

**The Benefice of  
Holy Innocents, Great Barton & St Peter's, Thurston**

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



**Sunday 31st August 2025**

**11th Sunday after Trinity**

**10.30am: Jeremiah 2: 4-13. Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16. Luke 14: 1, 7-14  
Readings: MSG version please.**

**COLLECT**

**God of glory,  
the end of our searching,  
help us to lay aside  
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,  
and to give all that we have  
to gain the pearl beyond all price,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

**Rev'd Ben Edwards**

**email [revdbenjaminwards@gmail.com](mailto:revdbenjaminwards@gmail.com) or call 07771 925491**

**Ben's time off is Friday pm and Saturdays.**

**Churchwardens**

**Holy Innocents Gt.Barton**

**Tim Frost 01284 787442 or 07840 249448**

**Angela Pearce 01359 256213**

**St Peter's Thurston**

**Pat Sadler 07552 234443**

**Margery Ashford 01359 231007 or 07443 414622**

**Reader: Kathy Drakes. Email [kathy@drakesfamily.org](mailto:kathy@drakesfamily.org). 07966 242616**

## Services for this week

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August:

Benefice All Age Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am.

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:

Holy Communion (CW) at Montana Chapel at 11.15am

## Services for next week

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September: (Harvest Festival)

Harvest Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Choral Evensong, at St Peter's, at 6.30pm

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September:

MU Communion at St Peter's at 11.00am.

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September:

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

### Praying for our Benefice

#### We pray for:-



- Pam Cotton, Steve and Barbara Blanchard, Eileen Rogers, Ian Baxter, Betty & Norman Blades, Alexander, Hayley, Cathy McQueen, Maureen and Peter, Tom, David Sheppard, Roger and Pat Boyes, Silvia, Deidre and Derek Caley, Kathleen Sewter, David and Mary Edwards.
- We pray for those killed and injured in the Minneapolis school shooting; We also pray for their family and friends.
- We pray for those places where there is war and unrest, where people are persecuted for who they are and where people live daily with fear, starvation and thirst.
- We pray for the peacemakers, that their efforts will be rewarded with eternal peace.
- We pray for the recently departed, and those who mourn their loss.
- We pray especially for the family and friends of Noreen Reeve.
- At the end of our days on earth be with us and with those we love, and may those who have gone before us rest in your eternal peace.
- Comfort and heal those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit, and give them courage and hope.
- We pray for all the people in our parishes of Great Barton and Thurston. May they be aware of neighbours in need.
- We pray for ourselves that we may show loving kindness to everyone.



**St Peter's Church, Thurston  
and  
Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton**

**As a member of the Inclusive Church Network, we agree with and seek to uphold the following statement in our ministry and mission:**

**“We believe in an inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.**

**We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.**

**We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.”**

**Fr Benjamin Edwards**

**Vicar of Great Barton and Thurston”**



**Inclusive  
Church**

## **VISION DAY AT ST PETER'S CHURCH THURSTON**

**Vision Day October 12th, after the St Peter's service. This is an opportunity to come together over lunch and discuss our church and the direction we are travelling in. It gives us all a chance to share our experiences of our church and have our thoughts heard together.**

**Questions to discuss will be: What are our churches good at? What makes your heart sing? What new things might we do in our ministry within our church? How might we reach out to our community in loving service? How might we reach out to our community with the Gospel message?**

**Bring your own lunch or enough to share. The discussion will begin at 12pm and last for around an hour. Together we can share a vision of what shape our journey with Christ might take as a united Benefice of two distinct churches.**

**Fr Ben**



**We meet for our Corporate Communion Service with Rev'd Ben Edwards on Tuesday September 9th at 11:00 at St Peters Church. Coffee, biscuits and chat afterwards. Do come along and join us.**

**Gill Flower and Linda Scoles  
01359 231718**



### **The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary Guild Service**

**12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm  
Holy Innocents Church, Great Barton  
Everyone welcome to join us for this special service.  
Please note, Incense will be burnt.**



## **RIDE AND STRIDE**

**This takes place on Saturday 13th September between 10 - 4.**

**It raises money for St Peter's Church  
and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust.**

**We need volunteers to register the cyclists at the Church during the  
Flower Festival.**

**If you can help for an hour, please sign the form at the back of the  
church**

**or phone Mary Fawcett 01359 231363 or 07895 096 391**

**Thank you**

## **Theo Geileskey Organ Recital**

**All of us who attended Theo's Recital on Sunday, 17 August, were delighted and amazed by the quality of the music from an 18 year old many of us have known for most of his life. Theo performed music, much of it English, ranging from the 1700s: Buxtehude's "Toccata in F Major" to the 1990s: Hewitt-Jones's "Carnival," as well as perhaps more familiar works by Elgar and Bach. This was an hour and a half of pure enjoyment.**

**Theo has passed his A-Levels, and goes on to King's College London to carry on his studies as Organ Scholar. We all agreed as Father Ben thanked Theo, and wished him success in his studies and his future. The Retiring Collection raised £306 for Church Funds.**



**St Peter's Church Thurston**

# **Flower Festival**

**13th and 14th September 2025**

*Theme 'For the Beauty of the Earth'*

**Open Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm**

**Sunday 12noon - 4.00pm**

**Admission by suggested donation of £3 Children Free  
Refreshments and a raffle**

**Plus**

## **Competition for Children**

**Design a 12" Plate Garden from natural materials**

**A prize for each age group of 5-11years  
& 12years and over.**

**If you are interested in doing an arrangement  
for the festival, please contact**

**Pat on 07552 234443**

**or Margery on 07443 414622**

**Flower Festival Weekend 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> September.**

**During the Festival we will be holding a draw, and would welcome  
offers of prizes for this event. These can be passed to the  
churchwardens or left in a box at the back of the church.**

**Also, if you can donate any fresh vegetables for Harvest, which is  
being held on the same weekend as the Flower Festival, please place  
them in the box, again at the back of the church.**

**Thank you.**





**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 10.30am  
at St Peter's Thurston.**

**You are invited to bring harvest gifts, of nonperishable goods, to the service on the 14<sup>th</sup> September. These will be taken to the 'Storehouse' foodbank in Bury St Edmunds**

**Thank You**



## **HARVEST PLOUGHMANS LUNCH FOLLOWED BY DESSERT, TEA/COFFEE**

**at The Institute, Gt Barton  
Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 12.30pm  
£12**

**All proceeds towards renovations at  
The Institute**

**To book please email Sarah at [spandj@icloud.com](mailto:spandj@icloud.com)**

## **Benefice of Holy Innocents Great Barton & St Peter's Thurston.**

**"Our vision is to create a safe and nurturing environment for all, reflecting God's love and justice. We are committed to excellent safeguarding practices, ensuring our church is a place where everyone, especially the most vulnerable, feels protected and valued. This commitment is integral to our Christian mission and ministry, enabling us to live out the Gospel message of love, compassion, and wholeness."**  
**To see our Safeguarding documents please follow the link to our website:**

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

### **St Peter's**

**Jigsaws are again available, to be bought or swapped, from the porch, at a suggested donation of £2.**

**There is also a big selection inside the church for you to browse.**

**Thank you**

**Churchwardens Pat & Margery**

**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.**

**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](mailto:beneficepr@gmail.com)  
or tel: 07814 946841 by **Wednesday 3rd September 2025.****

**Find us on Facebook**