

Parish News

November 2011



**The Church of
St Mary the Virgin, Woodkirk**

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Who's who at Woodkirk

Vicar of St Mary's: The Rev Amanda Barraclough, St Mary's Vicarage,
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Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

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Lay Pastoral Minister: Derek Barraclough 01924 472375
Gail Townsend 0113 2528710

Churchwardens: Gail Townsend 0113 2528710
Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

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Glyn Jennings 01924 470272

Organist: John Hardcastle . 0113 258 7451

PCC Secretary: Julie Hyde 0113 2521339

PCC Treasurer: Gary Mortimer 0113 2528935

Social Chairperson: Gary Mortimer 0113 252 8935

Parish Centre Hire: Brian Walshaw 01924 479380

Parish Centre Manager: Glyn Jennings 01924 470272

Parish Legacy Officer: Henry Gill 0113 253 0585

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Contributions by Thursday evening

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Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

,Derek Barraclough, , Audrey Bourne,, Brian Gledhill John Hardcastle, Julie Hyde,
Glyn Jennings, Gill Mahoney, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Kath Randall,
Sally Shaw, Dawn Tattersfield, Gail Townsend

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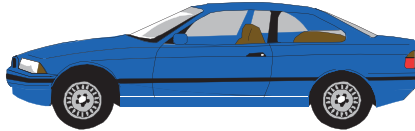
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October Registers

Baptisms:

Alexis Katie Gilbert

Annabelle Mary Rose Minter

Tingley

Tingley

Funerals:

Peter Jones

Joan Turner

Gwen Harvey

Tingley

Tingley

Tingley



Welcome!

Enjoy reading this parish magazine. If you wish to know more about church groups, please get in touch with the contacts - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers.

You'd be most welcome to join us for worship. Service times are on the back page. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Meanwhile may God bless you and all whom you love.

Parish News by post

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending at least £9 a year to cover magazine costs, post and packaging to: Margaret Longden 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Telephone 01924 473064

It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far.

Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

Web site

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at:

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Copies of the magazine (from Jan 2011 issue only) can be downloaded from the web site.

Twitter

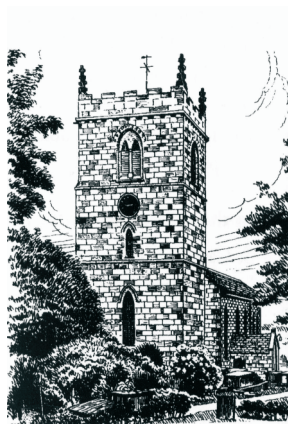
twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk

Wheelchair

A wheelchair is available to help people move easily between the church and Dewsbury Road. Just ask.

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Treasured Memories

Having just returned to my desk after a 'holiday at home' over the last few weeks, I've had the chance to do something I enjoy greatly – reading books. I particularly enjoy those which might be found in the 'classics' section – Dickens, Jane Austen – but also more modern classics. As I closed the final page of 'Jude the Obscure' by Thomas Hardy on the last day of my fortnight's break,

I found myself wishing I had time to belong to a Book Club where there was opportunity to talk through some of the ideas and questions a good novel like that can raise. Sadly, joining a Book Clubs, like the hankering I have to join a choir, are probably things to shelve until retirement. There are simply not enough hours in a clergy day! It's often easier to find time to read than to find time to reflect upon what has been read. That's the world in which we live.

Another book which raised many thoughts and questions as I read it some time ago was 'A Clergyman's Daughter' by George Orwell (better known for 'Animal Farm' and 'Nineteen Eighty-Four'). In this particular story, the daughter of a rather elderly, and somewhat lazy, old-school clergyman is virtually running the parish. In a need to 'find herself' she leaves, and runs away. During this escape, she is involved in an accident and loses her memory. She doesn't know who she is, or where she comes from. Eventually, she is recognised and taken back to the old Vicarage and her old life. She returns and is doing all she did before she left – but only as if going through the motions.

Her faith has gone because her memory has gone. It raises the question of whether our faith is a product of our memory – we believe because of how we recall God's presence in earlier parts of our life. We may not 'feel' it moment by moment, but the memory of the times when we have felt it shapes and forges the people we are today. The Bible is full of appeals by prophets to the people to "Remember what God has done for you and your ancestors before you." as an impetus to trusting him for today.

