



Benefice Newsletter with Thought for Thursday

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

Thursday October 15th

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<https://9bridges.church/>

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday

18th October

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

A peace that leaves room for others

There is something unsettling about going from a happy day among friends to an evening's television which reminds us how unhappy the world can be. A compelling drama, followed by the news, can leave rather more behind than we bargained for. Switch off the screen, and the mind continues broadcasting.

It is tempting to reach for the obvious solution: stop watching. Stay among familiar people, enjoy the music, cherish the companionship, and keep the horrors at a safe distance. After all, lying awake worrying about a war will not bring it to an end.

Even church, though, does not always offer an entirely comfortable refuge. In Matthew's account of the wedding feast, the guest without a wedding robe is thrown out. We may arrive hoping for reassurance and find ourselves wrestling with a story instead. Faith has a habit of disturbing us just when we thought we had settled down.

So what are we to do? Retreat and be calm, or engage and be troubled?

Looking at Jesus, I wonder whether that is too narrow a choice. He withdrew to pray, but he also returned to people: to their illnesses, arguments, grief and demands. His stillness made room for others. On the lake, he calmed the storm; elsewhere, he stepped into situations which were anything but peaceful.

Perhaps we can learn something from that rhythm. There are times to turn off the television, get some sleep, sing with friends, or enjoy an ordinary conversation. These things help sustain our capacity to care.

And there are times to listen, to pray, to give, or simply to refuse to let somebody else's suffering become unimportant because it is inconvenient to us.

We cannot carry every sorrow, and we cannot put everything right. But we can keep our hearts open without requiring ourselves to be constantly distressed.

Perhaps the question for this Thursday is less "How do I shut the world out?" and more "What will help me meet it with love?"

Sometimes that will mean paying attention. Sometimes it will mean resting, so that tomorrow we have something to offer.

Reader Simon

Benefice Prayers



For Our Community

We lift up in prayer all who live in Ashfields, Deeping Gate, Peakirk Road, Peakirk, School Lane, Maxey & Neaverson 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, Susan Briggs, Jacqui Barnard and Derek Harris.** 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, **Graham Gudgin.** We also gather into our prayers those whose passing is not recent, yet who are brought into our remembrance before God at this time of year, **Robert Smitheringale.** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Upcoming Services

Sunday 25th October	09:00 Holy Communion – Northborough 10:30 Family Holy Communion - Glington 18:00 Taizé – Maxey
All Saints 1st November	09:00 Morning Worship – Glington 10:30 Sung Communion -Peakirk 18:00 Celtic Evening Prayer – Northborough
Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday	09:00 Holy Communion – Etton 10:30 Service of Remembrance - Glington 10:45 Act of Remembrance – Etton 10:45 Act of Remembrance – Peakirk 10:45 Act of Remembrance – Northborough 10:45 Act of Remembrance - Maxey
2nd Sunday before Advent 15th November	09:00 Holy Communion – Maxey 10:30 Family Praise – Northborough 18:00 BCP Evensong - Peakirk

NEWS



PARISHGIVINGScheme

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Faith. Worship. Community. Hope.

Your regular gift through the **Parish Giving Scheme**
helps us to share God's love and support
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MORE IMPACT

Lower costs for the church mean more of your gift goes to mission and ministry.



Give **TODAY**

FOR A STRONGER CHURCH TODAY
AND A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOMORROW.



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Where does your gift go?



Your donation **stays with the Parish** you choose, supporting its ministry and mission.



Click the link above to **choose** the Parish you would like to support.



Want to give to the whole Benefice?
Please contact admin@9bridges.church for advice on how to do this.



Thank you for your
generosity and support.

*Every gift, every week,
changes lives.*



News from the Church of England

Everyday Faith

Everyday Faith is a series of reflections, prayers and stories to help you find and follow God in everyday life.

Everyday Faith is the daily devotional app from the Church of England designed to inspire, equip and encourage you in your faith every day of the week.

