


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

**Trinity 9 Proper 13**  
**1st August 2021**

**Today's Services**

- 9.30am Holy Communion at St Withburga, Holkham  
11am Worship for All at St. Nicholas, Wells  
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day   
Please stay for refreshments after this service  
6.30pm Taize Evening Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells also via Zoom

**This Week**

**Monday 2nd August**

- 9am-9pm Music Marathon in aid of the refurbishment of our church organ  
9am-7pm, 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.  
A programme for the day and will be available on the table at the back of St. Nicholas' church

**Wednesday 4th August**

- 10.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day  
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' £10, For tickets or more info visit [hea-r.me/touch-tickets](http://hea-r.me/touch-tickets) or text/phone 07943 829011

**Thursday 5th August**

- 10.00am Quiet Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells  
13.45-15.00 Little Fishes at St. Nicholas, Wells. Families and friends are welcome to come and join us.

**Next Sunday 8th August**

- 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints, Wighton  
11.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells  
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day  
6.30pm Evening Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells  
also via zoom

**Our Prayers**

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

- for those who need our prayers: - Sherrill Dye, James Goodman, Baby Evie, Amanda Newton, Diana Claxton, Stella Richardson, Gill Smith
- for those who have died recently: - Harold Edwards
- for those who died at this time in years past : - John Ashford and Audrey Sage



**Visiting Churches and Attending Worship**

Although now not compulsory, if you wish to wear a face covering please continue to do so. Please try to social distance where possible.



**Churches Open**

The churches are now open daily from 10am - 5pm

**Future Events**

- 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.  
Sat 11th Sept Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride  
Sun 12th Sept Firefighters Thanksgiving Service in St. Nicholas Churchyard

**Rector**

The Revd. Brenda Stewart 01328 710628 [bas@con-brio.com](mailto:bas@con-brio.com)

**Churchwardens:**

**St Withburga, Holkham**

Johnny Coke 01328 711358 [wjcoke@googlegmail.com](mailto:wjcoke@googlegmail.com)

**All Saints, Wighton**

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

**St Nicholas, Wells**

Kate Clodd 01328 711312 [kate.clodd321@gmail.com](mailto:kate.clodd321@gmail.com)

Margaret Sheppard 01328 710584 [margaret.sheppard222@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.sheppard222@gmail.com)

**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/>

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.



# Today's readings

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
who sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your Church:  
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
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 11.26 - 12.13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.'

Nathan said to David, 'You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' Nathan said to David, 'Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.'

## New Testament Reading

## Ephesians 4.1-16

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and

with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.' Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, 'As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.'

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## The Gospel

## John 6.24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

## Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father,  
who gathered us here around the table of your Son  
to share this meal with the whole household of God:  
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,  
gather people of every race and language  
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

John doesn't seem to like mentioning the physical aspects of the gospel. Jesus comes to John the Baptist and the text talks of the descent of the Spirit, but never mentions Jesus entering the water. At the other end of the gospel we get a long account of the Last Supper but not a word about bread or wine.

Yet John's gospel breathes water, wine and bread at every pore. There are very few miracles compared with Matthew, Mark and Luke, but the first one is the water becoming wine in Chapter 2; in Chapter 4 he talks to the Samaritan woman at the well of himself as the water of life; in Chapter 5 he heals the paralytic at the pool of Bethesda and our chapter, no. 6, begins with the miracle of the loaves and fishes. (the early church sometimes gave out fish at communion as well. Imagine a modern priest popping a sardine into your mouth at the altar rail!)

The aftermath of the miracle of the loaves and fishes and the crossing of the Sea of Galilee is a fierce and confused debate about the nature of the bread of life. It refers to the manna in the wilderness and Jesus has to steer the argument away from actual bread towards himself. Later this gets confused with physicalities again, as Jesus is heard as offering himself literally to be eaten - an idea utterly repugnant to Jews as it is to us.

We still have difficulty with this sort of language at communion but John's 'spiritual gospel' as an early writer called it, should help us through.

Fr Peter