I'm not sure whether the truth is as clear-cut as Orwell suggests – I know many victims of dementia who have a faith untouched by the ravages of the disease. But all this thought-provoking stuff serves to remind us of the treasures – and importance - of memory – and the collective and personal memories we have. They shape the people we are today.

In a fast-moving, target-driven world, we are intent on moving forward – but to do that truly we also need to look back. Memories tend to be things treasured by those of more mature years, not only because they have more of them, but because their pace of life encourages them to slow down and draw upon them more. Maybe we need to learn from them. We could move forward with a surer footing if we had learnt to integrate the memories of the past, and of God's

November is a month for memories – Remembrance and Memorial Services on 13th November are a focus for them. Then there's 'Remember, Remember, the 5th of November....' Why should we? Not to *celebrate* the treason and desire to eradicate Parliament, but to *learn* from the past so we can move towards a better future. Without that, the quip becomes true:

"History repeats itself.

Has to.

No-one listens."

Memory is important. Collective and individual memories can often be neglected in our frenetic paced world. Let's make November a month to celebrate and ponder the gift of our memories.

God bless you

Amanda



Early Christmas shopping? Save yourself some money, and help St Mary's as well!

easyfundraising is well named! As a reminder, when you shop on the internet, use easyfundraising to access shopping sites and for everything you buy, St Mary's receives a donation. Even better, there are regularly great deals available for many retailers - I've certainly saved money on my cat food, and used the site to find retailers I'd never heard of which has been very useful. There are even vouchers to print off and use in real shops.

Just visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryswoodkirk> and register. Always visit this site first and access shops through it and the system does the rest! It recognises how much you've spent and sorts the donations out. To make things even easier you can now download a toolbar which sits in your web browser all the time.

There is also a really serious point to this - we are really struggling with money. Contrary to popular belief, we and the Church of England are not rolling about in loads of money. It costs £1000 a week to run St Mary's (this is on a shoe-string!) and we are around £400 a week short of this amount. If a lot of people make a conscious effort to use easyfundraising for most internet shopping it could go towards making a difference to the future of our church, and our work for God in the community.

Remember you can ask friends and family to register and go through the site - it doesn't cost you a penny, and could save you pounds!

Many thanks, Neal

Cleaning of St. Mary's Church and Parish Centre

Due to Norman Hood being taken ill and in Hospital, the cleaning of the Church has to be the responsibility of the Church Family.

The PCC have decided that the best way to tackle the Church is to put a rota at the back of church for people to volunteer for this work. It will mean that once a week we will need help with the vacuuming of the carpet and dusting of the pews, then once a month we will get a working party together to give the Church a good clean.

We know that there are quite a few members of the church family that will find this impossible, but if you could work with a partner just to Hoover and dust this will be a great help.

We will be asking the organisations that use the Parish Centre to make sure that when they leave, it is left clean and tidy, and kitchen and toilets are checked.

We all wish Norman a speedy recovery and thank him and Rosemary for all the hard work they have put in over the years cleaning the Church and Centre.

Members of the PCC have volunteered to carry out this work during October, so the list will start in November.

Many thanks for all your help.

Gail. On behalf of the PCC



Albert's Chocolate Quiz

Part 2

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Stylish thoroughfare? | 8. Driver or Putter? |
| 2. Use a bar to find water for the thirsty? | 9. What conjuror with speech impediment calls his tricks? |
| 3. Symbols of Lancashire and Yorkshire? | 10.. Milky Way? |
| 4. Dating agencies? | 11. Is this used to carry pints? |
| 5. Speak softly? | 12. Glen Miller serenade? |
| 6. The Gospels? | 13. Ten US cents? |
| 7. Would this help to keep big cats caged? | 14. 100% Au? |
| | 15. Istanbul ecstasy? |

Stay-at-home Christmas?

Are you staying at home for Christmas?

Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university?

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Mother's Union Christmas Lunch

On Monday December 19th we are going to the Heath Cottage Hotel for a Christmas Fayre Lunch,.

The price for three courses is £16-95p per person.