The app forms part of one of the Church of England's objectives of missional discipleship: *"To become a church of missionary disciples where all God's people are free to live the Christian life, wherever we spend our time Sunday to Saturday."*

The app's development is also a response to overwhelming user demand for an app that delivers inspirational reflections year-round, rather than focusing exclusively on our seasonal content during Lent and Advent. We wanted to create a space encouraging Christians to grow in their faith daily.

Everyday Faith is about where and how we encounter God in our daily lives. Where is God in our daily lives? How do we find God in the fullness of everyday life? Whether you wish to develop your faith or support others in theirs, Everyday Faith is designed to support you in your life discipleship, or vocational journey.

The app will provide you with carefully curated daily reflections, including selected Bible readings, a simple prayer to prepare you for the day ahead, and thoughts based on that week's theme.

You can find more about this and how to download the App here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/exploring-faith/everyday-faith>

Medieval church tower with links to Elizabeth I lifted on stilts as part of new development

12/10/2026



A medieval church tower with links to Elizabeth I was lifted into the air on steel stilts as part of a new development in the City of London.

All Hallows Staining once housed bells which were heard by Queen Elizabeth I while she was imprisoned in the Tower of London. It now stands at the heart of the Fifty Fenchurch Street development in the City of London, which will eventually provide an ultra-low-carbon office building, public gardens and a restored setting for the historic church tower.

Earlier this year, the tower was suspended while 125,000 tonnes of earth were excavated beneath it to begin work on a new livery hall for the site owners, The Clothworkers' Company, which will sit within the wider office-led project.

The then Princess Elizabeth visited All Hallows in May 1554 after being released from the Tower of London following an eight-week imprisonment by her half-sister, Queen Mary I. She gave thanks to God for her preservation and thanked the bellringers. According to longstanding parish tradition, the sound of the bells from the tower had sustained her spirits during her imprisonment and, after her accession to the throne in 1558, she presented new silken bell ropes to the bellringers.

The church was demolished in the 19th century and the site sold, but the tower remains. Although temporarily closed while the development is completed, it continues to be used by The Clothworkers' Company. The church still has churchwardens and parish clerks and is now part of the historic Parish of St Olave Hart Street.

The Rev Phillip Dawson, Rector of St Olave Hart Street, said:

"Princess Elizabeth was drawn here by the sound of the bells that had sustained her during her imprisonment. She responded to something she felt deeply before she could fully explain it. What she found was not simply relief at her release but a place to give thanks for God's saving presence.

"We still see that today: people are drawn to St Olave's by a similar instinct, and discover here a place of prayer, thanksgiving and the freedom to become the people God created them to be."

St Olave's is reviving a centuries-old tradition commemorating Princess Elizabeth's visit with an annual service followed by a meal of pork and pease pudding. The meal was said to have been eaten by Elizabeth in the neighbouring tavern after her visit to All Hallows.

News from the Diocese

The Very Reverend Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough recognised among City's top 100

The Very Reverend Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough has been recognised for his outstanding contribution to city life after receiving a Civic Leader Award as part of the Peterborough Top 100 Awards.

The awards celebrate people who make a real difference to Peterborough and were launched as part of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Chamber of Commerce's centenary celebrations in the city. They honour individuals whose dedication, leadership and service help shape the future of Peterborough and strengthen its communities.

Among those recognised was the Very Reverend Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough, who received a Civic Leader Award in acknowledgement of his commitment to the city and the wider community.

As Dean of Peterborough Cathedral, Chris has played a significant role in the life of the city, helping the Cathedral remain a place of worship, welcome and service for all. Through partnerships with civic organisations, community groups and local leaders, he has championed initiatives that bring people together and support the flourishing of Peterborough.

The award recognises the many ways in which churches and faith communities continue to contribute to the wellbeing of society. It also reflects the Cathedral's ongoing commitment to serving the city under the leadership of the Dean. Congratulations to Dean Chris on this well-deserved recognition.



