

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



Sunday 7th September 2025
12th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11. Philippians 4: 4-9. John 6: 25-35

6.30pm: Jonah 3: 10, 4.11. Revelations 8: 1-5. Psalm 122

Readings: NRSV version please.

COLLECT

**Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**

Amen

Rev'd Ben Edwards

email 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. 07966 242616

Services for this week

Sunday 7th September: (Harvest Festival)

Harvest Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

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

Tuesday 9th September:

MU Communion at St Peter's at 11.00am.

Wednesday 10th September:

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

Services for next week

Sunday 14th September: (Holy Cross Day) (Harvest Festival)

Harvest Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am

Choral Evensong, at Holy Innocents, at 6.30pm

Wednesday 17th September:

Holy Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents 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 and made homeless in the Earthquake in Afghanistan; 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.
- 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.



**Sunday 7th September 10.30am
at Holy Innocents, Great Barton.**

You are invited to bring harvest gifts, of nonperishable goods, to the service on the 7th September. Or you can leave items at the back of Holy Innocents prior to the service.

Thank You



**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"



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?

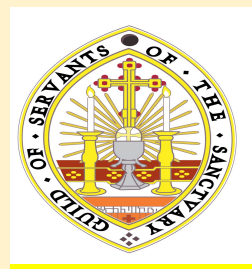
Bring your own lunch or enough to share. The discussion will begin at 12pm and last for around an hour. Together we can share a vision of what shape our journey with Christ might take as a united Benefice of two distinct churches.

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

**12th 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



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 13th & 14th 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 14th September 10.30am
at St Peter's Thurston.**

You are invited to bring harvest gifts, of nonperishable goods, to the service on the 14th 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 21st

at 12.30pm

£12

**All proceeds towards renovations at
The Institute**

To book please email Sarah at spandj@icloud.com



Serendipity 7.9.25

Although not born in Suffolk, since 1964, I have, in common with lots of others, come to live and know the following; the foreshore, the sea, flat fields; the joy of a beautiful sunset after the harvest and so on. No jokes about Essex Girl please!

To start the first article of Serendipity I have chosen one of my own poems, to share with you.

The Power of the beach

**In the beautiful, filtered light of autumn I walk on Aldeburgh beach ,
As each tide completes a cycle the shingle banks reform in peaks.
As the spray lights my cheek I lick salt for free, the perfume of the seaweed**

Is very agreeable to me.

With Thorpeness ahead I slowly raise my gaze, that house in the clouds, bushes resemble a maze. Gorse painted with a brush in unmistakable hue.

Look, there is a young man surfing, strong, brave too.

As I turn and face the sea I know its full strength.

Foam like suds in a twin tub, now half spent.

The gulls above wheel, perceiving the thermals, they pitch and dive in harmonious pairs.

What an unusual feeling, I think I might be in love.

To close a little gem of knowledge!

The wonder of honey

With an industry unsurpassed in the human world it takes about 2,000 bee visits to produce a table spoon of honey. One pound of matured honey in the comb takes 37,000 journeys.

Isn't nature wonderful.

Sincerely, Mary

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
or tel: 07814 946841 by **Thursday 11th September 2025.****

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