The time is 12-30pm for lunch at 1pm. I

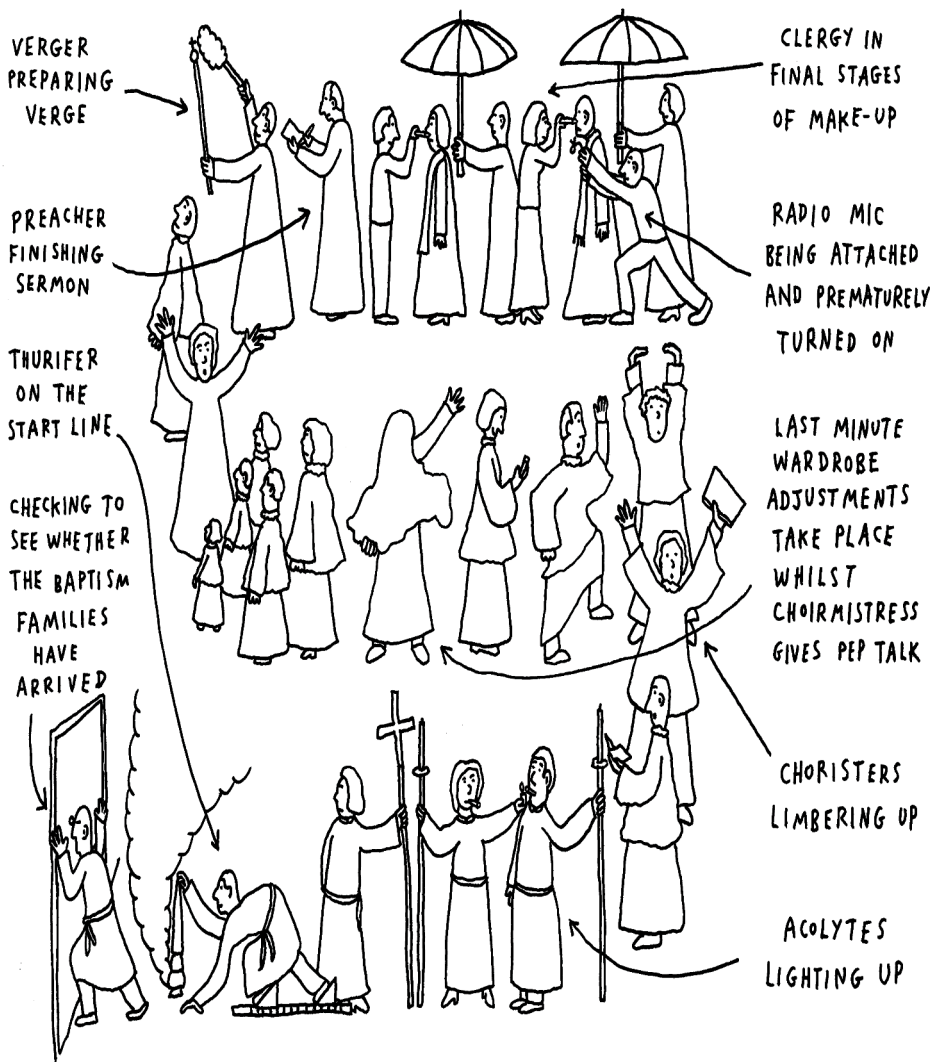
f you are not a member but would like to join us you will be very welcome, a £5-00 deposit is required asap, please see Betty Aveyard for choice of menu. Come and join us the food and company is excellent!

Kath Randall(committee member)

This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times. Reproduced with permission.

IN THE VESTRY

THE FINAL MOMENTS BEFORE THE SERVICE





Another fun Activity Morning for Christmas!

Saturday 10th December 2011

10am-1pm

St. Mary's Parish Centre

Aimed at children aged 4-11.

£3 per child.

Crafts, games, puppets, refreshments and lots of Crib– Fun!

To book your place ring Amanda on 01924 472375

Easyfundraising Update

Easyfundraising has recently updated their web site to make it much easier to use. As a reminder, if you shop online, St Mary's will receive a donation when you visit the shop through easyfundraising. It will cost you nothing more, and you may even save money as many stores have regular offers only available to people using easyfundraising.

Keep an eye on the latest offers by signing up for easyfundraising at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryswoodkirk>

easyfundraising is FREE to use plus you'll get access to hundreds of exclusive discounts and voucher codes, so not only will you be helping us, you'll be saving money yourself.

