



Benefice Newsletter with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday February 26th

Click for Website

<https://9bridges.church/>

SUNDAY 1st March

09:00 Morning Worship – Glington

10:30 Sung Communion – Peakirk

15:00 Messy Church – Peakirk Village Hall

18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough

(Special sung service with benefice choir)

Morning Worship – A simple, reflective service of prayer, praise, and teaching.

Sung Communion – A communion service enriched with traditional sung liturgy.

Messy Church – Creative, hands-on worship for families of all ages.

Celtic Evening Prayer – Peaceful, contemplative worship with Celtic liturgy.

Holy Communion – A traditional service celebrating the Eucharist.

Joyful Journey – Modern, relaxed, and fun worship for all ages.

Family Praise – Lively, informal worship designed with families in mind.

Evensong – A quiet, prayerful evening service with traditional liturgy.

Family Communion – An accessible communion service suitable for all ages.

Taizé – Meditative worship with simple chants and extended silence.

United Benefice Communion – A shared communion service bringing the whole benefice together.

Thought for Thursday

Thursday 5 March 2026 is World Book Day, the day when we celebrate the written word and encourage people all over the world to read books. Nowadays, of course, books can be read on electronic devices like iPads and on 'phones. I still like the feel of a book in my hands with pages to turn.

When I was at school I very rarely read for pleasure. When going on holiday as a family my parents would buy books to read while we were away but I could never see the point. That was until, quite by chance on one holiday, I came across a novel called *Tramp in Armour* by Colin Forbes. I could not put it down and from that day to this I have always had a book on the go – usually, but not exclusively – fiction. I have even written a few books myself.

This brings me to the best selling book of all time in the entire world. It is, of course, the Bible with between five and six billion copies sold. But it is not just one book but a whole library of books recounting in the Old Testament, among other things, the history of the Jewish nation from its beginnings with Abraham and Sarah, through the trials of various exiles, the escape from slavery in Egypt and the arrival in the Promised Land.

Then comes the New Testament. God comes to earth in the form of his son, Jesus – the Word made flesh. The life of Our Lord is not separated from the battles and rigours of the Old Testament but a fulfilment of all the promises made there. The prophecies of Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and all the other prophets made hundreds of years before all came true in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It truly is “The Greatest Story Ever Told”.

I know some of the books in our Bible can be heavy going. Rev Mark-Aaron, our previous incumbent said, if you have difficulty sleeping, try reading the book of Numbers!

But don't let these difficulties put you off reading the Bible. You can always join the online Bible course on a Tuesday evening. There are daily Bible reading notes published by a number of organisations along with books seeking to add to the understanding of the books in the Bible. If you would prefer a one-to-one chat, as well as a Rev Keir, there are four Readers in this benefice. We don't just “read”, we try to understand as well. So please ask us if you feel in need of some help – and never give up on reading the Bible. It is our handbook of life.

Reader Derek

Benefice Prayers

For Our Community

We lift up in prayer all who live in The Willows, Ginton, Vergette Road, Ginton, Castle End Road, Deeping Gate & Mill Road, Maxey. 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 Bill Dean**. 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, **David Tapscott and Robert Layen**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Services Next Week

SUNDAY 8th March

09:00 Morning Worship – Peakirk

10:30 Holy Communion - Etton

18:00 Joyful Journey - Ginton



How can we help?

Life can be a lot sometimes — you don't have to figure it out on your own.

Our **Benefice Community Help** drop-in runs **every Friday, 2–4pm** at **St Benedict's Church**.

No pressure, no forms, no cost — just people who want to listen and help where they can.

You can:

-  Pop in for a coffee and a chat
-  Ask about local services or issues
-  Share worries (big or small)
-  Get help with phones, tablets, or online stuff
-  Or just sit and be for a while

You don't need to be religious.

You don't need to be in crisis.

It's **completely free**.

Just come as you are — we'll start with one simple question:

How can we help?