Fundraising for Maxey bells

Bringing the bells to the people



M Mandy Loveder

Donation protected

St. Peters church, Maxey, Cambs has a ring of 6 bells that have been in place for over 400 years. The merry band of ringers that currently ring for weddings, funerals and services are no longer of an age where they are able to ascend/descend the 26 uneven, spiral stone steps and four wooden ones without an oxygen mask and steroids! We desperately need to bring the ringing circle back downstairs from the ringing chamber that has served us well over the last 40 plus years. Lets be honest, the bells were originally installed to ring upstairs in 1600's, came down in 1940, taken back up in 1970's and now we need them down again. Not only are our creaky old joints struggling but it would be lovely to be included in the services and not be up in the lofty reaches, taking a while to get down in time for Communion. So we are asking for help from anyone with a bellringing, church, or inclusivity interest to help us raise the money for bell guide and all associated costs to achieve this. Every penny will go to ensuring that we ring for the foreseeable future in a safe and easy manner, feeling part of church life and not squirreled out of sight. Please donate, anything will be truly appreciated, Thank you and God Bless.

Fundraising and grants are the only way we are going to raise the £4.5k needed to get the bells of Maxey able to be rung safely downstairs. The current Benefice ringers want to be downstairs but cannot fund it alone.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/bringing-the-bells-to-the-people>

DATES for your DIARY

Tea@Three

**St. Andrew's church
Northborough**

15:00 – 16:00

Thursday 15th October

**This is the last Tea@Three for 2026 but
we will be back in the Spring**



Poppy Making Workshop

**St. Pega's church
Peakirk**

10:00 – 12:00

Thursday 29th October

**Materials provided
(except wool and needles)**

POPPY MAKING WORKSHOP

Help to create a display
for Peakirk's war memorial
and the Village monument

ST PEGA'S CHURCH

Thursday October 29th

10.00am – 12.00noon

**Materials provided (except wool and
needles.)**

Patterns available in the church if you want to knit or
crochet poppies in advance.

Refreshments All are welcome.

**Sing Along Night
of Remembrance**

**St. Peter's church
Maxey**

**Saturday 14th November
19:00**



**Christmas/Greeting Card
Workshop**

**The Coach House
Rectory Lane, Etton PE6 7DB**

**Monday 16th November
14:00 – 16:30
Or
18:00 – 20:30**

All equipment provided

**ETTON CHRISTMAS/GREETING CARD
WORKSHOP**

All equipment provided

- > step by step demonstration
- > guide you to make 5 cards to take home
- > learn new skills so you can make cards at home

£20 per person
Hot drink and cake included

**Monday, November 16th 2:00pm to
4:30pm or 6:00pm to 8:30pm**

Location :

The Coach House,
Rectory Lane, Etton PE6 7DB

to book and pay please contact:
Andrew Curwen at
acurwen@me.com or 07836213406

any questions....
jacqui.barnard24@gmail.com

Christmas Bazaar

Northborough Village Hall

Saturday 28th November

14:00 – 16:00



**Nine Bridges
Christmas Concert**

**Sissons Barn
Peakirk**

Saturday 5th December

19:00



REGULAR DATES for your DIARY

Community Drop-In Every Wednesday 2.00 - 4.00pm St Benedict's Church Free and informal support for anyone who needs it Open to everyone Just drop in	
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

God, our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives, that we may see your goodness in the land of the living, and looking on your beauty may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the LORD, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.' The LORD said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The LORD"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the LORD continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

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

Psalms 147:1-7

Alleluia. How good it is to make music for our God, how joyful to honour him with praise. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers together the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up all their wounds. He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his wisdom is beyond all telling. The Lord lifts up the poor, but casts down the wicked to the ground. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the lyre

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full

conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

Matthew 22:15-22

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

And Finally

I thought it was wonderful to read how modern developments are able to preserve, protect and integrate with ancient buildings. It's so important we don't lose sight of our past.

Don't forget I'll be going on leave for an extended period, later this month, so if you have any items for the newsletter, in the coming weeks, please get them to me as soon as possible.

The newsletter will be in the safe hands of Rev Keir, during my absence and I trust you to keep him busy with news items and upcoming events

Simon

admin@9bridges.church

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