

# **Parish News**

**St Mary's, Woodkirk**

**Heaven on Earth?**

**September 2015**



[www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)

**This Month: Do you give a  
fig?; Bread of Heaven;  
What's your view?  
Walking and Running with  
God.**

## Who's who at Woodkirk

<b>Vicar of St Mary's:</b>	Currently Vacant . St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk, WF12. 7JL
<b>Lay Pastoral Minister:</b>	Gail Townsend 0113 2528710
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Brian Gledhill 01924 405790 Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
<b>Deputy churchwardens:</b>	Gary Mortimer Glyn Jennings David Townsend
<b>Verger:</b>	Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Organist:</b>	Tim Freemantle 07776 150640
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Dawn Tattersfield
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Barbara Tate
<b>Social Chairman:</b>	Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
<b>Parish Centre Hire:</b>	Sally Shaw 01924 475048
<b>Parish Centre Manager:</b>	Glyn Jennings 01924 470272
<b>Parish Legacy Officer:</b>	David Townsend
<b>Child Protection Officer:</b>	Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Dave Townsend 0113 2528710
<b>Data Protection Officer:</b>	Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
<b>Magazine Editor &amp; Weekly News Sheet..</b>	David Townsend 0113 2528710 Email: dave2408.townsend@gmail.com Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month. Mobile: 07745 301746 Contributions for the Weekly Sheet by Thursday evening please.
<b>Deanery Synod rep:</b>	Glyn Jennings

### **Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:**

Brian Gledhill, Julie Hyde, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Dave Townsend, Barbara Tate, Tim Freemantle.

If you enjoy the magazine— a donation of 50p really helps to keep it going!

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## **Welcome!**

Enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers. Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. May God bless you and all whom you love.

### **Parish News by Post**

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending a minimum donation of £12 a year to cover magazine costs including post and packaging to: Margaret Longden, 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Call Margaret on 01924 473064. It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far. Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

### **Web site & Twitter**

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at: [www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)

Copies of the magazine can be downloaded from the web site from the middle of the month of publication.

We are on Twitter: [twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk)

### **Wheelchair Access**

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

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## **No Regrets.**

**Good People give you Happiness;  
Bad ones give you Experience;  
The worst ones give you Lessons;  
And the best ones  
Give you Memories!**



## Prayerful Thought for September

*Dawn looks at our response to difficult situations...*

Hi there.

One of the side effects of studying theology is that I do read my bible more, and then I find myself, when doing something completely different, remembering a bible passage, story or parable.

This was the case recently when I was picking raspberries in our allotment. There were loads of raspberries on these particular plants and I remembered that we had removed some raspberry canes after poor fruit yields last year, but some we agreed we would leave in, and it was these now that were providing lots of fruit. Have you guessed yet which parable I thought about?

Well, it was the Parable of the Barren Fig Tree from Luke's Gospel Chapter 13 6-9.

This is about the man who had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, he came looking for fruit on it and found none. He complained to his gardener that he had looked after this tree for three years, but it had never produced any fruit, so he told the gardener to cut it down, as it was wasting the soil. However, the gardener said to him to leave it alone for one more year, the gardener would look after it, then if it bore fruit next year all would be well but if not, he could then cut it down.

We had not dug up these raspberries even though they had not given us much fruit, but we had looked after the allotment, used fertiliser and let the soil rest over winter and now there were lots of raspberries.

We had given these plants another chance, given them a little care and now they were doing well.

This made me think about whether we tend to give people another chance, do you give someone the benefit of the doubt?

There have been occasions when someone may have 'had a go' at me for something, and my natural reaction is to respond and defend myself, or the other way around, a situation or event annoys or upsets me and I react angrily. But usually when I do this, I don't feel good afterwards, I quite often feel mean or remain angry.

How would I have felt if when the person had a go at me, rather than shouting or getting angry with them, I had thought to myself, well maybe that person is having a really bad day, or is facing some difficulty at home. And instead of being annoyed by something someone has done to me or someone I care about, I had kept my temper, perhaps counted to 10 and then let the situation go.

Is it really such a bad thing not to get angry with someone else even if you are hurt by what they have said or done, that has had an impact on you or someone you care about? Can we find it in ourselves to give that person another chance, giving them the benefit of the doubt?

This is what Jesus' parable was about, giving that fig tree one last chance before he considered cutting it down.

Those of you who are or have brought up children I am sure, would have applied this principle to your children. There will have been occasions when your child did something but being a fair parent, you gave them the benefit of the doubt, you gave them a second chance.

Well this is what Jesus is talking about in this parable. It is suggested that the owner of the vineyard was God and the gardener is Jesus, and that in this instance the barren fig tree is 'the people Israel'.

God had invested in His people but yet they were not 'fruitful' for Him.

Now I don't know about you, but when I consider this idea with my getting angry when people have a go at me or hurt me, or someone I care about, thinking about all the times God will have forgiven me when I have hurt or had a go at someone else, really makes me think.