Feel free to share or tag someone who might find this useful 

DATES for your DIARY

Friday 27th February

It's the last Friday of the month and Benefice@TheBoozer (B@TB) will be frequenting the

Blue Bell at Glinton from 8pm



St Andrew's Church, Northborough

Annual Quiz with Peter Kemp

6th March 2026 at 7.30pm

Northborough Village Hall

£10 per person, light supper included
BYO drinks

Tables of up to 4

Please book with Polly – 01778 380849

Or Jane – 01778 345101



Mothering Sunday

15th March 2026

Services across the Benefice

MOTHERING SUNDAY
at
NINE BRIDGES BENEFICE

**9:00am Holy Communion at
Maxey**

**10:30am Family Praise
at Northborough
with the children of
SINGING CLUB**

**6:00pm
Evensong at Peakirk**



Everyone is Welcome!

St. Benedict's Church, Ginton

Lent Lunch

Wednesday 18th March 2026

12:00 - 13:30

Ginton Village Hall

Homemade soup, crusty bread, cake and drink

Tickets £10 from

Julie 01733 252712

Helena 07802 279756

 **LENT LUNCH** 
St Benedict's Church, Ginton

Wednesday 18 March 2026
12.00 – 1.30pm
Ginton Village Hall

 **Homemade Soup**
 **Crusty Bread**
 **Cake & Drink**

£10

✨ All welcome ✨

Julie 01733 252712
Helena 07802 279756

The Nine Bridges Benefice Choir is delighted to be singing Sir John Stainer's much-loved Passiontide work *The Crucifixion* during Holy Week, on Tuesday 31st March at 7.00pm, at St Peter's, Maxey.

First performed in 1887, *The Crucifixion* is a deeply moving meditation on the events of Good Friday. Written to be accessible yet profoundly expressive, it weaves together scripture, reflective choruses, and well-known congregational hymns that invite listeners to contemplate the meaning of Christ's suffering and love. For many, its music has become inseparable from the spiritual journey of Holy Week.

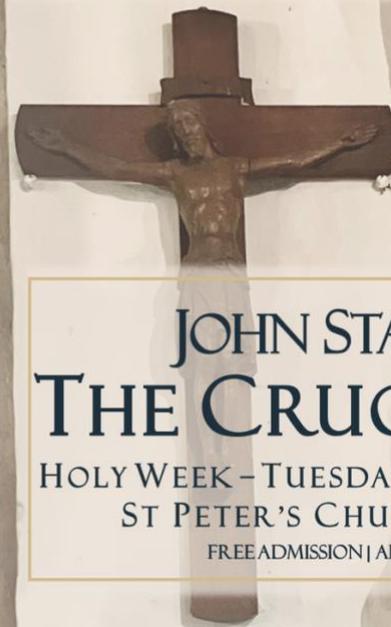
The Nine Bridges Benefice Choir draws together singers from across our churches, united by a shared love of worship, music, and community. Regularly leading services and special events around the benefice, the choir brings warmth, commitment, and joy to everything it sings.

We are especially pleased to be joined by our soloists Bradley Smith (Tenor) and Simon Richards (Bass), whose roles as the Evangelist and Christus bring clarity, drama, and depth to this powerful work.

All are very welcome to come and listen, reflect, and prepare their hearts for Easter through this beautiful and prayerful music.

THE NINE BRIDGES BENEFICE CHOIR

presents



JOHN STAINER'S
THE CRUCIFIXION

HOLY WEEK – TUESDAY 31ST MARCH, 7PM
ST PETER'S CHURCH, MAXEY
FREE ADMISSION | ALL WELCOME

The Nine Bridges Benefice Choir draws together singers from across all our churches, united by a shared love of worship, music and community.

