



## Benefice Newsletter with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup>

Click for Website

<https://9bridges.church/>

### SERVICES THIS WEEK

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

**09:00 Holy Communion – Maxey**  
**10:30 Family Praise – Northborough**  
**18:00 BCP Evensong - Peakirk**

**Morning Worship** – A simple, informal and joyful service, celebrating faith together across the generations.

**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 in Holy Week

Several years ago BC (Before Covid which closed all our churches), I read Bob Jackson's book, *What Makes Churches Grow*. I also took part in a *Leading Your Church Into Growth (LYCiG)* online course. One thing became abundantly clear both from the book and from the course – churches that are prepared to change will flourish, but churches that are not prepared to change will stagnate and decline.

We, led by Revd Keir and supported by the Diocese, have indicated – very strongly – that we are, indeed, prepared to change. We have fundamentally altered our system of governance by replacing our five PCC's with one Benefice Council, whose third meeting took place earlier this week.

What happens next? What now happens in our parishes without a PCC? This is our next challenge.

Sir Winston Churchill famously said during World War II, "Give us the tools and we'll finish the job." In these post resurrection days Jesus has commanded us to go out and make disciples. He has empowered us by the gift of his Holy Spirit, whose coming we will celebrate at Pentecost.

But we all have our innate "tools". It is a fact that we all have talents and gifts, skills that we use in our work and in our leisure. As St Paul wrote, "There are many gifts but the same spirit". We all have different gifts. For instance, I can preach a bit and write a bit and sing a bit, but, for goodness sake, never ask me to cook a three course meal or service a car engine!

My question is, do you have a gift, a talent, or a skill that you could use to further the work of Jesus in this Benefice? Do you have a friend or a neighbour with any such skills? If you have, we need to hear from you!

If you recall the parable of the talents you will remember what happened to the man who hid his talent by burying it in the earth.

Using your talents does not necessarily mean coming to church on Sundays. It can take many different forms – organising and helping at social events, flower arranging, providing refreshments at events, helping in the churchyard. Looking further afield, is everyone in the villages aware that the church collects for the Food Bank? Spread the word and let everyone know!

Some of us feel comfortable talking to others about our faith. Others arrange Bible studies to explore and deepen our faith. Still others fry bacon, butter bread and make drinks for the Benefice@TheBoozer Pop-Up Café! These are only a few of the gifts that God has given to each one of us.

We all know the Good News of Jesus Christ so, surely, we want to share it with others? So let us all ask ourselves one simple question. What can I do to make a difference that will help our church to grow?

With “Christ is risen!” ringing in our ears, let us all work together to help our church grow.

Reader Derek

## Benefice Prayers



### **For Our Community**

We lift up in prayer all who live in Waterworks Lane, Glington, Peakirk Road, Deeping Gate, School Lane, Maxey & Deeping 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: **Ann Rata, David Cupit and Malcolm Lowe-Lauri**. 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, **Deborah Lakey, Valerie Mourton, Christopher Bodenham, Vijay Menon, and Polly Beasley**. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

## Upcoming Services

<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>09:00 Holy Communion – Maxey 10:30 Family Praise – Northborough 18:00 BCP Evensong - Peakirk</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough 10:30 Family Holy Communion - Glington 18:00 Taizé – Maxey</b>
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>09:00 Morning Worship – Glington 10:30 Sung Communion – Peakirk 15:00 Messy Church – Peakirk Village Hall 18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough</b>








## 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 Wednesday, 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

<p>St. Andrew's Church, Northborough</p> <p><b>Tea at Three</b> <b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b></p> <p>A series of events with tea and cakes</p> <p>A book exchange Toys and squash for children</p>	 <p><b>Tea@Three</b> <b>St Andrew's</b> <b>Northborough</b> <b>3-4pm</b></p> <p>Join us for tea and a chat</p> <p><b>Every 3rd Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Book Exchange</b> <b>Toys for the Children</b></p> 
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St. Pega's Church,  
Peakirk

**Tabletop Sale**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May**



## ST PEGA'S CHURCH



### SPRING TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May  
Peakirk Village Hall  
1pm – 3 pm



Come and showcase your craft skills  
Or  
Declutter your loft!

**Come and bag a bargain!**

# £10 per Table

(Limited availability)

Refreshments available  
Tea/Coffee/Bacon Rolls



To book a table please contact:

Jane Peasnell:

[jayne.peasnell@talktalk.net](mailto:jayne.peasnell@talktalk.net)

or Scan QR code



SCAN ME



Funds in aid of St Pega's Church



# Springtide Voices

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm**  
**St Andrew's Church, Northborough**

St. Andrew's Church,  
Northborough

**Glebe Singers**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May**



**Adult £12 / Children (U16) Free**  
**Light refreshments available**

**Tickets available from:-**

**Church: 01778 345101 / jane.knott101@btinternet.com**

**Choir members**

**On the door**

**Concert in aid of St Andrew's Church  
and Glebe Singers**



[www.glebesingers.org](http://www.glebesingers.org)



# REGULAR DATES for your DIARY

<p><b>Every Wednesday</b></p> <p>St Benedict's Glinton</p> <p>Singing Club for Children</p> <p><a href="https://9bridges.church/singing-club/">https://9bridges.church/singing-club/</a></p>	 <p>The 9 Bridges Benefice is delighted to launch a <b>Singing Club for children!</b></p>
<p>St. Andrew's Church, Northborough</p> <p><b>Tea at Three</b> <b>Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday</b></p> <p>A series of events with tea and cakes</p> <p>A book exchange Toys and squash for children</p>	 <p><b>Tea@Three</b> <b>St Andrew's</b> <b>Northborough</b> <b>3-4pm</b></p> <p>Join us for tea and a chat</p> <p><b>Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Book Exchange</b> <b>Toys for the Children</b></p>

# This Week's Collect and Reading

## Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

## Acts 2.14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd in Jerusalem: 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added

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

## Psalms 116.1-3, 10-end\*

I love the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my supplication; because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him. The snares of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me; by grief and sorrow was I held. Then I called upon the name of the Lord: 'O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul.' How shall I repay the Lord for all the benefits he has given to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants. O Lord, I am your servant, your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds. I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord. I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the Lord, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Alleluia.

## 1 Peter 1.17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

**Luke 24.13–35**

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

# And Finally

Thank you for all the positive feedback on the newsletter format and the devices you are successfully reading it on. Sadly, some recipients are still seeing some corruption, with some words overlaying others and formatting being lost.

Given the multitude of devices out there, it is hard to offer any advice on how to change your specific device's settings. That said, if you do want to contact me or attend the next Digital Hub in Glinton, on Thursday 23rd April (not 16<sup>th</sup> as I mistakenly put last week), 10:00 – 12:00 in the Village Hall, we will do our best to help you.

Simon

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