



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

Trinity 7 Proper 11
18th July 2021

Today's Services

- 10.30am Benefice Worship at St. Withburga, Holkham
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
Please stay for refreshments after this service
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer with Healing at St. Nicholas, Wells
and via Zoom

Our Prayers

In our benefice this week we pray especially: -

- for those who need our prayers: - James Goodman, Baby Evie, Amanda Newton, Diana Claxton, Stella Richardson, Gill Smith
- for those who have died recently: - Harold Edwards, Claire Potter and Delaine Hackett
- for those who died at this time in years past : - Norman Offord, William Collins and Doreen Tuck.



Funeral

Monday 26th July 2pm The funeral of Harold Edwards will be held at the graveside in Wells Cemetery

This Week

Wednesday 21st July
10.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day

Next Sunday 25th July

9.30am Family Communion at All Saints, Wighton
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day

11.00am Family Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
There will be a Tradecraft Stall at the back of the church after this service

6.30pm Celtic Evening Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells
and via zoom

**Benefice Meeting - Deanery Clergy Deployment Review.
Wednesday July 28th 7.00pm at St Nicholas Wells**

Anyone who is interested in the future of ministry in our Benefice is invited to a presentation by our Rural Dean Revd Clive Wylie to outline proposals for ministry cover in our Deanery in the years to come. It is important that we take this process seriously so do come along if you can. All members of our congregations are welcome, not just PCC members. If this date isn't possible for you there is also a meeting at St Mary's Westgate, Burnham Market on Thursday 29th at 6.00pm.

Visiting Churches and Attending Worship

Please remember :- Wear Face masks unless exempt,
Observe the Social Distancing guidelines,
Use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the building.
Churches Open :-The churches are open daily from 10am - 4pm

Future Events

- Mon 2nd Aug 9am-9pm Music Marathon** in aid of the refurbishment of our church organ. the programme will include, drumming, solo piano and organ, solo/choral singing, solo/group instrumentalists and string playing from Steve Bingham and Rev. Brenda
- 7pm-8pm Chris Hey will be playing the organ for a Songs of Praise and we have had a promise from someone to donate £2.00 a verse! Please write some of your favourite hymns on the list at the back of the church, on the bier.
- 8pm-9pm A rousing organ and piano Finale with Martin Holford and Matthew Preston.
- Wed 4th Aug 12 Noon 'Desert Island Discs'**. Castaway Carol Starkey from Wells Post Office, will be interviewed by Jill Catmull and choose 8 of her favourite pieces of music.
- 7.30pm 'Touch Live! Steve Bingham and Friends' For tickets or more info visit hea-r.me/touch-tickets or text/phone 07943 829011
- Wed 18th Aug 6pm BBQ at 'The Midden'** Warham Road, Wells. Courtesy of Chris Beale. In aid of our Overseas Missions.
- Sun 22nd Aug 6.30pm Annual Lifeboat Service on the Quay**
- Sun 29th Aug 11am Harvest Festival at All Saints, Wighton**
- September 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th 7pm. 'Crossfire'** - An imaginative portrayal of St. Nicholas and the Town of Wells through 10 centuries enacted by people of Wells using word, music and song.
- Sun 12th Sept Firefighters Thanksgiving Service in St. Nicholas Churchyard**

Rector

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

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YouTube link:

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

Today's readings

The Collect

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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 2 Samuel 7.1-14a

When David was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

New Testament Reading Ephesians 2.11-22

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens

from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

The Gospel Mark 6.30-34,53-56

The apostles returned from their mission. They gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Paul's basic idea is wonderful, that all people are at least potentially members of God's Kingdom, loved and saved. They don't have to be members of a special ethnic group; they don't even have to obey the Jewish law with its restrictions on diet, sabbath observance etc (though the latter was actually an attraction for many gentiles (non-Jews) the idea of being obliged to take a day off each week was a big thing for Romans especially for slaves, as many early Christians were. For many of them a day off was a new concept though some slaves had a lot of freedom (but your owner could always sell you and if you disobeyed him or ran away he was entitled to kill you).

This idea doesn't go down well with the privileged group, for it seems to devalue the meaning of their nation. Contemporary examples of this are 'American exceptionalism' or "manifest destiny", due to their history as religious refugees; some extreme forms of Islam; and the nineteenth century belief of many English people that they had a duty to spread English culture and commerce as a vehicle for Christianity. This didn't go down well with the East India Company because the activity of the missionaries gave the locals a measure of literacy and self respect which made them uppity.

Paul was up against this farrago of vanity and self interest for the whole of his ministry, including from some Christians, the first generation of whom were nearly all Jews. We are all eternally beloved and must treat all others, from whatever background, equally as God's beloved.

Fr. Peter

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.

