

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



Sunday 7th June
1st Sunday after Trinity

10.00am. Genesis 12: 1-9. Psalm 33: 1-12. Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

6.30pm. Deuteronomy 6: 10-25. Acts 22: 22-23,11. Psalm 38

Readings: NRSV version please.

COLLECT

**God of truth,
help us to keep your law of love
and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life
in Jesus Christ your Son.**

Amen

Rev'd Ben Edwards

email revdbenjaminedwards@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. 07966 242616

Services for this week

Sunday 7th June:

Benefice Sung Eucharist at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Choral Evensong at St Peter's at 6.30pm

Wednesday 10th June:

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

Services for next week

Sunday 14th June:

Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am

Choral Evensong at Holy Innocents at 6.30pm

Wednesday 17th June:

Holy Communion (CW) Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Praying for our Benefice

We pray for;-



Lance (Guide Dog), Lyn Moss, Lynette Delafortrie, Betty & Norman Blades, Alexander, Hayley, Veyron, Cathy McQueen, Maureen and Peter, Ian Baxter, David Sheppard, Roger and Pat Boyes, Deidre Caley, Eileen Rogers, Tom.

- **Please pray for Billy, who is ill in hospital and will be there for some time. Please also pray for Mum Clare, Dad Jonny and brother Henry.**
- **We pray that all areas of conflict will soon end. Especially in the Middle East, that the cease fire becomes a lasting peace.**
- **We pray for all whose hearts have been saddened by the death of someone close to them.**
- **We pray for the recently departed, and those who mourn their loss.**
- **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.**
- **We pray for the sick, the grieving, the homeless, and all who are suffering, that they may know your love and support.**
- **We pray for our families, friends, neighbours, and those we share our lives with, that we may honour one another.**
- **We pray for all the people in our parishes of Great Barton and Thurston. may they be aware of neighbours in need.**



St. Peter's Church Draw Club Strawberries and Cream



Thank you to all members for your support which is helping to fund the Church in Thurston.

The winning numbers so far this year have been;

January	1
February	39
March	48
April	44
May	14

Come and join us for strawberries and cream, a chat and maybe a table quiz on Wednesday 1st July from 2.30pm until 4pm in the church grounds (inside if chilly and wet), when we will do the Summer Draw.

All supporters of St. Peter's are welcome to come.

Any donations of prizes for a raffle would be welcome, before the event if possible. I do hope you will be able to come, **please let me know by Monday 22nd June if you intend to come.**

Anyone interested in joining the Draw Club please contact Ann Reeve on 01359 270491

St Peter's Gift Day Saturday 27th June

On Saturday, 27th June someone will be at St Peter's Church, from 10.30am to 2.30pm, to receive your kind gift. You can also donate online. The bank details are, PCC of Thurston, account number 48641545, sort code 01 07 08. Cheques should be made **payable to PCC of Thurston.**

Alternatively, you can donate via the **Donation tab**, on the home page of our website. <https://www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk/> where you can Gift Aid your donation.

Thank you for your generosity



Christian Aid

On behalf of Christian Aid sincere thanks to all those who so generously donated to the 2026 appeal. The total proceeds amounted to £531.05 which was banked on 2nd June. This will be augmented by £106.25 Gift Aid claimed by Christian Aid on qualifying donations of £425. No doubt, there will have been individual online gifts too.

**Thank you again to everybody and God bless you all.
Barbara Sanwo (Christian Aid rep)**



St Peter's Church Thurston



We would like to start our fundraising for 2026 by asking if people are prepared to host a 'Coffee Morning'. As well as raising money, this it is a great social occasion to meet up and bring a friend along.

We are happy for 'The Rock' to be used as the venue, and there are always people on hand to assist. We are looking to organise one a month starting from March. (The July slot has already been filled)

If you can help

Please contact Pat on 07552 234443 or Margery on 07443 414622

Thank you



Great Barton & Thurston Mothers Union June 2026

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday June 9th at 11:00 in The Rock at St Peter's Church, Thurston.

We look forward to sharing in a Bible Study session led by Kathy Drakes. Come along and join us.

Everyone is welcome.

**Gill Flower & Linda Scoles
Tel. 01359 231718**



Serendipity

Gardening for others - Part two.

Every situation was different, whether it was making a beautiful garden from rough farm land or even an old farmyard that was once wall to wall concrete. The hopes of each family varied enormously. A period of about five years was spent in each garden, this provided sufficient time to labour, to see changes posed by varying growing seasons and weather conditions. Like grandparents with their grandchildren, I had all the pleasure and fulfilment without the ultimate responsibility!