Featuring Soloists:
BRADLEY SMITH (Tenor)
SIMON RICHARDS (Bass)

All are very welcome to come and listen, reflect and prepare their Easter through this beautiful and prayerful music.



www.9bridges.church

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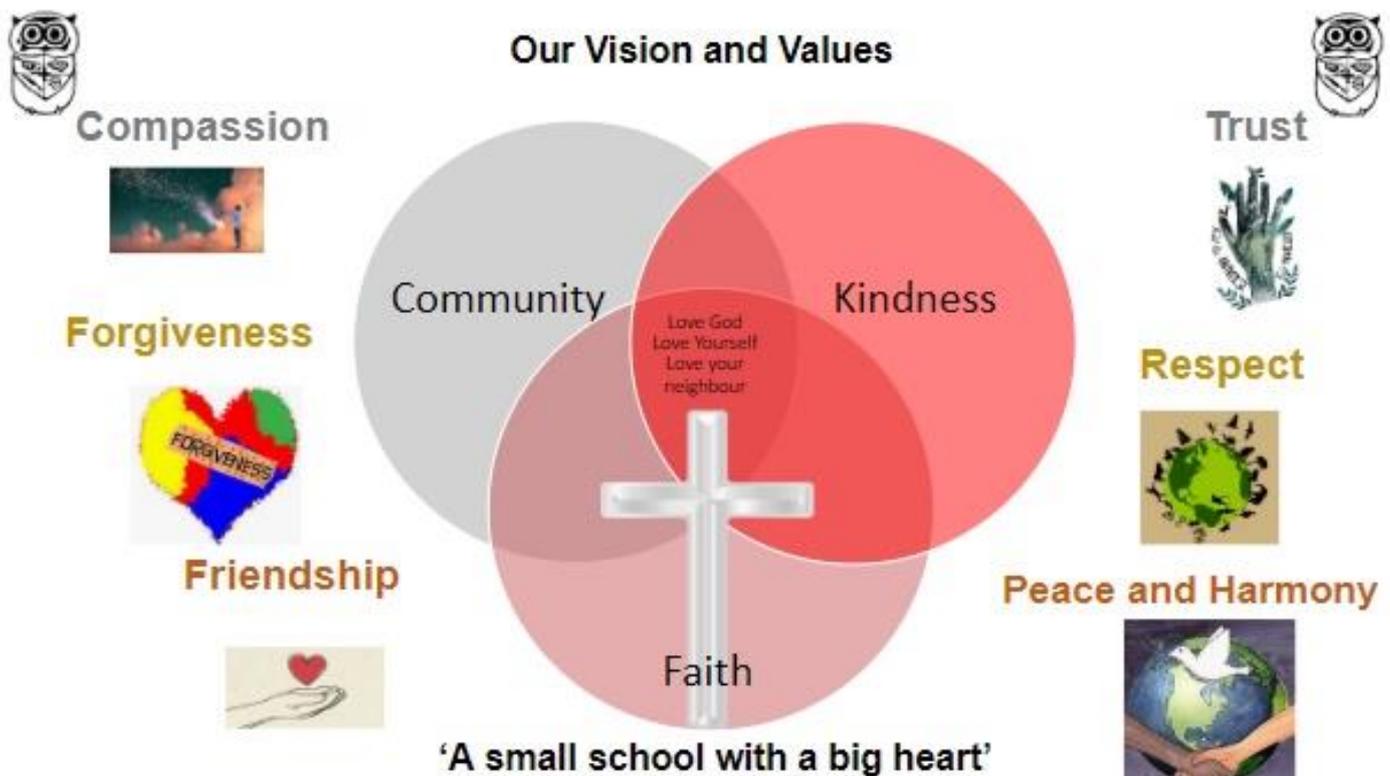
NEWS

Last week, the children at Peakirk cum Glinton Primary School enjoyed a special Vision and Values Afternoon, led by 12 volunteers from our local churches. It was a lively and thoughtful time that helped pupils explore the school's vision — *"a small school with a big heart"* — and understand how it is rooted in Christian values.