We've raised over **£70** with easyfundraising so far but we need your help to keep donations coming in. Sign up at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryswoodkirk> and start making a difference...simply by shopping.

Thanks!



Save Our Green Belt

If you are in church you will have seen some A4 leaflets regarding the Chidswell and Grange Rd Sites.

Kirklees Council will vote on the 23rd November to submit the Chidswell and Grange Rd sites to the next stage of the LDF Core Strategy. We need to persuade at least 35 of the 69 councilors to vote against it otherwise we will lose our GREENBELT.

Please contact your local councillors/display a SAVE OUR GREEN BELT sign (collect from church).

Watch this space for more information

Remembering loved ones.

We will be holding a special Memorial Service at 6pm on Sunday 13th November at which our loved ones can be remembered by name, and we can light candles in their memory. All those who have experienced a loss over the last year have been personally invited, but we are very aware that the pain of bereavement lasts much longer than a year. This service has importance for many of us in the journey through grief.

If you would like to join us for this service, the name of the one you have come to remember will be added to the list at your arrival at church. You will be invited, should you wish to do so, to come forward during the service, and light your candle in their memory as their name is read out.

Many who have come in previous years have found this a moving and healing service for them. Grief can be a lonely place – it's reassuring that you do not walk the path alone. I always find it a great joy to see again families who I had the privilege of supporting at the time of the funeral and hear how they have coped.

During this evening service we will also be joined by the British Legion, as we remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country, and those who continue to do so.

Please accept this invitation to join us if you are able to do so.

Amanda



Playgroup Update

Hello everyone,

We are well into the new term now and most of our new children have started. We are currently full on a Thursday with only a few remaining places on a Monday and Tuesday.

Our first half term was all about Nursery rhymes and the children all had lots of fun painting spiders, making a wall for Humpty Dumpty and making handprint stars of twinkle, twinkle.

Next half term is all about 'Celebrations' leading up to Christmas. There are always lots of lovely activities to get us all excited for the festive season!

If you require a place for your child, just call in for a registration form and pick up a prospectus in the entrance porch.

Lisa Fyffe

Have a Posada!!

(No room at the inn? Try the church!!)

Last year, we had an experiment. St. Mary's tried out a Posada for the first time. And it went down very well! The feedback has encouraged us to have a Posada again this year. "What's a Posada?" you may be wondering....

Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people dressed as Mary and Joseph used to travel from house to house asking for a room for the night and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Eve they would visit the local church to re-enact the nativity and place figures of Mary and Joseph into a crib scene.

Today, in Britain, things are done slightly differently! Small Nativity figures of Mary and Joseph and the donkey are prayed over, that the homes they visit will be blessed with the presence of the Christ Child, during a Sunday service. They are then entrusted to the care of a member of the congregation, who 'hosts' Mary and Joseph (and the donkey) for the first night. (Don't worry, they don't eat much!!).

A Journey Rota will be displayed at the back of church, and you simply add your name on a night which suits you, to 'host' the nativity figures. The folk who hosted them the night before will arrange to bring them to your house, and will say a simple prayer with you, which comes with the Posada set, as you take them in. The next day, you will take Mary and Joseph to the next home on the Journey Rota, and so on. We aim to have a map up in the porch detailing their journey that week, the route they have taken, and with the aid of a disposable camera, build up pictures of the families or individuals who have given Mary and Joseph room for the night. On Christmas Eve, Mary and Joseph will be brought by the final host into church for the Christingle celebrations. Last year, the photos of the families who had hosted the Posada were displayed in the porch after Christmas and proved quite a focus of attention. Why not get your photo there this time round?

Posada is a great way to consciously make room in our homes for the presence of the Christ-child. It's something which can involve the youngest families with children – how exciting, to have Mary and Joseph to stay with you overnight! But it also has much value and comfort to the oldest members of the congregation. Those who took part last year commented on the pleasure they found welcoming the bearers of the set, sharing a coffee and mince pie as well as the whole experience.