A lot of Christians have difficulty with the task Jesus gave us to be disciples and tell people about Him, and if you think that to do this you have to strike up a conversation with someone about being a Christian and try to get someone to come to church, then yes, that is quite difficult. Now if you can do this, that is excellent, but it isn't something that many of us find easy to do at all.

However, another way of being a disciple for Jesus, is to live a Christian life, let people see the love of Jesus in you, in how you live and how you behave.

To me, giving people the benefit of the doubt and not responding by hurting someone for the hurt they have caused me, is one way of behaving in a Christian like way. When I consider many news stories or more particularly television shows that focus on people's behaviour in situations, I think how different that situation would have been and how less destructive to a friendship or relationship if the parties involved would have counted to ten or given someone another chance. However, I know that wouldn't be any good for television, but how much better for families, friends and communities.

We all get angry, even Jesus got angry and lost His temper, but it is about taking that step back, not jumping in there, taking that calming breath. Try to give a situation a second chance, like my raspberries, if we had reacted angrily and pulled them up last year, I wouldn't have been enjoying my raspberries with cream on a lovely meringue nest.

Show the love of God in the way you live your life and how you interact with others and let's hope we can start a trend, and then we can all bear fruit for Jesus.

Dawn

## **Get Fit with the Mothers Union...**

On October 3rd 2015 the MU are thrilled to be taking part in The Fix Event's Richmond Park 5k and 10k Race. This event is open to both men and women and they invite you to join the team to have lots of fun by running, jogging or walking to raise money for their vital work. You can choose a distance of either 5K or 10K and the event takes place on closed roads around the stunningly beautiful Autumnal Richmond Park. Whether it's your first race or you're an experienced runner this is a pressure free, great day out and we hope you will join the team!

If you would like to be involved contact MU on their website today for more information and to receive a voucher code for discount on your entry!

# The Bread of Life.

*Gail looks into the meaning of being fed by Jesus.*

When reading this passage I did some research I discovered that all of Jesus 'I AM' statements are found in John's gospel. They include:

1. I am the bread of Life which came down from heaven (6:35,41,51)
2. I am the light of the world (8:12; 9:5)
3. I am the door of the sheep (10:7,9)
4. I am the good shepherd (10:11,14)
5. I am the son of God (10:36)
6. I am the resurrection and the life (11:25)
7. I am the way, the truth, and the life (14:6)
8. I am the (true) vine (15:1,5)

Each one of the I AM 's represents a particular relationship of Jesus to the spiritual NEEDS of men and women. Jesus is the Light in the darkness, the Gate to security, and the Shepherd that guides. He is the way, the truth and the life. In every one of these we see that Jesus wants us to receive him, NOT for the gifts he can give us, but for what he can BE to us. Right after the feeding of the 5 thousand Jesus made the first of the recorded I AM statements.

This was the point where Jesus had reached the apex of his popularity. In fact, the crowds wanted to take him --- by force if necessary --- and MAKE him their King. Because of this, Jesus crossed the lake to get away from their demands. But the next day when they figured out where he was, the growing crowd commandeered boats and followed him across the lake. It was at that point that Jesus told a record-breaking crowd: "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

John chapter 6 tells us they grumbled, they mumbled, they argued, they whined, and ultimately they left --- in droves. The text gives us some clues as to the kind of people that left Jesus behind

when he preached the “bread of life” sermon. For one thing, the folk just couldn’t stomach it when Jesus shifted from physical food to spiritual talk.

Many of the people who followed Jesus at this point were hoping for a political saviour. They wanted political solutions, free handouts, and material goodies. For them Jesus was the latest and greatest gravy train. But Jesus told the crowd: Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.

As amazing as it sounds, Jesus wants a genuine love relationship with every one of us. That kind of relationship can’t be bought with goodies, and it can’t be built on rules.

Think about it. Jesus had fed over 5,000 people with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread. The very next day, they are asking him for a SIGN! Obviously the miracle of feeding the 5,000 gave them enough faith to climb in boats and row all the way across the lake to find Jesus. But yesterday’s miracle was not enough to last until the next morning

Peter understood what the crowds had missed. The Apostles weren’t there for fish sandwiches, or to start a Jewish revolt against Rome, or to find a new list of rules to keep,. They were there because they believed and knew that Jesus was the Holy One of God --- the Messiah --- the Bread of Life. All they needed was what they already had --- Jesus himself.

Is He all you need? Is he YOUR Bread of Life? If you had been there the day Jesus preached the Bread of Life sermon would you have walked away, or would you have echoed Peter’s words, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy one of God.”

Gail

## All Age @ St. Mary's...The Bread of Life

**‘Everyone who believes in me shall not go hungry.’**

This month we look at feeding the hungry.

Malcolm, dressed as a tramp, walked up the aisle. He seemed to be carrying a sign—it said ‘SPARE SOME CHANGE?’

