



Benefice Newsletter with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday June 25th

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<https://9bridges.church/>

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday 28th June

09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough
10:30 Family Holy Communion - Glington
18:00 Taizé – Maxey

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.



This Sunday (28th) the benefice choir will be joining the worship for our monthly Taizé service at 6pm in Maxey. If you have never experienced this type of service before, I highly recommend trying it for this service. Simple, reflective, gentle service with beautiful music with simple repetitive chants. **#allarewelcome**

Supporting Our Church

Thank you for being part of our church community.

If you would like to support the life and work of the parish, we encourage regular giving through the **Parish Giving Scheme** (PGS). This enables donations to be made safely and simply by Direct Debit and allows Gift Aid to be added automatically where eligible, increasing the value of your gift at no extra cost to you. To find out more, visit: www.parishgiving.org.uk

As part of a trial, we are **no longer** passing a collection plate during services. Instead, a collection plate is available at the back of church for anyone who wishes to make a cash donation as well as a contactless device for electronic giving. This helps create a more comfortable environment for those who already give regularly through PGS or other means.

All gifts support the worship, mission, and ministry of **your chosen parish**, helping us to serve our communities and share God's love in this place. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Rev Keir

Thought for Thursday

In these days of intense, pressing heat, we cannot ignore the way our bodies respond. The sun lingers, the air feels heavy, and we become acutely aware of our limits—our thirst, our fatigue, our need for stillness. The weather itself becomes a quiet teacher. It reminds us that we are not self-sufficient, but creatures shaped by need, by dependence, by the rhythms of creation.

And perhaps this, too, draws us toward a more deeply Christian way of living.

When the heat is strong, we are invited to attend more carefully to ourselves—to drink, to rest, to slow down. This is no small thing. It echoes the invitation of Christ to “come away and rest awhile,” to honour the body as something given by God, not driven without mercy. Awareness of our own need can soften us.

For as we feel our own discomfort, we begin to notice others: the elderly neighbour struggling in the heat, the worker unable to escape it, the lonely soul longing not only for cool air but for human kindness. The weather becomes a call to compassion—to check in, to offer help, to be patient and gentle. In this way, even the heat can kindle love.

And there is also a deeper symbolism here. The world feels “hot,” intense, demanding—but the Christian life calls us to be a different kind of presence: calm, attentive, life-giving.

So a gentle reminder: the church is open. It is, quite simply, a cool place to be—a refuge from the heat, a space of quiet, of prayer, of welcome. Come in, sit awhile, and let your spirit be refreshed.

Rev. Keir

Benefice Prayers



For Our Community

We lift up in prayer all who live in Church Street, Northborough, Scotts Road, Ginton, Firdale Close, Peakirk & 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, Helena Richards, Nancy Holborrow and Mark Malcolm.** 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, **Sylvia Dolby.** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Upcoming Services

Sunday 5th July	09:00 Morning Worship – Ginton 10:30 Sung Communion – Peakirk 15:00 Messy Church – Journey and Picnic - Maxey Church 18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough
Sunday 12th July	09:00 Morning Worship – Peakirk 10:30 Holy Communion - Etton 18:00 Joyful Journey - Ginton
Sunday 19th July	09:00 Holy Communion – Maxey 10:30 Family Praise – Northborough 18:00 BCP Evensong - Peakirk
Sunday 26th July	09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough 10:30 Family Holy Communion - Ginton 18:00 Taizé – Maxey
Sunday 2nd August	09:00 Morning Worship – Ginton 10:30 Sung Communion – Peakirk 18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough

An Apology From The Church of England

This item is to inform you about the apology issued on June 18th for the Church of England's role in historical adoption practices. As you may be aware, a number of mother and baby homes, or similar, were overseen by diocesan moral welfare councils as part of a wider network of provision for unmarried mothers and babies, particularly in the years between 1949 and 1976. There has been growing awareness in recent years of practices within these homes and their outcomes for mothers and their babies. In Peterborough Diocese we are aware of a Mother and Baby home, called St Saviour's, which was based in Northampton and was included in the research the Church of England undertook.

The full apology reads: The Church of England has apologised for its role in historical adoption practices, particularly in mother and baby homes. Mothers and adoptees who came into contact with these homes have described the profound and lasting impact of these experiences. Published alongside new research into these homes, the apology recognises the impact on people affected and sets out the Church's commitment to listening, learning and responding with honesty and compassion.

Revd Keir issued the following on June 18th

Today I'm holding something heavy. The Church of England has spoken an apology for its part in past adoption practices, including those connected to St Saviour's in Northampton.

