community

We lift up in prayer all who live in St Benedict's Close, Glinton, Sutton's Lane, Deeping Gate, Woodgate Lane, Maxey & The Orchard, Etton. 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: **Ann Rata, David Cupit and Jane and Rhiannon Peasnell**. 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, **Michael Cleathero, Patricia Toulson and Jean Leeds, and on his anniversary, Maurice Wright**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

For the Growth of Our Church

We pray for all who are engaging with the changing structures of our church's governance. Grant that each of us may discern the right role in which to use our gifts in service of your mission in this place. Give us courage to speak with one another about our own calling and to encourage others in discovering theirs.

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 18th January

09:00 Morning Worship - Maxey

10:30 Family Praise - Northborough *

18:00 Evensong Peakirk

All are welcome at all our services

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

DATES for your DIARY

Every Wednesday

St Benedict's Ginton

Singing Club for Children

<https://9bridges.church/singing-club/>



The 9 Bridges Benefice is delighted
to launch a **Singing Club** for
children!

Saturday 10th January

09:30 - 11:00

B@TB returns for 2026

Pop into St. Benedict's church Ginton
this Saturday for a friendly chat, a
bacon sandwich and a tea or coffee

We'd love to see you!

**Out and about on Saturday
morning?**

**Walking your dog
or out for a bike ride?**



B@TB



**invites you for a
coffee or tea,
a bacon sandwich
and a friendly chat
at St Benedict's Church
Ginton on**

**Saturday 10 January
between 9.30am and 11.00am**

No charge – donations welcome - and dogs!

See you there?



Tuesday 20th January

12:00 - 14:00

St Pega's church is hosting a soup lunch, including a roll, cake and lunch.

Sounds delicious!

Suggested donation £10

Raffle

Tickets available from Sheila

(01733 252416)

ST PEGA'S CHURCH
in Peakirk Village Hall
SOUPER TUESDAY

January 20th

12.00 to 2.00



SOUP, ROLL, CAKE & DRINK

Suggested donation £10.00

Raffle

Tickets available from Sheila 01733 252416

Sunday 1st February

15:00 - 16:30

Messy Church is back!

Starting with Messy Builders and the opening of the Messy Church Shed

Families of all ages are welcome

You are invited to



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1st

3.00pm to 4.30pm

PEAKIRK VILLAGE HALL

Messy Builders

(and opening of the Messy Church Shed!)



Families of all ages are welcome

Jane Harris : communications@bridges.church

 The Nine Bridges Benefice

Friday 6th February

St Benedict's are hosting a Beetle Drive at Glington Village Hall at 7pm on Friday 6th February. Fun and games, Fish and Chips, £15.00 a ticket

Tickets will be available from Helena (07802 279756), or from Julie (01733 252712) after Christmas.

Please put it in your diary!"

Beetle Drive
Friday 6th February
Starting at 7pm
Glington Village Hall
£15 To include
Fish & Chips
Please bring your own drinks

Tickets from Helena 07802 279756
or Julie 01733 252712

NEWS

PRAYER NEWSLETTER

PETERBOROUGH DEANERY



NEW Look Newsletter!

Issue 16
January 2026

Together Events

Through December, our MES deanery interns, Roisin and Liv-Astrid, had fun working together on two different Advent and Christmas events.

Moor Farm Nativity

When Roisin first met Rev Hayley Hobbs in the café of Moor Farm, Newborough not long after starting her MES internship, the farm owner approached them and asked if they would be interested in reviving a scratch nativity in their grounds. This came to fruition on 30th November, with the interns and Rev Hayley narrating the story of Jesus' birth surrounded by live sheep, goats and a donkey.

Roisin and Liv-Astrid were delighted with the event: over 120 adults and children listened and joined in; everyone was engaged; everyone left with a sense of enjoyment and fun. The church benefited as they received donations from the evening. The farm and donkey benefited from all the publicity (the donkey was definitely 'the star of the show'). Both the church and farm would like a repeat performance next year.



**Please pray for: continuing relationships
between church and local communities**

Pastores in Nocte



On December 6th Roisin, Liv-Astrid and various church volunteers welcomed 15 teenagers into St Mary's church for the first deanery youth activity. It was a morning of craft and drama focusing on the nativity from the shepherd's perspective. The teenagers got lots of fun out of the morning; Roisin noted 'we've never seen them get so involved!' and Liv-Astrid felt that the morning went 'really well'. The young people also thought so, as they were asking for the next one!

**Please pray for: the next deanery event, which is
planned for March with a focus on Lent.**
**Prayers would be valued for more participants, more
helpers and lots of ideas to engage and encourage
our youth.**

01/02

Other highlights

Among the many many other calls on their time especially in the run-up to Christmas, Roisin spent 6 hours creating Nativity Glitter Globes for 'Bible Explorers' after-school club in Eye and Liv-Astrid attended, helped or led 10 Christingle services in various churches and schools across the deanery!

Please pray that all the interns' work and ministry in those different workshops, school clubs, Christingle and other Christmas services give rise to increased engagement with young people across the deanery.



Social Media and Church

Social Media



Please do like and follow to find out more about the MES Peterborough Deanery Interns!

The Peterborough Deanery Instagram and Facebook pages can be found on the QR codes on the left. There is always plenty of inspirational news, photos and videos that will not only lift your day but also give food for prayer and thanksgiving.

Roisin very much enjoys creating content for Social Media; if your church would like some ideas or advice on how to start using Instagram to publicise your church life, she is happy to help. Please contact Rev Keir Dow, her placement supervisor, to explore how this could be arranged.



Give thanks and praise for the great teamwork between Roisin and Liv-Astrid. God is very much working with and through them.

For those who would like to financially support the Internship scheme within the deanery:

Account name: Peterborough Deanery
Ministry Experience Scheme
Sort Code: 23-05-80
Account number: 56120203



Across Peterborough is a communication tool with a website, social media and newsletter.

It is managed by [Light Project Peterborough](https://www.lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk)

<https://www.lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk>

whose aim is to enable and
equip the church and community to heal the broken hearted,
set free the oppressed and bring good news to the poor.

Wherever you are on your life journey we hope you will find something useful there.

Their aim is to showcase some of the amazing work done in our city and provide resources that will help improve the Peterborough community.

We will be sharing more content from across the city in the future.

<https://www.acrosspeterborough.org.uk>

THE COLLECT AND READINGS FROM THIS WEEK'S PEW SHEET

Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Isiah 42.1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Acts 10.34–43

Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Matthew 3.13–end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But

Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord; **Praise to you, O Christ**

This week's picture is of St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague on rather chilly and misty morning.

It's so pleasing to see events coming in early in the new year, long may it continue. We have such a vibrant community, fun of energy and ideas, so please keep them coming!

Simon

admin@9bridges.church



Copyright (C) 2026 The Nine Bridges Benefice. All rights reserved.