Gill takes up the story:

*‘I see them often around the town – or walking along the side of the road. Scruffy people in ragged clothes. I think they may be homeless. You’ve seen them too, haven’t you? What do you think when you see them? Sometimes they ask if I can ‘spare some change’? I must be honest and admit that I often think if I gave them money, what would they buy? Would it really be food – or would they spend it on alcohol or even drugs??? Sometimes it’s hard to know what to do for the best.’*

What do you think Jesus might want us to do when we see these people? Perhaps he might want us to buy them some food from a ‘fast food’ restaurant? Jesus was always concerned about the physical needs of people. That is why he spent so much of his time healing the sick, giving sight to the blind, and feeding the hungry. Don’t you think he wants us to do the same?

Jesus wasn’t just concerned about empty stomachs -- he was even more concerned about empty hearts. One day, after filling the empty stomachs of over 5,000 people, Jesus said to them, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever." Jesus was telling them that he came to give his life so that they could have everlasting life -- if they would believe and trust in him.

Jesus wants us to be concerned about empty stomachs, but he also wants us to be concerned about empty hearts. As we share our bread with the hungry, let us also share the story of Jesus, the Bread of Life, so that they may eat and never die.

What would resident Puppets George and Jemima make of it, we wondered:

## GEORGE & JEMIMA

### WHAT'S BREAD GOT TO DO WITH IT?

George pops up (eating a slice of bread):

Yum, Yum, cor this bread is so good.

Jemima pops up.

What's that you've got there George?

George. (Mouth full of bread) mmffmff yom, yum mff mff

Jemima. Blimey George can't understand a word you're saying.

George. (Swallows hard). I said its bread. I now know why all you people sitting here come to church.

Jemima. And what does a slice of bread have to do with people coming to church?

George. Well its obvious init. Free grub.

Jemima. Is that what you think people come to church, just to get free grub?

George. Yeh, and guess what?

Jemima. What?

George. Its not just bread neither, if you stay awake until the end, you get free bickies and orange juice, although last week it was grapefruit juice, yuk, I hate grapefruit juice. Mind you, all the oldies ever get is tea & coffee. Mind you, when we've drunk all that stuff, at least we now have toilets to go to. Ha ha ha.



Jemima. I think your barking up the wrong tree George.

George. Barking up the wrong tree, what do think I am, a dog?

Jemima. No, I mean you've got the wrong end of the stick.

George. Wow! They throw sticks in church too. Yippee! I'm gonna like this church.

Jemima. Are you sure you're not a dog George?

George. Wuf Wuf. ha ha ha.

Jemima. Look George. No free snacks, no sticks, but we do take communion when we go to church, and sometimes we are fed, but not in the way you might think.

George. Huh!

Jemima. It's like this George. We get fed in church on something that Jesus called The Bread of Life.

George. I don't get it.

Jemima. Then I'll explain. You see George; a lot of people are hungry in this world, both in their bellies like you, and in their hearts & souls.

George. So, just like when I get hungry and my tummy starts to hurt, some people are hungry and their hearts start to hurt.?

Jemima. In a manner of speaking, yes. In other words a lot of people don't know about God, and they don't have many things to be thankful for, because they can't see that God provides everything we need to be happy.

George. Like what?

Jemima. Well, like friends. Remember when you and me first met at Sunday school. Remember how lonely you felt George?

George. (Sobbing) Oh shut up, you'll set me off.

Jemima. Yeh but I felt lonely too, because my friend Cindy had just moved away and I was so sad.

George. (Crying) Boo hoo boo hoo.

Jemima. But when I met you George, I knew that God had sent me to meet you, and you to meet me and I could have a new friend. So you see, God does an awful lot to feed us. He's always there to feed our hearts and souls.

George. I just wish he'd feed my mouth, I'm starving.



Jemima. But you know what George?  
 George. What?  
 Jemima. The best way God feeds us, his greatest gift of all, is the bread of life.  
 George. You mean Jesus, don't you?  
 Jemima. Yes George. Jesus is the best way that God feeds us, because he loves us more than anything, and he promised to be with us always and forever.  
 George. WOW. What a wonderful gift. Everybody should know about Jesus The Bread of Life. You children are so lucky to be able to come to church and learn more about Jesus.  
 Jemima. And you know what George?  
 George. What?  
 Jemima. Jesus The Bread of Life is a gift from God that never runs out, in fact, we can share Jesus' love with everyone we know, and he still has more love to give.  
 George. Does that mean more bread, bickies and orange juice?  
 Jemima. Yes George, yes.  
 George. No grapefruit juice or throwing sticks though.  
 Jemima. Say goodbye George.  
 George. Goodbye George.

After that we had a brain work out—so Dawn set us a word quiz. We had to unscramble these words:

LVIE	(LIVE)
BERAD	(BREAD)
HAVENE	(HEAVEN)
FSLEH	(FLESH)
NOWD	(DOWN)

Then, taking letters from each word, we spelled 'FOREVER'. Brian helped us to sing 'Here I am forever' with guitar accompaniment and then Liz brought a huge dough ball out into the church and we each tore off a piece to take home and make bread!

