



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

6th Sunday of Easter
9th May 2021

Today's Services

9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints, Wighton
This service will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
11.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
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: - Baby Evie, Amanda Newton, Diana Claxton, Stella Richardson and Gill Smith.
- for those who have died recently: - Revd. Alan Elkins
- for those who died at this time in years past:- Simon Linley, John Hewick and Cecil Reed.



This Week

Tuesday 11th May
Sunrise to Sunset Sponsored Walk for Christian Aid - See Box
Wednesday 12th May
10.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
Thursday 13th May Ascension Day
6.30pm Ascension Day service at St. Nicholas, Wells

The new Bishop of Lynn has been announced this week. The Venerable Dr Jane Steen, currently Archdeacon of Southwark.

On her appointment, Jane said: "I am honoured and delighted to have been called to be the next Bishop of Lynn and I am looking forward to the new ministry to which God and the Church have called me. It will be a privilege to minister with the clergy and laity of the Lynn archdeaconry and to serve the wider life of north and west Norfolk."

Next Sunday 16th May

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at St. Withburga, Holkham
11.00 am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
6.30pm Evening Prayer with Healing at St. Nicholas, Wells
and via zoom

Christian Aid Week - 9th - 16th May.

Wells Post Office have kindly agreed to have a Christian Aid collection box on their counter during Christian Aid Week.

Two important dates:-

Tuesday 11th May 'Sunrise to Sunset Sponsored Walk'
along the Norfolk Coastal Path from 5.30am to 8.30pm.

This is being organised by Wells, Walsingham & District Christian Aid Group and it is an ecumenical event. We will have a short service outside Burnham Deepdale Church at 11am; do come if you can.

If you need a lift to the Service please contact Margaret Sheppard. If you would like to join in for the walk please contact Kate Clodd. The Money raised will help the construction of dams in Kenya; for more information about this project, please contact Helena 01328 711788

- You can donate on the JustGiving page

<https://justgiving.com/fundraising/wells-and-walsinghamor326583>

- Sponsor forms are in the churches at Wells and Wighton or contact Margaret

Saturday May 15th

There will be a street collection outside Leftley's 10am-4pm.

Thank you from Kate and the Christian Aid team.

Kate 711312 Margaret 710584

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 the churches are now open daily from 10am - 4pm

Rector

The Revd. Brenda Stewart 01328 710628
bas@con-brio.com

Churchwardens:

St Withburga, Holkham

Johnny Coke 01328 711358 johnny.coke@btinternet.com

All Saints, Wighton

Alan Groom 01328 821996 alangroom56@yahoo.co.uk

St Nicholas, Wells

Kate Clodd 01328 711312 kate.clodd321@gmail.com

Margaret Sheppard 01328 710584 margaret.sheppard222@gmail.com

Benefice Pew Sheet:

Rachel Newstead rknewstead9@gmail.com

Website: www.stnicholaswells.co.uk

YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-ISQ1HQ1jZvnESfY2A/>

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.

For more info contact Kate:- 01328 711312 or kate.clodd321@gmail.com or you can order from:- Traidcraft :- 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

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us
to eternal joy;
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.

1st Reading

Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

2nd Reading

1 John 5.1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Gospel

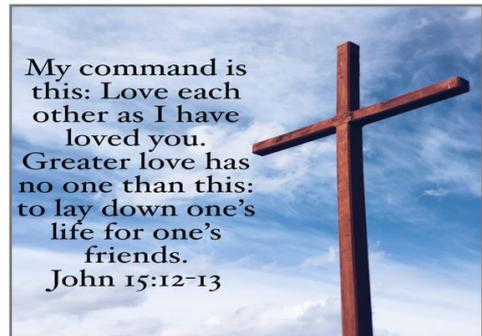
John 15.9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



The passage from Acts set to be read today is just the end of the story, not a snippet. So here is the backstory: remember how keen Peter is to get things right - and usually gets the wrong end of the stick. God sends him a dream. A great sheet is let down from heaven full of 'unclean' creatures and a voice from heaven tells Peter to 'kill and eat'. Peter, seeing this as a test of his orthodoxy, says 'No. Lord! I have never eaten anything profane or unclean.' The voice comes back: 'It is not for you to call profane what God counts clean'

After this happens three times messengers come from a Roman Centurion, called Cornelius, asking for Peter. The Holy Spirit tells Peter 'It's all right to go with them. I sent them'. He is told Cornelius is a good and religious man and was directed by an angel to send for Peter. Space shortage won't let me tell all the story but Peter gives the whole message about Jesus and while he is still speaking, the Holy Spirit descends on the entire household and this is where today's reading comes in.

Peter is summoned to Jerusalem to give an account of his action. The passage ends: When they heard this, their doubts were silenced and they gave praise to God: "This means that God has granted life-giving repentance to the Gentiles also".

Acts is sometimes called the Book of the Holy Spirit. It demonstrates over and over again the Spirit's work is to break down barriers, even those we think holy. The great apostle of barrier breaking is of course Paul, who writes at Ephesians 2.17 "He himself is our peace. Gentiles and Jews, he has made the two one, and in his own body of flesh and blood has broken down the barrier of enmity which separated them.

Fr. Peter

Missions Overseas

USPG - 'Leading The Way' - the Rt. Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin, born in Jamaica and Bishop of Dover, has had strong associations with USPG all her life. She says that "I have always been keen to work with organisations that are looking outwards, supporting ministry in far-flung places and to engage with people who are key leaders within the life of the church throughout the world. We pray for church leaders across the world as they work together to share the Good News of Christ.