

Welcome

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

June 25th 2023, Third Sunday after Trinity



Today's Services

9.30 am Family Communion, All Saints Wighton also on **YouTube**
11am Holy Communion, St Nicholas Wells
6.30pm Celtic Evening Prayer, St Nicholas Wells, also on **Zoom**
In our prayers this week we remember....

- those who need our prayers: Revd Roger Arguile, Ann Small, Richard Cracknell, Angela Fennell, Keeley Tipper, Evelyn Waits, Brian Ogden
- those who have died recently: Dorothy Anthony, Wendy Platten, Amanda Newton
- those who died at this time in years past: Delaine Hackett, Richard Goble, David (Burt) Parr, Edna Shaw, Peggy Briggs

This Week

Mon 26th, 11am Funeral of Wendy Platten, Cromer Crematorium
“ “ **12 noon** Community Lunch, Cong. Hall, Clubbs Lane
“ “ **2pm** Volunteers needed please to help sort and pack away small church items before the arrival of the contractors on The area behind the organ needs cleaning ready for storing boxes etc.
Tues 27th, 10am Wells Fairtrade meeting, Quaker Meeting House
Wed 28th, 10.30am, Prayer & Praise, Methodist Hall, Theatre Rd
Thurs 29th 10.30-12, Bible Study at the Methodist Hall is CANCELLED this week and next
Thurs 29th 11.30am Funeral of Amanda Newton, St Nicholas
“ “ **1.45-3pm** Little Fishes Quaker Meeting House

60th Birthday Concert

Saturday July 1st 5pm (doors open 4.30pm) Steve Bingham and special guests present special 60th birthday eclectic concert: Eurythmics, Pet Shop Boys, A-Ha and much more... in Warham Reading Room.
Steve Bingham. Tickets £10 on the door or online music.stevebingham.co.uk/



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YouTube link: St Nicholas Church Wells
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCbV-ISQ1HQ1jZvnESfrY2A>

Next Sunday, 2nd July

9.30am Holy Communion, St Withburga Holkham
11am All Age Worship, St Nicholas Wells
6.30pm Taizé meditation, prayer and chants/song, St Nicholas

Dates for your Diary

July 3rd The start of the restoration of St Nicholas Church. Sunday worship will continue in the Chancel as usual, details for access to be announced shortly.

July 5th, 6pm Deanery Gathering for Evensong with our Churches Together Choir; open air summer refreshments at Great Ryburgh Church. All very welcome, see Alison for lift arrangements.

July 13th 4-6pm St Nicholas Churchyards: 'Take-a-Breath' Wellbeing sessions for local school staff with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust. NLHF funded.

July 14th, 6.30pm A Summer Gathering for supporters of the Walsingham Way and other Pilgrim Paths. St Andrew's Church, Gt Ryburgh. Come and join the conversation about how we can look after the trails and welcome pilgrim travellers. Please book a place: annemcprentis@gmail.com or 01328 829413



Welcome to the two new co-opted Wells PCC members: Geoff Finkemeyer and Simon Haynes. Please support all who volunteer in any capacity for our Benefice churches.

A big **thank you** to a group of the High School students who spent a second session on Thursday clearing drainage channels around the church and started on the path weeding. Also to Chris Homes who has helped with both sessions and supervised one of the groups.

Missions Overseas - USPG (United Society of Partners in the Gospel)

The latest edition of the USPG Prayer Diary is available on the bier at the back of the church. Please do take one home. From Bangladesh to Brazil, read powerful stories from around the world and come alongside these churches and communities in prayer. The proceeds from our BBQ in August will go towards USPG and Mission to Seafarers.

North Norfolk Exhibition Project Wighton 23, July 6th - August 6th

- All Saints Wighton is now gearing up for the North Norfolk Exhibition Project's summer exhibition. The project was started in 2000 initially at Salthouse church then moved to Cley and we're delighted to welcome them to Wighton. 40 artists will be exhibiting works in both the church and churchyard with inspiration drawn from the history and fabric of the building. It will be open daily 10.00-5.00. Admission free, donations appreciated.
- If you want to also visit the **East Anglian Methodist Heritage Centre it is open on Tuesday & Friday 11.00-3.00**. Admission free, donations

COLLECT

O Lord, from whom all good things come:
grant to us your humble servants,
that by your holy inspiration we may think
those things that are good,
and by your merciful guiding may perform the
same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION

Gracious God, lover of all,
in this sacrament
we are one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and blood
and one in the communion of his Spirit:
help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the Body of
Christ.
We make our prayer through your Son our
Saviour.

Genesis 21.8-21

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Romans 6.1b-11

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10.24-39

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

In the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, the gospel is summarised as 'it would be good thing if people were nice to each other for a change'. We are so used to the image of Jesus as Mr. Nice Guy that what he says in today's gospel seems shocking. Think 'outside the box'! Jesus is proclaiming the Kingdom of God. In Acts 17 verse 6 the KJV, Christians are described as 'the men who have turned the world upside down'. We are called to radically rethink our values, especially where they concern authority and power. The true godlike authority is love. Film cowboys called their sixshooters the peace maker, Well, they put an end to quarrels by killing one of the opponents. For Jesus peace is not victory.

What is offered and the way it is offered are alike a challenge to the world's peace.

Fr Peter