Sundays have never been so busy.

David

## C of E at the Yorkshire Show...

The Great Yorkshire Show in Harrogate - England's premier annual agricultural event - took place this summer (remember that?), with nearly 4000 people visiting the Church on Show stand - including Bishop Nick.

Run by a team of ecumenical volunteers, a whole range of creative and family activities were held inside an old cricket pavilion and on the path outside.

Revd Maureen Browell, Vicar of Silkstone and Hoylandswaine in West Barnsley, says, "It's a real sanctuary for many and often a place of encounter. We're careful not to preach, but simply give an invitation to people take what's on offer.

"People come back year after year. Someone came this year to say how much he'd been helped four years ago when his wife was ill."

Some of the activities include a prayer tree, with each colourful ribbon representing a person or situation. Maureen says, "As the tree fills up, it's a lovely reminder that our prayers join with the prayers of others."

The forgiveness table is one that many find moving. Maureen adds, "Each person can take a small piece of dirty slate and wipe it clean with water. Many do it thoughtfully and stay a while. They can take it away - along with other mementos - as a reminder of our need to continually wipe the slate clean."

Another activity is a prayer card onto which people are invited to put their finger print.

The volunteers write up comments that people have made:-

"This made my day. I'm sending finger print prayer cards to my sons who are in the army - to remind them that God loves them, and their mum does too." "Thanks for the activities outside - it made it easier to come over your threshold."



## **What's your View?**

*To attract a new Vicar we have to prepare a 'Parish Profile' - and you can help...*

As a valued member of St Mary's, you will be aware that we are currently in interregnum (without a Vicar) since Rev Amanda left in July. As part of the process to appoint a new Vicar, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is required to put together a document called the Parish Profile which is used by prospective Vicars to find out about St Mary's and the area – it should say who we are and what we feel.

The Parish Profile is a fairly weighty document going through in detail information about the Parish, demographics, the church, people, services, Vicarage, other organisations, etc.

To make this document 'personal', we would like input from church members about what St Mary's means to you personally, what you get from it, and actually what more St Mary's could be for you. We intend to add these into the Parish Profile.

Your comments are entirely anonymous and can be as short or as long as you wish. You can leave them at any of the following:

**Box at back of church**

**Through the Vicarage letterbox**

**Emailed to [vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org)**

**Messages on Twitter/Facebook**

We do need your messages by the end of September 2015!! While we are in the interregnum, services continue as normal with visiting priests for the Communion services. We are also looking forward to a full programme of Christmas services including the Carols by Candlelight on 20th December at 4pm and the Christingle Services on Christmas Eve. St Mary's will continue to look forward during this time of interregnum!

Please bookmark our web site [www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org) to keep up-to-date with upcoming events, and if you're on social media, follow us on Twitter and Facebook – see above.

Securing a new Vicar takes time. However, we will endeavour to keep everybody informed with our progress regularly through church notices, the Parish News, and the web site.  
Many thanks for your support.

St Mary's Parochial Church Council

# Ride and Stride with Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust

*Visit unique historic buildings, see the beautiful countryside, get some exercise and have fun with friends and family.*

Taking place on Saturday 12th September 2015, Ride +Stride is a sponsored event in which people from all over the country raise much needed funds for their local churches.

Bear Grylls, Adventurer, Writer and Chief Scout says this about the event:

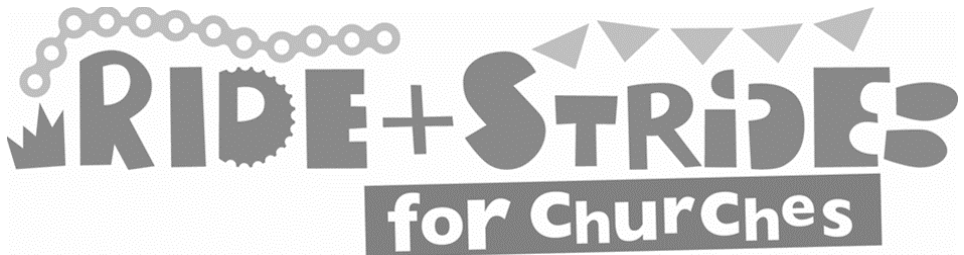
*“Many historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are battling to survive. Roofs leak, ancient timbers rot and medieval stonework crumbles.*

*Now you can help by joining the Ride + Stride adventure. A sponsored drive, bike ride or walk, discovering beautiful churches, which also raises money for their repair and preservation”. Make 2015 the year you get involved and help raise money to preserve some of Yorkshire’s precious and unique places of worship.”*

You can follow one of our suggested routes, taking in the some of the best churches in Calderdale, Kirklees and Holderness, or you may like to plan your own route?

Whatever your plans, get involved. All proceeds are split between the YHCT and a church of your choice, so what better way to raise vital funds for the local church you love and value?

Go to [YHCT.org.uk](http://YHCT.org.uk) for more information.



