

Welcome

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

May 28th 2023 *PENTECOST*



Today's Services

9.30 am Holy Communion, All Saints Wighton

11am Holy Communion, St Nicholas Wells

6.30pm Celtic Worship, St Nicholas Wells

In our prayers this week we remember....

- those who need our prayers: Rita Smyth, Brian Howell, Richard Cracknell, Angela Fennell, Keeley Tipper, Evelyn Waits,
- those who have died recently: Amanda Newton, Emma Stewart
- those who died at this time in years past: Peggy Stredwick, David Sizeland, Jack Spencer

This Week

Mon 29th, 12 noon Community Lunch, Cong. Hall, Clubbs Lane

Tues 30th, 3pm Concert: Amamusica, music for violin/viola, cello and piano, donations, followed by afternoon tea (£3).

Wed 31st, 10.30am, Prayer & Praise, Methodist Hall, Theatre Rd

Thurs 1st, 1.45-3pm Little Fishes - and older siblings welcome.

Quaker Meeting House

“ “ **5 - 5.30pm**, Quiet Worship, Quaker Meeting House

Sat 3rd, Commitment of the Duke of Edinburgh Lifeboat. *See opp*

Next Sunday: 4th June Trinity Sunday

9.30am Morning Prayer, St Withburga Holkham

11am All Age Worship, St Nicholas Wells

6.30pm Taizé Prayer, song and meditation, St Nicholas Wells

This week OPEN STUDIOS in Wells-next-the-Sea. Pick up a leaflet in porch for individual artists' opening times

Dates for your Diary (at St Nicholas unless otherwise stated)

June 6th 3pm, Piano Recital given by Jill Crossland (*see opposite*).

June 8th 2-4pm, final visit from the Community Supermarket.

Continues to be open at Coastal health & Wellbeing

June 17th 7pm, Fakenham Choral Society (*see opposite*).

Christian Aid Week donations. **Many thanks** to all those who supported the churches' events in Wells & Walsingham. We raised £1,414. Gifts from the Tuesday Teatime Concerts and our services came to £616.14. Your gifts will help secure a fairer price for crops in places like Malawi, and build a more promising future for their children.

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Benefice Weekly Sheet: The Revd. Brenda Stewart,

Website: www.stnicholaswells.co.uk

YouTube link: St Nicholas Church Wells [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-ISQ1HQ1jZvnESfrY2A)

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Commitment of 13 -46 RNLB Duke of Edinburgh into the Service of the Community from 4.00pm, on the 3rd of June on Wells Quay.

Saturday 3rd June, an important day for Wells lifeboat station when the official formal dedication and naming ceremony for the lifeboat station's Shannon Class Lifeboat, its SLARS launch and recovery rig, and the new boathouse will take place, in a traditional private ceremony in the boathouse.

Everyone is welcome to attend on the Quayside from 4.00pm when the Blakeney Old Wild Rovers will play and sing sea shanties until the lifeboat arrives at approximately **5pm for the short ceremony**. Our volunteer lifeboat crew depend upon the support of their families, employers, neighbours and supporters, indeed, the whole community, to make impossible for the to answer a call for help at any time of day or night, 365 days a year. The essential bond between the community, the lifeboat crew and the lifeboat will be re-affirmed in an address by Mark Dowie, Chief Executive of the RNLI and guests.



Overseas Mission: **USPG** We are asked to pray for the Church of the Province of Myanmar which has suffered devastation caused by Cyclone Mike.

STUDY GROUP led by the Methodist minister Revd Jonnie Bell ,starts on 8th June 10.30-12 for 4 weeks in the Methodist Hall. Everyone is welcome

St Nicholas' Spring Concert Season

This Tuesday, 30th, AMAMUSICA for a summer afternoon

Tuesday 6th June, 3pm. Jill Crossland - Piano

Scarlatti: Sonatas, Bach: selection from the Well-tempered Clavier and Mozart variations on Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star. Donations. Afternoon Tea (£3)

Saturday 17th June, 7pm

We draw our concert season to a close with Fakenham Choral Society's with all-time favourites from the greatest classical composers - Fauré, Handel (incl. 'Zadok the Priest'), Haydn, Mozart and arrangements of traditional songs by John Rutter. Led by musical director, Mark Jones.

Tickets £12, call 01485 544335, or visit www.fakenhamchoralsociety.org

Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother tongue is Love in every nation.



Malcolm Guite

ST NICHOLAS IS
A FAIRTRADE
CHURCH



TODAY'S READINGS

COLLECT

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

1 Corinthians 12.3b-13

Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

John 20.19-23 or John 7.37-39

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Pentecost/Shavuot is one of the three great pilgrim feasts of Judaism. It brings Jews from all over the world to Jerusalem to celebrate the giving of the Law on Sinai, the event that made them a nation with a common culture and religion. Clearly the ideal time for God to send his Holy Spirit on the newborn church, most of the Jewish dispersion were represented there, attracted by the noise the disciples were making now they had recovered the courage to go out in public and proclaim the marvels that God had done. The response was complicated. First communication was established across language barriers (the story of the Tower of Babel was 'retold in reverse'), many were just puzzled and some were cynical and rejected as drunken babbling the message they were beginning to understand.

The gift of the Spirit is communication - the basis of love. Those who began to understand the disciples were attracted by the love their preaching gave out even where they didn't understand all the words (and many of them would have a smattering of some dialect of Aramaic. It had been the official language of the old Persian Empire and was still widely spoken). The defensive sneering is familiar to us to this day, it is becoming the standard response to faith.

Another defensive reaction is to invent one's own religion and there was plenty of that going on then as now, but Christianity wasn't a distinct religion yet, it was 'The Way', an approach to Judaism with no public identity. That would come later, but strength and courage were already beginning to be necessary.

Pray for the Spirit to grant **us** these gifts, but above all for love.

Fr Peter

Acts 2. 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'