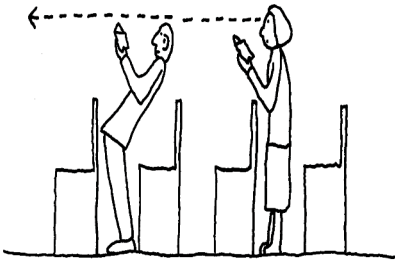
Though traditionally this journey goes on throughout the four weeks of Advent, we 'broke ourselves in easily' last year by only attempting a 12 night journey, from the Nativity Service to Christingle. Some folk found the rota was booked up before they got a chance to add their names, so we feel ready to embark on the more 'marathon' journey for Mary, Joseph and the donkey this time round.

Amanda

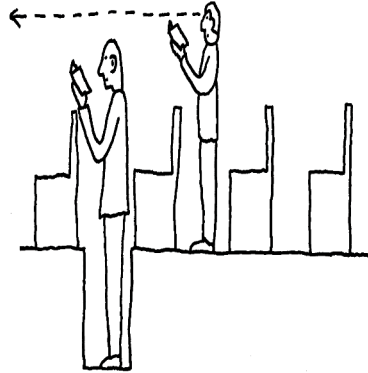
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DIFFERING HEIGHTS

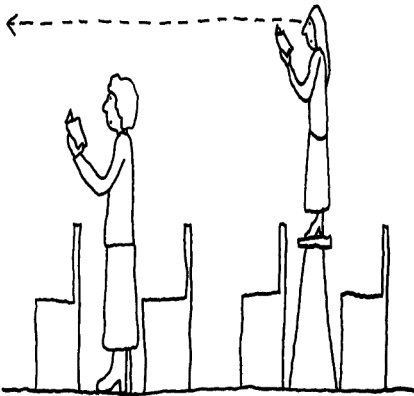
HOW TO COPE IN A PARISH SITUATION



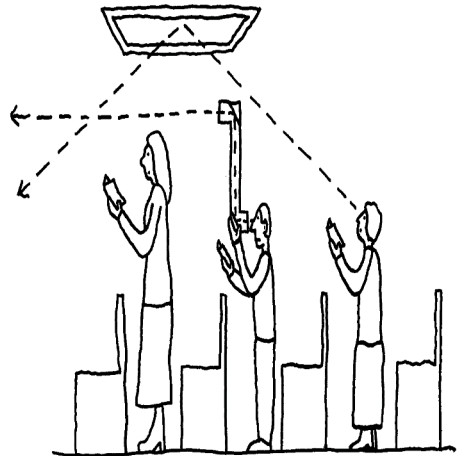
CONSIDERATE LEANING



PITS FOR THE LESS SHORT



PEDESTALS FOR THE LESS TALL



PERISCOPES AND CEILING MIRRORS

Diary for November and early December

Wed 2 nd	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10.am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
	8.pm	Home Group at 12, Woollin Crescent (Home of Gail & Dave Townsend)
Thurs 3 rd	2.pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sat 5 th	10am-1pm	Churchyard clear-up
Sun 6 th	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
	12.30pm	Baptism Service
Wed 9 th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Iona setting) & refreshments
Sun 13 th	10.30am	All Age Communion
	REMEMBRANCE 12 noon Holy Communion	
SUNDAY	6pm	Remembrance & Memorial Service with British Legion
Mon 14 th	12 noon	'First Steps' Toddler Service – Henry says "Thank You!"
	7.30pm	PCC meeting in Parish Centre
Wed 16 th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (1662 setting) & refreshments
	8pm	Home Group at 945 Leeds Road (Home of Peter Crookes & Margaret Hampshire)
Thurs 17 th	11am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
Sun 20 th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
Mon 21 st	2pm	Mothers' Union meeting– Val Howson "Experiences in a Salvation Army shop".
Wed 23 rd	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (with prayer for healing) & refreshments
Sat 26 th	10am-3pm	CHRISTMAS FAIR in Parish Centre.
Sun 27 th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & Gro-Zone
	12.30pm	Thanksgiving for the gift of a Child
ADVENT 1		
Wed 30 th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (One World Setting) & refreshments



December

Thurs 1 st	2pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sun 4 th	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
	12.30pm	Baptism Service
Wed 7 th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
	8pm	Home Group at 12 Woollin Crescent (Home of Gail & Dave Townsend)
Sat 10 th	10am-1pm	'It's CRIB-Fun Time!' Activity Morning for children. (see article for further details)
Sun 11 th	10.30am	All-Age Nativity Service (D.I.Y. style)
	12 noon	Holy Communion