## Here I am Lord...

*Gail invites us to take a walk with God.*

Jesus sent his disciples out to their own hometowns to proclaim the wonderful message of the gospel. That message was that the people should repent of their sin and turn to God for forgiveness. Like Jesus, His disciples would be greeted with both faith and rejection. This was the path that Jesus walked. It was the path that His disciples walked. And now, it is the path that we must walk.

We as Christians have made a commitment to walk this path as we have started a journey with God. It began as a desire among us; just as the people of Nazareth had their own opinions about how Gods kingdom should come into the world and come to them we too will meet people with different opinions.

Opinions - everybody has one. When talking about faith and religion people often hear the response, "that's just your opinion". While this seems like an obstacle it is also an opportunity.

Jesus calls us to meet people where they are. Our text tells us that Jesus sent the disciple to where the people lived. Just as Jesus Christ came into the world as a real man, made flesh and blood in His incarnation, we too are asked to approach the people of the world personally. Jesus told the disciples to stay with the people in their own homes, to live, eat and breathe their lives. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer, shortly before being executed by the Nazis, said: "During the past year or so I've come to know and understand...the profound this-worldliness of Christianity. The Christian is not a (religious man), but simply a man, as Jesus was a man." Christians live real lives in a real world. Therefore, we meet people where they are.

Our Lord Jesus has gone before us and shown us how to walk the path, to be His witnesses and to embrace the world with the Love of our Heavenly Father. He has shown us how. He sent His disciple out two by two. Now it's our turn. You are not alone; He walks with you.

Gail

## **Climate Change on the Religious Agenda.**

*The General Synod pledged that urgent action is needed to tackle climate change, in a wide ranging motion acknowledging that global warming is disproportionately affecting the world's poorest.*

The Synod overwhelmingly backed a call for world leaders to seek to limit the global rise in average temperatures to a maximum of 2 C - widely considered to be the threshold above which the impacts of climate change will be the most severe. The motion on combating climate change, the Paris climate change conference and the mission of the Church, included a pledge to draw attention to an initiative to pray and fast for the success of the Paris talks.

The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, the Church of England's lead bishop on the environment, introducing the motion, said:

*"In the last 150 years we have burned fossil fuels that took one billion years to lay down in the earth. The earth cannot sustain this level of consumption. This is about our 'reading the signs of the times' and 'seeking the common good'. The science, economics and politics all point in the same direction. Climate change disproportionately affects the poorest. They are most vulnerable to increased storms, rising sea level, changing patterns of rainfall, floods and drought. We live interconnected lives. What is bad for our neighbours is bad for us."*

Speaking during the debate, the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby called on the Church to look outwards to tackle climate change. Archbishop Justin said: *"We have unrivalled access to networks around the world. How are we going to use them and look beyond our own boundaries as the Church of England to draw in the resources of the whole Communion? This is a moment not for just looking inwards."*

Negotiators from more than 190 nations will gather in Paris in December to discuss a new global agreement on climate change aimed at limiting greenhouse gas emissions from 2020 when current commitments run out. During the afternoon session, the Synod also overwhelmingly welcomed the new climate change policy adopted by the Church's investing bodies.

The new policy has already been welcomed from both within and outside the Church. The Bishop of Salisbury called the policy 'exemplary'. Nick Stern, Chair of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change, has praised the investing bodies 'fine and wise leadership'. Christiana Figueres, the Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, has said the policy is 'expressive of investor integrity'.

## Reflections from Above.

*Gail takes a deeper look at the 'thought for the week'.*

Each week at St. Mary's we are given a News-sheet. This informs us of what is taking place at St. Marys through that week, it also has some thoughts on the first and last page, along with a reading for the week, I find these very useful.

Taking a look at week-commencing the 17th August I found them very inspiring and seemed to fit in how I was feeling at that time. We were given a passage each day from the book of Judges.

Just the title made me think, how often do we Judge people, just by looking at them, by their clothes, by their manners, by their looks? We do not always wait until they speak to us or until we get to know them before we judge. I do try to get to know someone before I judge, but this is not easy in this world we live in, everyone seems to be judging everyone else. We now have so many TV programmes with judges on them, and contestants hoping for a glittering career if they win.

As Christians we should look to be judged by the one person who knows us better than we know ourselves, who gave his life for us on the cross: Jesus Christ. So let us follow in his footsteps and not be too eager to judge others.

On Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd we were given the book of Ruth. Ruth is one of my favourite books in the Bible, it tells of a young woman who leaves her family (who are Moabites) and marries into a family from Bethlehem - followers of the one true God. When the men of the family die, Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law, decides to go back to her people in Bethlehem. Ruth begs to go with her as she wants to know more about the one true God.

Here we have a woman in Ruth who puts all her faith in Naomi to teach her about God. She is going to a strange place and as a Moabite will be an outcast, but she is so desperate to learn about God that she is prepared to face the wrath of the people of Bethlehem. I wonder how many of us would be that brave? When we look around our world today there are still people facing danger to follow their beliefs. We are the lucky ones - we have the freedom to worship in our churches and in our homes.

