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**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 - Clinton \***

**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, Clinton, 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 Clinton

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 Clinton  
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



**Clinton 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)

**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

**ST PEGA'S CHURCH**

**in Peakirk Village Hall**

**SOUPER TUESDAY**

**January 20<sup>th</sup>**

**12.00 to 2.00**



**SOUP, ROLL, CAKE & DRINK**

**Suggested donation £10.00**

**Raffle**

**Tickets available from Sheila 01733 252416**

**MCSSY**

You are invited to



**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup>**

**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](mailto:communications@bridges.church)

 The Nine Bridges Benefit

## **Friday 6th February**

St Benedict's are hosting a Beetle Drive at Clinton 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**

**Clinton 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



Issue 16  
January 2026

## Together Events

NEW Look Newsletter!

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 Noche



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>

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

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