



Benefice Newsletter with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday July 16th

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<https://9bridges.church/>

SERVICES THIS WEEK

**Sunday
19th July**

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

The heat of these summer days has a way of slowing us down. We seek shade, reach for a cool drink, and perhaps find ourselves longing for a fresh breeze. Yet hot weather can also be a gentle teacher. It reminds us that we are not made to journey alone. We need one another. We share resources, check in on neighbours, and gather together in friendship and care. Community becomes not just a pleasant idea but a necessity.

The Christian life is much the same. We travel through many seasons. There are bright summer moments when faith feels alive and everything seems full of promise. There are also autumn days of change, winter periods of struggle and loss, and springtimes of renewal and hope. None of us remains in one season forever. Life moves, changes, and unfolds according to rhythms often beyond our control.

Yet through every season, **Jesus remains constant.**

When the days are hot and energy is low, Jesus is our refreshing stream. When storms gather, Jesus is our shelter. When winter comes to the soul, he is the light that darkness cannot overcome. And when new life begins to emerge, he is the gardener nurturing growth within us.

The beauty of the Church is that we do not walk these seasons alone. Someone else's summer can bring warmth to our winter. Someone else's hard-earned wisdom can guide us through uncertain days. Together we become a community of grace, bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's joys.

So, as we enjoy these warm July days, let us give thanks for the gift of community. Let us look out for those who may be struggling in a different season from our own. And above all, let us keep our eyes on Jesus, who walks beside us through every changing season of life, faithful yesterday, today, and forever.

May you know his presence, whatever season you find yourself in today.

Rev Keir

Benefice Prayers



For Our Community

We lift up in prayer all who live in Sutton's Lane, Deeping Gate, Castle Drive, Deeping Gate, Saddlers Close, Glington & Paradise Lane, Northborough. 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, Mark Malcolm and Ann Harris.** May they find strength, comfort, and restoration.



For Those We Hold in Our Heart

We remember with love those who have gone before us: especially, **Andrew Warn.** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Upcoming Services

Sunday 26th July	09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough 10:30 Family Holy Communion - Glington 18:00 Taizé – Maxey
Sunday 2nd August	09:00 Morning Worship – Glington 10:30 Sung Communion – Peakirk 18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough
Sunday 9th August	09:00 Morning Worship – Peakirk 10:30 Holy Communion - Etton 18:00 Joyful Journey - Glington
Sunday 16th August	09:00 Holy Communion – Maxey 10:30 Family Praise – Northborough 18:00 BCP Evensong - Peakirk
Sunday 23rd August	09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough 10:30 Family Holy Communion - Glington 18:00 Taizé – Maxey
Sunday 30th August	10:30 United Benefice Service - Maxey



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 💖

Invitation to a Meeting

Are you interested in helping to form a Church Drama Group?

We invite anyone who would like to be involved in a Benefice drama group to come to St Andrew's Church to attend an informal meeting on:

Date: Monday 3rd August.

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: St Andrew's Church, Northborough

Whether you have acting experience, enjoy directing, writing, stage management, or simply wish to support church productions, you are warmly welcome.

We look forward to meeting you and discussing how a church drama group could enrich our worship, fellowship, and community outreach.

For further information, please contact the Benefice administration or speak to Mark Hotchkin (hotchkin13@gmail. Com).

"Come along, share your ideas, and help bring faith stories to life through drama, and have some fun."



NEWS

Breakfast with Benedict

Breakfast with Benedict last Saturday morning, to celebrate St Benedict's Day. All were welcome, with plenty of bacon butties and continental breakfast. It was wonderfully well attended and enjoyed by all.



Posies for Patty

Thank you so much for all the help and support you have given to Posies for Patty for our event this year.

We raised a total of £571.43, which includes £15.00 of merchandise sold on the Saturday at The John Clare Festival.

£49.43 has been paid through the donation machine, so I would like to make a donation from Posies for Patty to St Andrew's Church of £522.00.

Thank you Freda for all your help on the day and thank you to all who baked cakes.

Mike Meacham, Chairman of The John Clare Society, sends his thanks and appreciation, as does the school. All in all it has been a successful event.

We are hoping to repeat this event next year

Teresa Scott



Tuesday@10

Tuesday@10 is one of our regular events, taking place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, at Peakirk Village Hall.

The feedback is wonderful - lovely food and coffee, the group has a lovely buzz about it, with lively conversation that lifts the spirit on entering. Friendships are forged here, fostering a great sense of community. They've made me feel very welcome.

Come and join them in August!



DATES for your DIARY

St. Benedict's, Glington

10:00 – 11:30

Saturday 18th July



SING WITH JOY!
Join the 9BB Junior Choir
in association with the Nine Bridges Benefice

SPECIAL TASTER EVENT!
SATURDAY, 18th JULY
10am - 11:30am
At St Benedict's Church, Glington
All children (year 3+) and parents welcome.

A **FREE** singing club, Wednesdays after school (term time). **No Auditions.** Refreshments provided.
For details or to book: [please contact Ruth@9bridges.church](mailto:Ruth@9bridges.church)

www.9bridges.church poster design by digitalbeginnings.co.uk

St. Andrew's, Northborough

18:00

Monday 3rd August



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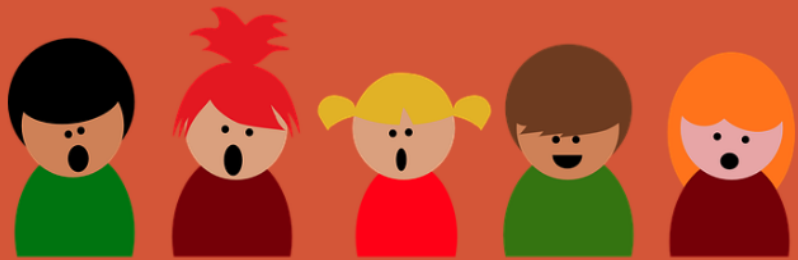
REGULAR DATES for your DIARY

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!**

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

St. Andrew's, Northborough

**Every Third Thursday
of the month**



This Week's Collect and Reading

Collect

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Genesis 28.10–19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will

keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.’ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!’ And he was afraid, and said, ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.’ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

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

Psalm 86:11-17

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name. I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name for evermore; For great is your steadfast love towards me, for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave. O God, the proud rise up against me and a ruthless horde seek after my life; they have not set you before their eyes. But you, Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and full of kindness and truth. Turn to me and have mercy upon me; give your strength to your servant and save the child of your handmaid. Show me a token of your favour that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

Romans 8.12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put before his disciples another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!'

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

And Finally

Thank you for the brilliant content this week! It's so lovely to have you pictures and words celebrating the wonderful events in our community

Simon

admin@9bridges.church

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