

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



Sunday 31st March
Easter Sunday

10.30am All Age Easter Communion at Holy Innocents: Isaiah 25:6-9.
10.30am Easter Communion at St Peter's: Acts 10. 34 -43. Mark 16. 1-8

COLLECT

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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 31st March: (Easter Sunday)

All Age Easter Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Easter Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am

Wednesday 3rd April

No Service

Services for next week

Sunday 7th April:

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

Benefice Sung Eucharist at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Wednesday 10th April:

Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am

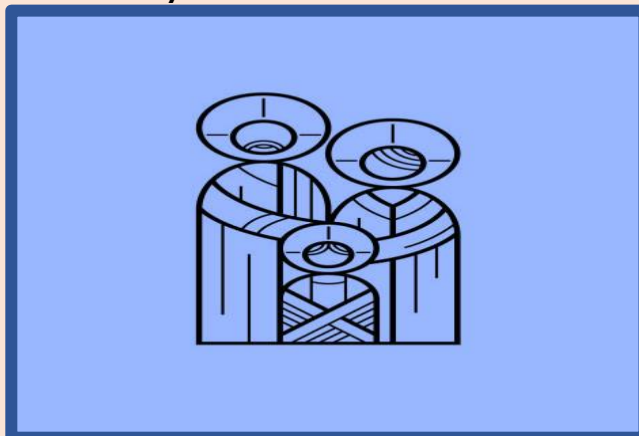
Praying for our Benefice

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, Alida Scoles, Deidre and Derek Caley, Kathleen Sewter, Chris Blades.
- We pray for those affected by the bridge collapse in Baltimore.
- We pray for the victims and families of the terrorist shooting in Russia
- We pray for those who are experiencing ill health especially King Charles & Catherine Princess of Wales.
- We pray for those who are suffering famine and conflict.
- We pray for those who have died recently.
- We pray for all 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 those helping to bring aid into Gaza.
- We pray for those who can only see darkness, may they see light for the future.
- We pray for the people of Great Barton and Thurston.

Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton
All Age Easter Holy Communion
Sunday 31st March at 10.30am.



This is a Communion service for all the family to enjoy



Palm Sunday Together Family Service at St Peters

Thank you so much to all who attended this service and made our families welcome. Palm Sunday was a fun service and the young people clearly felt comfortable in church, parading up the aisle with their donkey faces, palm crosses and palm leaves. It was also lovely to see one or two of them happy to come to the front of church to show us the actions to the songs.

Do please continue to support services where Together Church comes to St Peter's, and our All-Age services at both churches - we hope and pray that they will grow our churches and help to serve the faith in our community. And do pray for our young people, that God may speak to them and call them to draw closer to the Christian faith.

Thank you again

Kathy



Prayers of Love and Faith

"From December 2023, The Church of England has authorised special prayers of blessing to be offered to celebrate same sex relationships. These are entitled Prayers of Love and Faith, and can be used as part of a regular church service such as Holy Communion or Evensong. Our Benefice Churches of St Peter's Thurston and Holy Innocents Great Barton are delighted to be amongst those churches ready to offer these services to same sex couples in this area of Suffolk.

These prayers have been designed to ensure same sex couples can feel more part of church life than previously, and being able to declare love and commitment to each other in the sight of God is an important part of the journey for couples of faith. We are overjoyed that we can offer this to same sex couples in our Benefice and the wider Deanery.

The Church of England continues to discern the journey with its LGBT+ siblings; as you will no doubt know, marriage services are prohibited for same sex couples at the time of writing. Many, many people within the Church hope that this will one day change. We know that there is a long road to travel. We continue to be a voice within the Church seeking equality for all.

If you are interested in affirming your relationship as part of your journey of faith, perhaps following a civic marriage or civil partnership service, then do please get in touch with Fr Ben at revdbenjaminwards@gmail.com, or telephone 07522396397, who will be very happy to discuss your requirements and answer any questions you have."

