



The Benefice of
St. Withburga, Holkham, All Saints, Warham,
St Nicholas, Wells-next-the Sea and All Saints, Wighton

27th September 2020
16th Sunday after Trinity (Proper 21)

Today's Services

Today 9.30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Wells
This service will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day.
6.30pm Celtic Evening Prayer via Zoom

This Week

Wednesday
10am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
which will be recorded and uploaded to
YouTube later in the day
Thursday
10am Quiet Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells

Next Sunday - 4th October

9.30am Holy Communion at St Withburga,
11am Worship for all at St. Nicholas, Wells
6.30pm Taize Evening Prayer via Zoom

Churches Open

All Saints, Warham Daily 10am - 6pm
St Nicholas, Wells Daily 10am - 4pm
All Saints, Wighton, Sunday 10pm - 6pm
St Withburga, Holkham, Thurs - Sunday 10am - 6pm

Trevor Shannon's two new books are now out and available to purchase at church on Sunday mornings or directly from him.
Stories for the Seasons is £6.95
Mary's Boy is £9.95.
Please make payment to Trevor either by cheque or cash.

Rector

The Revd. Brenda Stewart

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Churchwardens:

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YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-ISQ1HQ1jZvnESfrY2A/>

Our Prayers

In our benefice this week we pray especially: -

- for those who need our prayers: - Rev. Alan Elkins, Amanda Newton, Gill Smith, John Crook, Sharon Savory, Barry Fowle, Mercedes Edwards, Joan Price and Jane Savory
- for those who have died recently: - Brian Hawes
- for those who died at this time in years past: - Carl Taylor, Tom King and Alan Cox



COVID Friday Prayer Chain

In view of the current situation it would be good if we could keep up our prayers for those affected by COVID19. If there is anybody who feels that they can no longer continue or if anyone would like to join, please contact Katrina or Rev. Brenda.

Attending Church Services

Face Masks must now be worn.
If you can, please print off the order of service and pew sheet and bring them with you.
Please use sanitiser as you enter church and observe social distancing.
Please sit on the central nave benches only. Do not touch at the peace.
Leave church as directed and if you wish to chat please move outside the building.
There will be an offertory plate near the door into which money can be dropped. At Wells there is also a card machine at the back of the church for offertory. Use hand sanitiser again as you leave.

Overseas Missions

USPG:- Anglican ministry has been working in South Africa for 150 years. The church has grown from the first diocese in Cape Town to a total of 29 across the southern tip of Africa. The church remains true to the vision of meeting their diverse needs, enriching prayer, worship and the translation of prayer books into the language of the Province.
Let us pray for their good health, especially those impacted by Covid-19, and for wise leadership in the years ahead.

Mission to Seafarers:- The story of Ashwith. - He is a Chief Officer who came to the UK to study and take his Master Mariners exams in Blackpool. He, his wife and 2 year old son, found themselves stranded as a result of the COVID-19. The UK government closed the university, his exams were cancelled and return flights to India were cancelled with no refunding of tickets. As he had very little money, he turned to the Mission. They helped him by paying his rent and providing food vouchers. The family were eventually evacuated back to their home province of Madhya Pradesh.

Today's readings

The Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

New Testament Reading Philipians 2.1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Gospel Matthew 21.23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Traidcraft are struggling with the effects of the current pandemic. Any items you buy will give much needed support to this charity which we support. Items can be ordered from Peter and Mary Cundy:- email petmaryc@waitrose.com, phone 01328 710643, or from Kate. Your order can be delivered to you. Check out www.traidcraftshop.co.uk to see what is available.



Wells Churches collect for the Food bank. A reminder that families need:- cereals, tinned food, tea bags, rice, long life milk, sugar, biscuits, fruit juice/squash, pasta sauce, toiletries and instant coffee.

Thank you to all of you who continue to support the Foodbank by buying and taking items to the Co-op. Money donations are also very welcome.