For some, this won't be history—it will be something felt in the heart and the body even now. Loss, separation, silence, shame. If this news stirs anything in you, please know: you are not alone, and the shame was never yours to carry.

As a local priest, I want simply to say this: I am here to listen. There is space in our churches and in my own heart for your story, at your pace, in your own words. No pressure, no judgement—just care.

We cannot change the past, but we can choose compassion, honesty and gentleness now. And we can walk, quietly and faithfully, alongside one another.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/libraries-and-archives/family-history/church-england-apologises-role-post-war-historical-adoption-practices>








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 

NEWS

We are reaching out to all children known to the benefice. This includes those we see regularly but also those who have been baptised and those who are linked to families that are part of the church here.

We are hosting a special event for all children that is based on the messy church model but is mainly just an opportunity to get together and celebrate the joy that children bring. Please see invite below:

Nine Bridges Benefice

**You are cordially invited to a
'Family Afternoon with Messy Church'**

Sunday 5th July

3:00pm-4:30pm

St Peter's Church, Maxey

Games

Singing, a story and a prayer

Refreshments provided

RSVP please to admin@9bridges.church

Supporting Ukraine

Etton church is a collection point for donations for Ukraine. The last date is 26th June and the poster below, contains the list of items they need.

No clothes or shoes please! Any other donations warmly welcomed.

Humanitarian aid collection for Ukraine

In July 2026, the local volunteer group **Helping Our Ukrainian Friends** will make its 27th delivery of aid to support those impacted by the war in Ukraine.



**Last collection:
26th June 2026**

Warmth&Shelter

- Blankets
- Winter-rated sleeping bags
- Yoga mats
- Knitted Hats/Scarves/Baby Clothes

Medicines

- Paracetamol
- Multivitamins
- Antiseptic wipes
- Expectorants (cough medicine)

Hygiene

- Soap
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Female sanitary products
- Deodorant
- Baby nappies (all sizes)
- Shampoo&Body Wash

Donation points:

- The Granary Tea Room, Willow Brook Farm, Helpston, PE6 7EL
- The Bluebell Inn, Helpston, PE6 7ED
- St Botolph's Church, Helpston, PE6 7DT
- St. Stephen's Church, Etton, PE6 7DA
- All Saints Church, Park Road, Peterborough, PE1 2UL
- St. John the Baptist Church, Church Street, Baston, PE6 9PE
- St. Michael & All Angels Church, Langtoft, PE6 9LP
- St. Firmin's Church, Thurlby, PE10 OEH
- Natalia's Dream Restaurant, 204A Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2NQ
- Borderville Sport Centre, Ryhall Road, Stamford, PE9 1US
- Stamford College, Drift Road, Stamford, PE9 1XA
- Priory Church, Church Gate, Deeping St James, PE6 8NP
- St Guthlac's Church, 9 Church Street, Market Deeping, PE6 8AN
- Enterprise Car Hire, Uffington Road, Stamford, PE9 2EX

Food(non-perishables)

- Rice, flour, pasta
- Tinned food (soups, fish, meats, fruits)
- Sweets (not chocolate)
- Tea, coffee, sugar

Light&Power

- Household candles
- Batteries (standard and rechargeable)
- LED lamps/lights(USB rechargeable)
- Powerbanks 20,000 mAh
- Solar lamps
- Torches

Electronics

- Phones, tablets, computers (factory reset and in good working order)

Hobbies

- Sports equipment
- Art supplies
- Musical instruments

Cooking & Heating

- Camping gas stoves
- Thermos flasks

Please note: we are unable to accept any clothes or shoes.

Find out more or donate via the links below, or get in touch at richard@helpingourukrainianfriends.com.
www.helpingourukrainianfriends.com
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/helpingourukrainianfriends2023



Are you able to help with Crossing Patrol on these dates during the next half term?

Where?

High Street Glinton between the Primary School and St Benedict's Church

Why?

So that the children can visit the church for Collective Worship

What time?

2.15 to 3.00

What do I need? Just yourself and a mac if it rains. A Hi-Viz jacket is provided and DBS is not required.

When ?

Wednesday July 1st

Wednesday July 8th (earlier time 1.45 to 2.30)

If you can help, please let me know : Jane@9bridges.church

It is a great joy to welcome the children to the church but they are unable to come without support to cross the road!

Thank you.

DATES for your DIARY



SISSONS BARN
27th June 11-4pm
GARDEN OPEN DAY







Sissons Barn and House gardens will once again open its gates this summer in support of The National Garden Scheme.
Join us for a wonderful day of fund raising.
Visit www.sissonsbarnco.uk for more details

This is our second year opening the garden at our house and the Barn to the public for the Nation Garden scheme which you may know. It raises lots of money from garden openings all over the UK to support funding for charities. These are: The Queen's Institute of Community Nursing (which (as the Queens Nursing Institute) founded the Scheme), Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust and Parkinson's UK.