Holy Innocents' A P C M Tuesday 16th April at 7 p.m.

Holy Innocents' Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th April in the Church Institute, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7 p.m. We will be presenting the Electoral Roll, Annual Report and Accounts, reports on various Church organisations, as well as electing PCC members and Deanery Synod Representatives, and electing Churchwardens and an Assistant Churchwarden at our Annual Parish Meeting. Do come – your presence at the meetings would be greatly valued. Nomination forms for these positions are available at the back of the church. If you want to explore the idea of one of these posts, please contact Fr. Ben at revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com, tel. 07522 386387, or Jane Dalton, PCC Secretary at jane.dalton648@gmail.com, 01284 788613, or have a word when you see them. As regards Churchwardens, do contact Tim Frost on 01284 787442 or 07840 249448, or Angela Pearce on 01359 230395

Vacancies for the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Peter's Church, Thurston

We have a small number of vacancies to serve on the PCC. Being a member is a really good way to help shape the future direction of your parish. As a group we are friendly and welcoming, and no prior specialist knowledge is required. The PCC usually meets five times a year. We warmly invite you to speak to Rev'd Ben, Pat Sadler or Margery Ashford if you are interested and would like to find out more. The new PCC will be confirmed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Tuesday 23rd April at 7.30 pm so you have plenty of time to consider joining us.

Cream Tea

It's Cream Tea time again at Gt Barton Church Institute, on Monday May 6th at 3.30pm.

Do come along and have an enjoyable afternoon with family and friends.

Cost £6.50 per person

All proceeds to Christian Aid

Contact Sarah Robinson.

Email; spandj@icloud.com or Tel. 07484 674815



PILGRIMAGE TO ISTANBUL, THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION AND CAPPADOCIA 2-12 or 14 May 2025

Next year the Revd Mark Hunt is leading another pilgrimage to the beautiful and ancient land of Turkey where we will immerse ourselves in the historical and spiritual world of the first century AD, first in fabulous Istanbul, then touring the seven churches of Revelation, ending at Ephesus.

This will be followed by a two-day optional extension to Cappadocia in central Turkey: a fascinating weird other-worldly landscape of mystical underground cities, 'fairy chimneys' and ancient churches cut into the rock.

Tempted? Then do come and join us! For a brochure and further information, please contact Mark on 07964 941501 or email: jmarknhunt@gmail.com



Christian Aid: Fundraising Lunches

For six consecutive Sundays, I am hosting a fundraising lunch for paid guests in my own home.

The meal is a traditional Sunday roast followed by dessert or cheese and biscuits. Tea, coffee, and soft drinks included. A donation of £25 per diner is requested.¹ Gross proceeds to Christian Aid. You are welcome to bring your own bottle, if required.

Places are limited to six guests per meal. Advance booking essential. The venue is 1 Hunter Drive, Thurston, IP31 3QQ, off Barton Road (next to the Fox and Hounds). Parking permitted on Barton Road.

The dates are:

April	7	14	21	28
May	5	19		

1.30 pm for 1.45 pm. (Note: there is no meal on Sunday 12 May).

Everyone is invited. A warm welcome awaits. Please contact me to book (01359 233489).

We shall also be handing out Christian Aid collection envelopes in St. Peter's Church nearer to Christian Aid week.

I look forward to your support. God bless you all,

Barbara Sanwo
(Christian Aid rep, Thurston)

¹ Cash or cheque. £10 for children aged 6 -12, under-fives free!

Can you help?

Can you spare time once a month to help keep our lovely church, St Peter's, Thurston, clean. We desperately need helpers to join the present small band of cleaners. Any time you can give will be gratefully appreciated.

We would love to hear from you. Please contact Pat 07553 234443 or Margery 07443 414622

Many thanks

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, donations for Great Barton can be left at Holy Innocents church or with Tim Frost at 2, Diomed Drive, Great Barton.

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.

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 **Thursday 4th April 2024**

Find us on Facebook