We know as Christians, God is always with us walking beside us in our daily lives. Let us stand tall in our faith and put out trust in God as Ruth did.

Gail

## **New Woman Bishop joins the House of Lords.**

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, consecrated two new female Church of England bishops today in a service at Canterbury Cathedral.

Bishop-designate Rachel Treweek, who was Archdeacon of Hackney and previously a speech and language therapist, was consecrated as the new Bishop of Gloucester. Bishop Rachel is the first female diocesan bishop in the Church of England and its most senior female bishop. She will also be the first female bishop to take a seat in the House of Lords.

The Revd Canon Dame Sarah Mullally, who before ordination had a distinguished service as a nurse in the NHS, becoming its youngest Chief Nursing Officer for England in 1999, was consecrated as the new Suffragan Bishop of Crediton (near Exeter).

Bishop Rachel and Bishop Sarah are the third and fourth female bishops to be appointed in the Church of England respectively. Archbishop Justin led the service, whose music was led by Canterbury Cathedral Girls' Choir.



Right Revd. Rachel Treweek



## **Woodlands Trust News.**

### **Ash Dieback –update.**

Dieback of Ash is a serious disease that is killing Ash Trees across northern Europe. Usually fatal it causes leaf loss, lesions on the bark and dieback of the tree crown. The disease was first identified in the UK in 2012.

Chalara dieback of ash, also known as Chalara or ash dieback, is a disease of ash trees caused by a fungus, *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (previously known as *Chalara fraxinea*). It causes leaf loss, lesions on the bark and dieback of the crown of the tree.

There are several key signs to look out for on ash trees:

#### **Symptoms:**

- Dark lesions – often long, thin and diamond-shaped – appear on the trunk at the base of dead side shoots
- The tips of shoots become black and shrivelled
- Blackened, dead leaves – may look a bit like frost damage
- The veins and stalks of leaves, normally pale in colour, turn brown
- Saplings have dead tops and side shoots
- In mature trees, dieback of twigs and branches in the crown, often with bushy growth further down the branches where new shoots have been produced
- In late summer and early autumn (July to October), small white fruiting bodies can be found on blackened leaf stalks

#### **Causes**

- The disease is spread by spores from the fruiting bodies of the fungus produced on fallen ash leaves. These airborne spores can disperse naturally via wind over tens of kilometres
- Prior to the ban in October 2012 on the movement of ash trees, spread over longer distances was likely to have been via the movement of infected ash plants

#### **Outlook**

- The initial discovery in the UK in February 2012 was at a nursery and subsequent cases linked to imports of infected nursery stock used at tree planting sites.
- There are 130,000 hectares of ash woodland in the UK and 12 million ash trees outside of woods. It is the 12 million ash trees outside of woods (in parklands, gardens, hedgerows, along roads etc) that are most at risk
- Chalara's continued spread is likely to be by spores on clothing, footwear or vehicles. Unfortunately this makes the disease very difficult to contain. Good biosecurity can help reduce pest and disease transmission

- We don't know what the full impact of Chalara dieback of ash will be. Evidence suggests young trees are killed quickly while many mature ash trees can resist infection for some time until eventually dying or becoming weakened and succumbing to attack from another pest or pathogen.

### **What Woodlands Trust are doing:-**

We are at the forefront of the fight against ash dieback. From researching resistant strains to campaigning for better biosecurity, we are in a race against time. Find out how we are working in partnership with other organisations to safeguard ash populations for the future.



## Poetry Corner.

A Dream within a Dream.

Take this kiss upon the brow!  
And, in parting from you now,  
Thus much let me avow--  
You are not wrong, who deem  
That my days have been a dream;  
Yet if hope has flown away  
In a night, or in a day,  
In a vision, or in none,  
Is it therefore the less gone?  
All that we see or seem  
Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar  
Of a surf-tormented shore,  
And I hold within my hand  
Grains of the golden sand--  
How few! yet how they creep  
Through my fingers to the deep,  
While I weep--while I weep!  
O God! can I not grasp  
Them with a tighter clasp?  
O God! can I not save  
One from the pitiless wave?  
Is all that we see or seem  
But a dream within a dream?

Edgar Allen Poe

Poe was born in the early 19th century and lived a tumultuous life, from being orphaned when very young to talk of dabbling with drugs and alcohol. Despite this, his writing was accomplished and he was credited with being one of the earliest American practitioners of the short story.

## SANDRA'S SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

I hope your holidays were enjoyable and that your garden was in good shape on your return. You may get some late sweetcorn to harvest and the odd apple that is ready for eating.

