

**The Benefice of
Holy Innocents, Great Barton & St Peter's, Thurston**
www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk



Sunday 24th December
4th Sunday of Advent (Christmas Eve)

Readings (NRSV please)

Midnight Mass: Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14 and Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Day: HI 10.00am. Isaiah 52: 7-10. Hebrews 1: 1-12. John 1: 1-14

Christmas Day: SP 8.30am Hebrews 1.1 - 12 John 1. 1-14

Christmas Day: SP 10.00am Titus 2. 11 - 14 Luke 2. 1-14

COLLECT

Almighty God,
as we prepare with joy
to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child,
embrace the earth with your glory
and be for us a living hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev'd Ben Edwards

email revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com or call 07522 396397

Ben's time off is Friday pm and Saturdays.

Churchwardens

Holy Innocents Gt.Barton

Tim Frost 01284 787442 or 07840 249448

Angela Pearce 01359 230395

St Peter's Thurston

Pat Sadler 01359 230865 or 07552 234443

Margery Ashford 01359 231007 or 07443 414622

. Reader: Kathy Drakes. Email kathy@drakesfamily.org. 01284 787746

Services for this week

Sunday 24th December

Crib Service at St Peter's at 2.00pm:

Crib Service at Holy Innocents at 4.00pm

Midnight Mass at St Peter's at 11.30pm

Midnight Mass at Holy Innocents at 11.30pm

Monday 25th December

Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am

Christmas Morning Holy Communion at St Peter's at 10.00am

Christmas Morning Holy Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.00am

Wednesday 27th December

No Service

Services for next week

Sunday 31st December

Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am

Songs of Praise at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

No Service

Praying for our Benefice

We pray for:-



- All those who have asked for our prayers and their families: Jane's brother Jon, Alexander, Mary Gould, Ian Baxter, Hayley, Cathy McQueen, Maureen and Peter, David & Pat Sheppard, Roger and Pat Boyes, Noreen Reeve, John Clark, Alida Scoles, Deidre and Derek Caley, Brenda Rainbow and Jill Rood.
- We pray for those who work throughout the year to keep us safe, especially through this festive season.
- We pray for the those killed and injured in Prague along with their family and friends.
- We pray for the people affected by the volcanic eruption in Iceland
- We pray for those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
- We pray for the family and friends who mourn the loss of a loved one.
- We also remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time. May they all rest in peace and rise in glory.
- We pray for the people of Great Barton and Thurston

**St Peter's Thurston and Holy Innocents' Gt Barton
Crib Service
Sunday 24th Dec.**



St Peter's at 2.00pm & Holy Innocents at 4.00pm

**A service for all the family to enjoy at Christmas.
We look forward to seeing you.**



**Holy Innocents' Church Gt Barton
&
St Peter's Church Thurston**

11.30pm Sunday 24th December

Please note the start time of 11.30 pm

***You are welcome to join us at either of our Churches for this popular
Christmas Mass***

Holy Innocents Church Christmas Tree Festival



9 December-5 January

“FOLLOW THE STAR”

**You can view the Christmas Tree Festival every day, up to
5th January 2024.**

Holy Innocents is open each day from 10.00am to 4.00pm

**Sunday 31st December 2023
Songs of Praise**

**On Sunday 31st December at 10.30am, our Service at Holy Innocents
is Songs of Praise. If you have a hymn you would like included,
could you please let me know by Wednesday 27th so that I can
decide on the final selection.**

Email: kathy@drakesfamily.org or phone 01284 787746

Thank you. Kathy

Please, join the action
#standwithUkraine
Saturday 30th December 2023
Angel Hill 11:00-12:00

Please, stand with us to show
your support for Ukraine and to
let people know that the struggle
continues.

*We dream we'll hear -
"Wake up, we've won!"*



Choir Leader

The Benefice Choir of Holy Innocents Great Barton and St Peter's Thurston are looking for a Choir Leader.

Our choir is looking for someone who will take them forward with new hymns and Anthems; someone to arrange regular practice and lead the choir into the future.

You would work with the organist and Fr Ben the Vicar.

Our choir sing at all our services including evensong and on occasions at Funerals and Weddings.

The choir would also like someone who would encourage them to sing in other venues arranged by the Royal School of Church Music.

**For more information, please contact Fr Ben at
revdbenjaminwards@gmail.com**

Treasurer

Can you help?

The Treasurers in both St Peter's Thurston and Holy Innocents are retiring after many years of service to their respective churches.

We are now looking for someone to take over the role of the treasurer. The treasurer will be an integral part of our team and will be supported by the relevant PCC's.

Perhaps two people could share this role for each church.

If you would like more information, please contact one of the following people.

For St Peter's:

Gill Bush at gillianbush@metronet.co.uk

Pat Sadler at patsadler@hotmail.com

For Holy Innocents:

Kathy Drakes at kathy@drakesfamily.org

Tim Frost at timfr0st@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you

We thank everyone for helping and supporting us during 2023 and wish you all,

A Happy Christmas and A Healthy New Year

From your Churchwardens
Pat, Margery, Tim and Angie.

Great Barton Parish Council and Meeting Point Christmas Lunch

After a very successful Christmas lunch on Friday 15th December, put on by Meeting Point at the request of the Parish Council, donations in excess of £300 were received. As the meal was funded by the Parish Council, it was decided to share the donations between the Food Bank, Nicky's Way and The Winter Kitchen. Thank you all for your generosity.'

Meeting Point is now closed until Wednesday 3rd January.
We hope you have a lovely Christmas & look forward to seeing you in 2024



At The Church Institute,
The Street,
Great Barton



THE MEETING POINT COMMUNITY CAFÉ

OPENING TIME:

EVERY WEDNESDAY

11.00AM – 1.30PM

LUNCHES SERVED FROM 12.00 NOON

All Welcome!

A Great place to meet up with friends for lunch or to relax and enjoy a Tea or Coffee with a slice of Cake.



Come and join us for FREE
Tea and Coffee.

We serve Homemade
Cakes, freshly prepared
hot lunches to order.



M E R R Y

Christmas

From all at Holy Innocents Church Great Barton
and St Peter's Church, Thurston

Just a reminder, that following the splendid refurb of our porch at St Peter's, Jigsaws are again available to be bought or swapped, at a suggested donation of £2.00

Thank you. Churchwardens.

STOREHOUSE, PLEASE give generously at this time when so many families are relying on food banks. Thank you

Goods and donations for Thurston can be left at No 31, School Rd, Thurston, Jill Rood, donations for Great Barton can be left at Holy Innocents church or with Tim Frost at 2, Diomed Drive, Great Barton.

Visit the following to get the latest information :-

Website: <https://www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk>

Facebook pages:

Holy Innocents: <https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Innocents-Church-Great-Barton-685807921585678/>

St Peter's: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Church-Thurston-1790473917903849/>

Please email any notices to Peter Robinson beneficepr@gmail.com
or tel: 07814946841 by **Thurs 28th December**

Find us on Facebook