Planting hedges and trees were early jobs for some of the gardens, I tried also to establish a propagation area in them since this addition soon makes a thrifty contribution to establishing the garden. It can be done with very little outlay in a shaded place, even if there is no greenhouse. Good management is required for any garden to remain healthy. Recycling of plant materials is an important part of this and was introduced quickly, with a minimum of three bins for garden compost and also leaf mould. To feed and nurture the soil is part of loving it and making it a heritage for others. At home, most of us seldom have the chance to design a new border. For some people this was a requirement, perhaps with the need for it to be all year round flowering or a particular colour. This a challenge I loved and found very rewarding and gratifying. Personal likes and dislikes must be kept to oneself, as you are gardening for others not yourself. Over the years I have changed my mind about various plants and colours because they have been the preferred choice of the good folks paying the bill. The colour scarlet springs to mind. I disliked it intensely at one time yet will now place it in a positive way to achieve a desired effect. I also disliked climbing a ladder or being in bright sunlight for too long, but needs must when the devil drives and these fears are long gone.

It would not be human to have no favourite styles and colours. As florist turned gardener, I brought my training relating to colour, line, form and much more from one trade to the next. Pastel blending shades are my personal colour choices with, roses, delphiniums, penstemons and selected annuals among my favourite flower choices for large herbaceous borders. The knowledge and experience of the gardener, in conjunction with food, water and pest control for plants, makes a good and pleasing garden. It is my strong belief, after all these years at the cutting edge, that knowledgeable regular regular garden maintenance six to eight hours a week produce a beautiful garden. This in truth is the only way foreach of us to have a wonderful garden.

Living in the fresh air for my entire working week, I have come to know the natural world so well, recognising the smell of a fox or a badger, the droppings of small mammals. The robin is a companion as I toil, watching the turn of my fork or spade for a morsel, but these friends go when it is time to nest. When they return, I say. "You're back, are you?", Seeking company to next spring?" Near the wheelbarrow the dog lies on the grass, "Talking to the birds again" she thinks, then returns to her sleep in the warm autumn sunshine. When each season drifts into the next, I do not need to be told, I feel it. There is no longer a need to wear a wristwatch, for I know the time without it. An enjoyable and fulfilling ten years has been spent "Gardening for Others". As a wonderful spin off I have been adopted by various children and hold their secrets to this day. Dogs too seem to love the gardener. I only wish I had come to it sooner!

My kindest regards to you all, enjoy those roses, Mary



At War Child, we are driven by a single goal – ensuring a safe future for every child affected by war. We work in the hardest to reach places to support those who are hardest hit, to protect, educate and stand up for the rights of children, when they need us most.

We will never give up on children affected by conflict.

The money you raise will help War Child to support children in conflict zones globally. Every pound will help us to provide the chance for a brighter, happier, and more peaceful future for children living in conflict-affected areas.

For example, here's how the money you raise could help:

£100 could feed four families who have fled with nothing for a week.

£60 could provide support for a whole family caught up in conflict with all their basic needs for two months, including food and blankets.

£17 could cover the cost of a child being safely reunited with their family.

To make a donation, please follow the link below.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-peters-church-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Or you can also donate by this QR code, via your phone.



You can also view and donate from our website at:

<https://www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk/news-2/just-giving-for-warchild/>

Great Barton and Thurston Benefice Services
June 2026

Wednesday 3rd June:

Holy Communion (CW) at Montana at 11.15am

Sunday 7th June:

Benefice Sung Eucharist at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Choral Evensong at St Peter's at 6.30pm

Wednesday 10th June:

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

Sunday 14th June:

Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am

Choral Evensong at Holy Innocents at 6.30pm

Wednesday 17th June:

Holy Communion (CW) Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Sunday 21st June:

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

Benefice All Age Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

Wednesday 24th June:

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

Sunday 28th June:

Benefice All Age Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am

(CW Common Worship, BCP Book of Common Prayer)

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."

Please contact: Kathy Drakes, Benefice Safeguarding Officer: 07966 242616 or email: kathy@drakesfamily.org

Or Rev'd Ben Edwards Vicar of Holy Innocents and St Peter's: 07771 925491 or email: revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com

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

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/>

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.

Please email any notices to Peter Robinson beneficepr@gmail.com

or tel: 07814 946841 by **Thursday 11th June.**

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