Here are some jobs for this month:-

1. Sow some winter lettuce.
2. Plant strawberry plants to increase your stock. Aim to replace plants after their third year.
3. Earth up celery and leeks.
4. Plant spring cabbage.
5. Lift main crop potatoes. Check they are ready by rubbing the skin. If it doesn't come off easily they are ready.
6. Plant tulips for next year.
7. Day lengths are now reducing and house plants slowing down so you need to water them less. It is important to make sure they do not dry out though. Lift a pot and judge whether it feels heavy (and therefore wet) or light (dry)
8. Start to clear away some of the crops that have gone over (ended) like runner beans and peas. I always leave the roots of peas & beans in the ground as they replace Nitrogen.
9. Sow chervil, rocket, hardy lettuce, lamb's lettuce, winter radishes, pak choi, spring onions and carrots in pots to take under cover later.
10. Division of perennials can begin. Start with those varieties that are overcrowded, or the first to die down for the year.

Sandra

Oh, remember last month? David kindly mentioned my accident. Well, that fibula's a femur. All nailed & screwed up and down to one crutch now. Thank you to all of you who have expressed concern. S.



# WYAD

## *Anglican Cursillo*

Three day Cursillo weekend  
10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
at Wydale Hall

The 3 day Cursillo weekend is planned to be a very positive experience - with talks, prayer and meditations.

It is serious, but enormous fun and fully affirming of life and faith. Most of us come away with our faith deepened, feeling inspired and empowered to be more fully ourselves.

It is for many a life changing experience through which God inspires, renews and challenges us.

For more information please speak to  
Lynette Barnes 01765 602838



## **15th Morley (Woodkirk St. Mary's) Scout Group.**

### **What is A Million Hands?**

We want to mobilise half a million Scouts in support of four social issues chosen by our young people. From dementia to those disabled by society, from improving the mental wellbeing and resilience of our communities to ensuring everyone, everywhere has access to clean water and sanitation... These are big issues of our time, but our young people want to tackle them head on.

Our aim is to build real and lasting relationships in communities that will enable young people to continue taking social action long into the future. We are marrying our Movement of over half a million people, reaching into every community across the UK, with the knowledge and expertise of organisations committed to social change.

By providing you with high quality Resource Packs, access to local support and activities completely aligned with existing badges and awards within the 6-25 Programme, we want to help our young people keep their promise to help other people.

What issues can my young people tackle?

One movement. Four social issues. A Million Hands. These are the four social issues young people from across the UK selected. Which one will your young people choose? Once they have decided, click below to get all the resources you need.

#### **Dementia**

Over 850,000 people in the UK have dementia and millions more are affected in some way. Could your young people make their lives better?

#### **Disability**

Over 11 million people in the UK are disabled by society. This affects their education, employment opportunities and even their safety.

#### **Mental wellbeing**

One in four people in the UK will experience mental health problems every year. Young people could help others to be more resilient. Why not help them

#### **Clean water and sanitation**

650 million people in the world live without safe water. Scouting is a global movement, what's stopping our young people make global change?

Gail

## Brian's Humour Page

Here's your English lesson for the day!

"Complete" or "Finished"?

No dictionary has ever been able to satisfactorily define the difference between "complete" and "finished."

However, during a recent linguistic conference, held in London, attended by some of the best linguists in the world, Samsundar Balgobin, a Guyanese linguist, was the presenter when he was asked to make that very distinction.

The question put to him by a colleague in the erudite audience was this:

"Some say there is no difference between 'complete' and 'finished.' Please explain the difference in a way that is easy to understand."

Mr. Balgobin's response:

"When you marry the right woman, you are 'complete.'

If you marry the wrong woman, you are 'finished.'

And, if the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are 'completely finished.'"

## The Importance of Walking

Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at £4000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where he is.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing...

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 quid. Haven't lost a pound.

The advantage of exercising every day is so when you die, they'll say: 'Well, she looks good doesn't she.'

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it. AND...

Every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a Happy Hour and by the time I leave, I look just fine.

Brian

# Diary for September and Early October 2015.

## SEPTEMBER

Wed 2nd 10am Holy Communion  
With Revd. Glenn Coggins

Fri 4th 1pm Wedding

Sat 5th 9.30-11.30am Church & churchyard clean-up

**Sun 6th 10.30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**12.30pm Baptism Service**  
**Services conducted by Revd. Paul Ainsworth**

Wed 9th 10am Morning Praise with Gail & refreshments

Thurs 10th 11am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge

**Sun 13th 10.30am All-Age Worship**  
**12 noon Holy Communion**  
**12 noon Service conducted by Ven. Paul Hooper**

Mon 14th 7:30pm PCC Meeting in Church

Wed 16th 10am Holy Communion  
With Revd. Glenn Coggins

**Sun 20th 10:30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**Services conducted by Revd. Chris Johnson**

Wed 23rd 10am Morning Praise with Gail & refreshments

**Sun 27th 10:30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**Services conducted by Revd. Elizabeth Lee**

Wed 30th 10am Holy Communion  
With Revd. Glenn Coggins

## EARLY OCTOBER

**Sun 4th 10.30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**12.30pm Baptism Service**  
**Services conducted by Revd. John Pinder-Packard**

Wed 7th 10am Holy Communion  
With Revd. Glenn Coggins

**Sun 11th 10.30am All-Age Worship**  
**12 noon Holy Communion**  
**Service conducted by Revd. Elizabeth Lee**



## **Albert's 'Christian Top Fives' Quiz**

1. Which are the five animals most mentioned in the Bible?
2. Which five names are most mentioned in the Bible?
3. Which are the five most used words in the Bible?
4. What were the names of the first five popes?
5. What are the top five names most used by popes?
6. Which are the five nationalities to provide most popes?
7. Name the first five books of the New Testament
8. Name the first five books of the New Testament
9. Who are the first five people named in the Bible?
10. Name the countries which have the largest populations of  
Hindus, Christians, Muslims, Buddhists and Jews

Answers: Score up to five points for each question, irrespective of the order of your answers.

