


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

St James the Apostle
25th July 2021

Today's Services

- 9.30am Family Communion at All Saints, Wighton
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
- 11am Family Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
Please stay for refreshments after this service 
There will also be a Traidcraft Stall at the back of the church after this service
- 6.30pm Celtic 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: - James Goodman, Baby Evie, Amanda Newton, Diana Claxton, Stella Richardson, Gill Smith
- for those who have died recently: - Harold Edwards and Delaine Hackett
- for those who died at this time in years past : - Norman Smith, Jean Court, Brian Barker



Funeral - On Monday 26th July at 2pm the funeral of Harold Edwards will be held for family only at the graveside in Wells Cemetery. Please keep them in your prayers

This Week

- Wednesday 28th July
10.00am Holy Communion at St. Nicholas, Wells
which will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube later in the day
- 7.00pm Benefice meeting at St. Nicholas, Wells 
- Thursday 29th July
10.00am Quiet Prayer at St. Nicholas, Wells

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.

Next Sunday 1st August

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

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 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.
A programme for the day and will be available on the table at the back of St. Nicholas' church
- 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' £10, 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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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-ISQ1HQ1jZvnESfrY2A/>

Today's readings

The Collect

Merciful God,
whose holy apostle Saint James,
leaving his father and all that he had,
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ
and followed him even to death:
help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world,
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;
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

Jeremiah 45:1-5

The word that the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Baruch son of Neriah, when he wrote these words in a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah: Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: You said, 'Woe is me! The Lord has added sorrow to my pain; I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest.' Thus you shall say to him, 'Thus says the Lord: I am going to break down what I have built, and pluck up what I have planted—that is, the whole land. And you, do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for I am going to bring disaster upon all flesh, says the Lord; but I will give you your life as a prize of war in every place to which you may go.'

New Testament Reading

Acts 11:27-12:2

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul. About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.

Saint James the Apostle's Story

Saint James was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. He was the son of Zebedee and the brother of John the Apostle. James is also known as Saint James the Greater to distinguish him from the other apostle James, son of Alphaeus.

James was among the first to be called to the discipleship of Jesus alongside his younger brother John. During his time with Jesus, James and his brother John were known for their fiery temperament. This is demonstrated in Luke 9:54, when a Samaritan village refused to receive Jesus, they asked Jesus "wouldst thou have us bid fire come down from heaven, and consume them?"

Jesus rebuked them and reminded them that the "Son of Man has come to save men's lives, not to destroy them." James though was also one of those closest to Jesus and along with Peter and John were the only apostles to witness his transfiguration.

After Christ's death James worked to spread the word of Christ across Israel and Spain. Whilst in Spain, according to tradition, James had an apparition of the Virgin Mary in Zaragoza and the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar was built in veneration of this.

In 44AD he returned to Jerusalem where Herod Agrippa I, grandson of Herod the Great, had him arrested and beheaded him with a sword. It is believed that he was the first apostle to be martyred for his faith as his is the only execution recorded in the New Testament.

After James was beheaded his remains were taken by his disciples to Spain. It is said that they set sail on a boat at night with no rudder or steersman and trusted in God that they would arrive with the assistance of the Angles. They landed at Padrón on the coast and took his body inland to be buried at what is now known as Santiago de Compostela.

His remains led there undisturbed until they were discovered by a shepherd in the 9th Century. King Alfonso II made the first pilgrimage to the relics and afterwards provided protection along the route for those making the pilgrimage to visit the relics of Saint James, and so began the Camino de Santiago.

Saint James is the patron saint of not only Galicia but the whole of Spain. He is also the patron of pilgrims. His feast day is celebrated on the 25th July and for the Camino de Santiago this is a very special day and one you would want to be in Santiago for.



The Gospel

Matthew 20:20-28

The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from
deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