St. Peter's church,
Maxey

Sunday
5th July



NINE BRIDGES BENEFICE ★
You are cordially invited to a
'Family Afternoon with Messy Church' ★
★ Sunday 5th July 3:00pm-4:30pm ★
St Peter's Church, Maxey
Games
Singing, a story and a prayer
refreshments provided
RSVP please to
admin@9bridges.church

St. Benedict's church, Glington

Saturday
11th July

Incorporating the regular B@TB pop-up cafe !



FIND OUT ABOUT ST. BENEDICT AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

RAFFLE

BACON SANDWICHES,
TOAST & PRESERVES

CONTINENTAL OPTION –
CROISSANTS, PASTRIES,
FRUIT, BREAD, CHEESE,
PRESERVES

DRINKS – TEA, COFFEE,
FRUIT JUICE

DONATIONS WELCOME

FOR INFORMATION OR
TO BOOK PLEASE RING
JULIE 07708098140
VERONICA 01733 252019

John Clare Cottage
Helpston
10:30

St. Andrew's Church
Northborough
14:30

Sunday 12th July

The John Clare Festival
“Posies for Patty”
Sunday 12th July
“The Flitting”
Follow in the Clare family footsteps and walk to Northborough as they did in 1832
10.30am start at
John Clare Cottage, Helpston
End with a “Poet’s Lunch” at The Packhorse Pub, Northborough. (Booking is essential, phone 01733 913155)
2.30pm join us for talks at
St Andrew’s Church, Northborough
“Martha Clare’s Northborough”
&
“Northborough’s Overseers of the Poor” book
Entry for talks: Children free.
Adults: A suggested £5 donation to the Church
Raffle, Tea & Cake on Sale

Peakirk Village Hall

Tuesday 14th July



The Nine Bridges Benefice

Tuesday@10

Second Tuesday of the month

10.00am to 12.00noon

PEAKIRK VILLAGE HALL



Meet friends – make new friends

Coffee, scones and conversation

All are welcome

Jane Harris : communications@9bridges.church

 The Nine Bridges Benefice

St. Andrew's, Northborough

Thursday 16th July



Tea@Three

St Andrew's

Northborough

3-4pm

16th July

17th September

Join us for tea and a chat

Every 3rd Thursday

Book Exchange

Toys for the Children



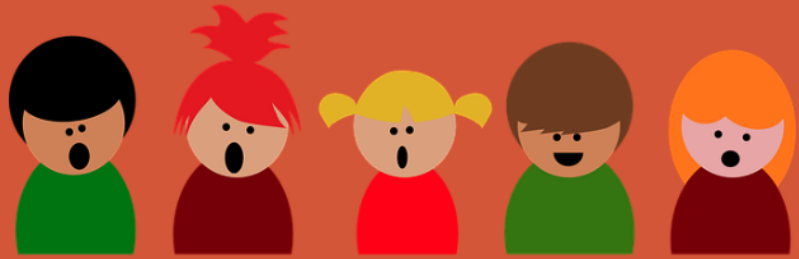
REGULAR DATES for your DIARY

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!**

Peakirk Village Hall

**Every Second Tuesday
of the month**



The Nine Bridges Benefice

Tuesday@10

Second Tuesday of the month

10.00am to 12.00noon

PEAKIRK VILLAGE HALL




















Meet friends – make new friends

Coffee, scones and conversation

All are welcome

Jane Harris : communications@9bridges.church

 The Nine Bridges Benefice

<p>St. Andrew's, Northborough</p> <p>Every Third Thursday of the month</p>	 <p>Tea@Three St Andrew's Northborough 3-4pm</p> <p>Join us for tea and a chat</p> <p>Every 3rd Thursday</p> <p>Book Exchange Toys for the Children</p> 
	 
	 
	 
	 
	 
	    

This Week's Collect and Reading

Collect

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Genesis 22.1-14

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt-offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.' Abraham took the wood of the burnt-offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, 'Father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' He said, 'The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?' Abraham said, 'God himself

will provide the lamb for a burnt-offering, my son.' So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.' And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt-offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place 'The LORD will provide'; as it is said to this day, 'On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided

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

Romans 6.12-23

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Matthew 10.40-42

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of

these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

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

And Finally

If you get the chance, do go and see the gardens at Sissons Barn on Saturday, I’m sure they will be spectacular.

Stay safe in this heat and keep an eye out for others.

Simon

admin@9bridges.church

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You are also free to share this with friends and relatives, who can in turn
SUBSCRIBE by emailing the same address