Albert

Answers on P34.

# St Mary's Registers of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

## **Baptisms:-**

In August we welcomed into our church family in Baptism:-  
Jake Austin, Son of Ben and Samantha from Tingley  
Cara Elena Belle Moran, Daughter of Thomas and Amy from Middleton  
Leni Jae Aitcheson, Daughter of Jamie and Jessica from Tingley.

## **Weddings:-**

Catherine Forde and James Breadmore, from Birstall were married at St. Mary's on 22ND August, Congratulations from the Church Family.

And

Emma Gavin and James Lee, from Dewsbury were married at St. Mary's on the 29th August, Congratulations from the Church Family.

## **Lorraine Darwin-Hare**

Sadly Lorraine died in a house fire on Sunday 16th August  
Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of this much loved member of St. Mary's.

## **QUIZ ANSWERS:**

- (a) Sheep (b) Lamb (c) Lion (d) Ox (e) Ram
- (a) Jesus Christ (b) David (c) Moses (d) Jacob (e) Aaron
- (a) The (b) And (c) Of (d) To (e) That
- (a) Peter (b) Linus (c) Anacletus (d) Clement (e) Evaristus
- (a) John (b) Gregory (c) Benedict (d) Clement (e) Innocent/Leo
- (a) Roman/Italian (b) French (c) Greek (d) Syrian (e) German
- (a) Genesis (b) Exodus (c) Leviticus (d) Numbers (e) Deuteronomy
- (a) Matthew (b) Mark (c) Luke (d) John (e) Acts of the Apostles
- (a) Adam (b) Eve (c) Cain (d) Abel (e) Enoch
- (a) India (b) USA (c) Indonesia (d) Japan (e) USA

Albert.

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**To Contact Shirley Tel : 07805 804 015**

## **Parish Centre Rentals**

**We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre on a Monday or Wednesday evening.**

**Nominal Cost is £50 for 3 hours.**

**Contact: Brian Walshaw  
01924 479380 for more information.**

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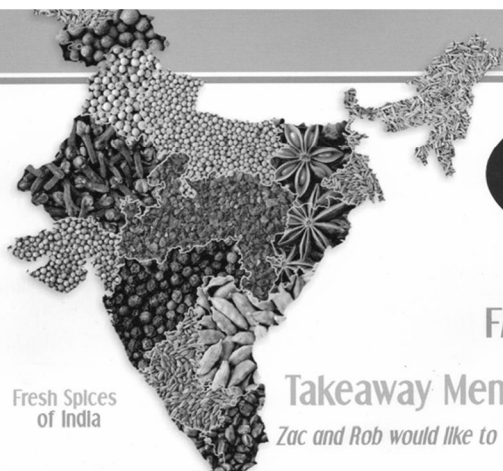
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## What's on

<b>Mothers' Union</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month 2:00 pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<b>Playgroup</b>	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am to 12:00pm Becky Schofield 07811 146958
<b>Girl Guides</b>	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
<b>Toddler Group</b>	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Sally Shaw 01924 475048
<b>Rainbows</b>	Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 689992
<b>Brownies</b>	Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm Hannah Tombling 01924 501892
<b>Keep Fit Class</b>	Thursday 8:00pm Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721
<b>Young at Heart</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 2:00pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<b>Beavers</b>	Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Cubs</b>	Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm Marianne Ingham 07778 542302
<b>Scouts</b>	Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
<b>Explorer Scouts</b>	Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm Chris Ingham 07816 517838

## Services

**Every Sunday, the main Service is at 10:30am as follows:-**

**1st Sunday of the month:**

10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)

12.30pm Baptism Service

**2nd Sunday of the month:**

10:30am All Age (Family) Service. (Fun Service with theme)

12:00pm Holy Communion (Fewer Hymns)

**3rd Sunday of the month**

10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)

**4th Sunday of the month:**

10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)

12:30pm Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

**5th Sunday (4 times per year)**

10:30 All Age Holy Communion

**Wednesdays:**

10:00am Holy Communion (without Hymns)

**3rd Thursday:**

11:00am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge

To arrange for **Baptisms** please contact: Gill Mahoney  
Tel: 07771 533871

To **book weddings, funerals, or the reading of banns** please  
contact our Coordinator, Gail Townsend (0113 2528710) email:  
Gail.Townsend12@gmail.com