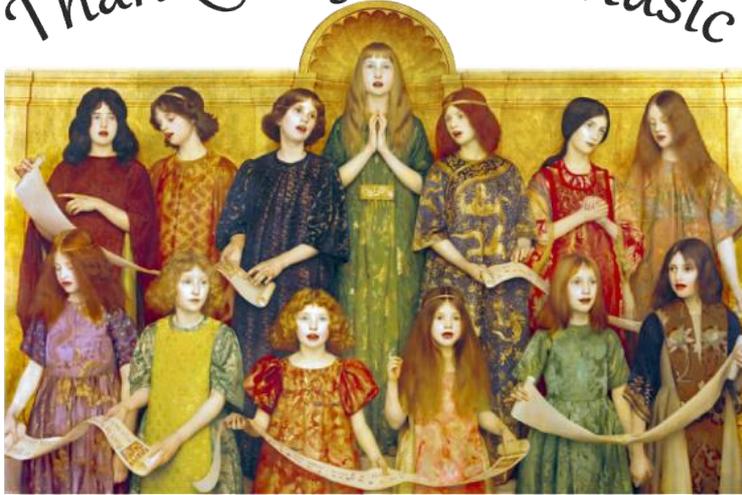
Through a series of interactive sessions, the children engaged with themes including compassion, kindness, forgiveness, friendship, respect, trust, peace, and harmony. Each group rotated through activities designed to be practical and reflective, giving them opportunities to talk about real-life situations, take part in creative tasks, and think about how these values can shape everyday choices in school and beyond.

The volunteers were impressed by the children's openness, insight, and enthusiasm. Pupils shared examples of how they see these values lived out in their classrooms and playground, and how faith and community sit at the centre of the school's vision. Staff noted how well the children connected the activities to their own experiences and relationships.

It was a joyful afternoon of learning and encouragement, strengthening the partnership between school and churches, and helping the whole school community continue to grow in its shared vision and values.



Thank You for the Music



*A DELIGHTFUL MUSICAL MISCELLANY
BY COMPOSERS FROM THE 16TH TO THE 20TH CENTURY*

**ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH
LONGTHORPE, PETERBOROUGH, PE3 6LU
SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 7.30PM
ST PETER'S SINGERS — JEREMY JEPSON: DIRECTOR**

TICKETS £15 (UNDER 16S FREE)

TO INCLUDE A GLASS OF WINE OR NON-ALCOHOLIC FIZZ. CASH-ONLY BAR AVAILABLE.

INTERVAL RAFFLE.

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE FROM
JACKIE LAST 07532 457007 jackie@aspseyway.co.uk
OR YVETTE MAGRI 07858 529203 yvette_magri@hotmail.com

God's Masterpiece

poizema

Ephesians 2:10

Scan the QR
Code to
register!



For ages 8-14

Join us for our second Deanery Youth event! A morning to explore how we walk with Jesus & become His masterpiece

SATURDAY, 14TH MARCH 2026 | 9:30AM - 12:30PM

St Matthew's Church, Eye,
Peterborough, PE6 7UU





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>

REGULAR DATES for your DIARY

Every Wednesday

St Benedict's Glinton

Singing Club for Children

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



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

This Week's Collect and Readings

Collect

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Genesis 12.1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' & So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

John 3.1-17

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born

of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

And Finally

Solutions to clues from last month

- 1 **EPIPHANY** (the season) Anagram (about) of **HYPE A PIN**.
- 2 **JEREMIAH** (prophet) Anagram (get together) of **JAMIE** and **HER**.
- 3 **JAMES** (Epistle) A lurker (some) in **JAM ES**me.
- 4 **TORAH** (Jewish Scripture) A reverse (backing) lurker (Part of) in **cHA ROT**ation.
- 5 **LENT** (six weeks before Easter) Synonym of **LEASED FREE**.

This time's clues

- 1 Air sheep composed for holy man. (8)
- 2 Belief in Scottish river flowing backwards to credit. (5)
- 3 Facts, not loud, following John. (4)
- 4 Mental is not a rewritten Old Testament book. (12)
- 5 Noah's son cured leg of pork. (3)

I am away on holiday next week, so there will not be a newsletter on Thursday 5th March.

Your continued feedback on the format of this email, as we evolve our delivery mechanism, would be very much appreciated.

Simon

admin@9bridges.church

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