

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



**Easter Sunday**  
**4th April 2021**

**Today's Services**

- 9.30am Holy Communion at St. Withburga, Holkham  
11.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells  
This service will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day  
3.00pm Holy Communion at All Saints, Warham  
6.30pm Evening Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells and via Zoom



**Our Prayers**

**In our benefice this week we pray especially: -**

- for those who need our prayers: - Bridget Hawes, Stella Richardson, Diana Claxton, Gill Smith, Baby Evie, Amanda Newton and Rev Alan Elkins
- for those who have died recently: - Gary Anthony
- for those who died at this time in years past: - Rodney Brown, Michael Rainsford, Margaret Scott and Betty Partridge



**This Week**

Wednesday

- 10.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells  
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day  
2.00pm Funeral of Gary Anthony at Wells Cemetery -  
Graveside Service

**Next Sunday**

- 11am Holy Communion at All Saints, Wighton  
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day  
6.30pm Evening Prayer via zoom

**XV Easter Dawn**

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves  
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept  
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's  
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept  
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs  
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.  
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,  
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.  
She hardly hears his gentle question 'Why,  
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light  
That brightens as she chokes out her reply  
'They took my love away, my day is night'  
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say  
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day

**Visiting Churches and Attending Worship**

Our churches remain open for private prayer.

Please remember :-

Wear Face masks unless exempt,

Observe the Social Distancing guidelines,

Use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the building.

**Churches Open**

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

**Rector**

**The Revd. Brenda Stewart** 01328 710628  
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**Churchwardens:**

**St Withburga, Holkham**

Johnny Coke 01328 711358 [johnny.coke@btinternet.com](mailto:johnny.coke@btinternet.com)

**All Saints, Wighton**

Alan Groom 01328 821996 [alangroom56@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alangroom56@yahoo.co.uk)

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Bridget Hawes 01328 710683 [bbhaw.hawes186@gmail.com](mailto:bbhaw.hawes186@gmail.com)

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**Benefice Pew Sheet:**

Rachel Newstead [rknewstead9@gmail.com](mailto:rknewstead9@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.stnicholaswells.co.uk](http://www.stnicholaswells.co.uk)

**YouTube link:**

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

**It's AGM time 😊**

Further details will be available nearer the time but we may have to meet on Zoom. Meanwhile, please put the dates in your diaries.  
All four meetings will start at 6.00pm.

Holkham	Monday 19th April
Wighton	Wednesday 21st April
Wells	Thursday 22nd April
Warham	Friday 23rd April

A big THANK YOU to all who cooked, delivered or consumed a Lent Lunch on 26th March. We raised £296 for Christian Aid and Cafod, Margaret

**Christian Aid Week - 9th - 16th May.**

Members of Wells, Walsingham & District Christian Aid are taking part in a sponsored walk to raise money this year. More details to follow

**Traidcraft** - Wells Churches support this charity and all items you buy will give much needed help. If you wish to make an order please contact:- Mary Cundy- 01328 710643 or [mary@greenbee.net](mailto:mary@greenbee.net).  
For more info contact Kate:- 01328 711312 or [kate.clodd321@gmail.com](mailto:kate.clodd321@gmail.com) or you can order from:- Traidcraft :- [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk)

**Wells Churches collect for the Food bank.**

Thank you to all of you who continue to support the Foodbank. Wells hospital and the Co-op are working together and deliveries are made from the hospital to those who need it in Wells and the villages on a Friday. Donations can be taken to Wells Hospital or the Co-op. Money donations are also very welcome.

# Today's readings

## The Collect

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

## Old Testament Reading      Isaiah 25.6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines  
strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all  
the earth,

for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he  
might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## New Testament Reading      Acts 10.34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that  
God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who  
fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You  
know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching  
peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message  
spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the  
baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of  
Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went  
about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the  
devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he  
did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by  
hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day  
and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us  
who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and  
drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded  
us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one  
ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the  
prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him  
receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

## The Gospel

## John 20.1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary  
Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had  
been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon  
Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and  
said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and  
we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and  
the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The  
two were running together, but the other disciple outran  
Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in  
and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.  
Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the  
tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth  
that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen  
wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other  
disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he  
saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the  
scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples  
returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she  
bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in  
white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at  
the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman,  
why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken  
away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'  
When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus  
standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus  
said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are  
you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to  
him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you  
have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her,  
'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew,  
'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do  
not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the  
Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am  
ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and  
your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the  
disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he  
had said these things to her.

## Post Communion Prayer

God of Life,  
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son  
to the death of the cross,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:  
grant us so to die daily to sin,  
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mary Magdalene comes from the little fishing port of Magdala on the Western shore of the Sea of Galilee. There is a huge body of sheer legend about her, most of which is better ignored e.g that she is a reformed prostitute, but she is clearly an impulsive, emotional person and appears to be particularly attached to Jesus. The Church is often wary of people like that and encourages a cool distant demeanour. But Mary is the first witness of the Resurrection, her eagerness to be the first person at the tomb makes her, as it is sometimes put, the Apostle to the Apostles, and the basic qualification for Apostleship is to be a witness to the Resurrection. In a fairer world that might have been officially recognised. What qualifies her for this honour is her deep love for her Lord. But she is so blinded by her grief that she fails to recognise him until he does that most powerful thing. He calls her by her name. His response, traditionally translated 'do not touch me', but is nowadays better rendered 'do not cling to me' - Don't try to hang on to this lovely moment, we both have work to do. Let it happen. We have a world to inform and the Father's will to discover and carry out.

Fr Peter

**Happy Easter. Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Alleluia.**