All-sorts of ways to keep in touch with St Mary's

There are lots of ways you can find out what is going on around St Mary's:

1. Parish News - what you are reading now!!
2. Web site - this contains an up-to-date calendar, who's who, latest news, information and history about St Mary's. Bookmark it at www.stmarywoodkirk.org
3. Twitter - if you're one of the millions who uses Twitter, we tweet about upcoming service and events, and whenever a post is put on the web site. Follow us at @stmarywoodkirk
4. Facebook - another great way of keeping in touch with people and places. We have a Facebook page, 'like' it to receive regular updates about upcoming services and events as well as photos of the church and events. Find us at www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk

Remember, you can use any of these methods to get in touch with us!!

Pattern of Christmas Services 2011.

Sunday 4th Dec Advent 2.

8am Holy Communion (said)
10.30am Holy Communion & JAM Club
12.30pm Baptism Service

START OF TOY COLLECTION – UNWRAPPED, NEW ITEMS

Sunday 11th Dec Advent 3.

10.30am All-Age Service with Nativity
12.00 noon Holy Communion

END OF TOY COLLECTION.

Monday 12th Dec

12 noon 'First Steps' toddler service
"Henry's Christmas Party"

Thurs 15th Dec

7.00pm Westerton School Carol Service

Friday 16th Dec

9.45am Hill-Top Carol Service

Sunday 18th Dec Advent 4.

10.30am Holy Communion & JAM Club
4pm Carol Service by candlelight

Sat 24th Dec

3pm Christingle (aimed at younger children)
5pm Christingle (aimed at older children)
11.30pm First Communion of Christmas

Sunday 25th Dec

10.30am Holy Communion (all-age)

Sunday 1st Jan

8am Holy Communion (said)
10.30am Holy Communion – no JAM Club

All are welcome to join us at any of these services!



Albert's Quiz Answers

1. Quality Street. 2. Divine. 3. Roses. 4. Matchmakers. 5. Whisper. 6. Good News.
7. Lion bar. 8. Club. 9. Twix. 10. Galaxy. 11. Milk Tray. 12. Moonlight. 13. Dime.
14. All Gold. 15. Turkish Delight.

easyfundraising
.org.uk

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Karen Ford, Friends of the Cavendish School



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CONSULTANTS

**CHRISTINE BENNETT
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RESIDENCE
3 HOLLY COURT
TINGLEY

What's on

Mothers' Union	3 rd Monday in the month 7:30pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Playgroup	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:45am-12:15pm Lisa Fyffe 0776 1762661
Girl Guides	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
Toddler Group	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Jenny Willert 07950 278268
Prayer Group	2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays 7:15pm Derek Barraclough 01924 473375
Rainbows	Thursday 6.00pm Elizabeth Reid 07725 311023
Brownies	Thursday 7.00pm Hannah Tombling 01924 501892
Keep Fit Class	Thursday 8:00pm Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721
Young at Heart	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 2:00pm Clarice Gough 0113 252 7436
Beavers	Friday 5:00pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Cubs	Friday 6:30pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Scouts	Friday 7:45pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
Explorer Scouts	Friday 7:45pm Chris Ingham 0113 252 9976
Jam Club	First and 3 rd Sunday of the month 10.30am Derek Barraclough 01924 472375

Services

Sundays, except the 2nd Sunday of each month

10:30am Parish Communion & Jam Club

1st Sunday of the month

8:00am Holy Communion

12:30pm Baptism Service

2nd Sunday of the month

10:30am Family Service

12:00 Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month

10:30am The Gro-Zone interactive worship in the
Parish Centre

12:30pm Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

Wednesdays

10:00am Holy Communion

1st Thursday

11:00am Holy Communion at Soothill Manor

Monday to Friday

8:45am Morning Prayer

To arrange for baptisms, confirmations, funerals, the reading of banns or any general matter, please contact the vicar;

Amanda Barraclough St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk,
WF12 7JL 01924 472375

Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

To book weddings please contact the Wedding Coordinator, Gail
Townsend, 0113 2528710

Email: weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org