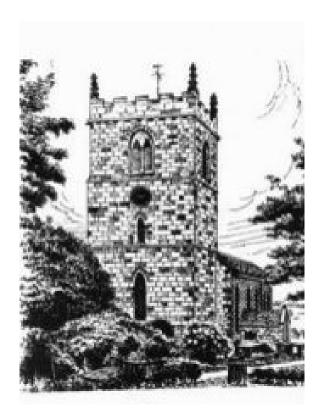
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Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk



This Month:

Prayerful thought
Death is not Dead
Hymn No 253
The Ardsley Astronomer
Congratulations Mr & Mrs Marks

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Who's who at Woodkirk

Vicar of St Mary's: Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.

St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road,

Woodkirk, WF12. 7JL

01924 472375

E-mail: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

Lay Pastoral Minister

and Legacy Advisor.

Gail Townsend 0113 2528710

Churchwardens: Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

Deputy churchwardens: Gary Mortimer

Glyn Jennings David Townsend

Verger: Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710

Organist: Samantha Hawkins PCC Secretary: Dawn Tattersfield

PCC Treasurer Barbara Tate

Social Chairman: Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
Parish Centre Hire: Sally Shaw 01924 475048
Parish Centre Manager: Glyn Jennings 01924 470272

Child Protection Officer: Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963

Health & Safety Officer Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Electoral Roll Officer: Dave Townsend 0113 2528710

Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

and Legacy Officer

Magazine Editor & David Townsend 0113 2528710

Weekly News Sheet:. Email: dave2408.townsend@gmail.com

Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.

Mobile: 07745 301746

Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet

by Thursday evening please.

Deanery Synod reps: Glyn Jennings & Gary Mortimer

Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Brian Gledhill, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Dave

Townsend, Barbara Tate, Liz Aveyard, Gail Townsend, Sandra Gledhill.

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

In this Month's Magazine:

Features:

•	Vicar's Letter	p10
•	Ten of the best witty and funny church signs	p13
•	Prayerful Thought	p14
•	John Field—the Ardsley Astronomer	p20
•	Congratulations Mr & Mrs Marks	p24
•	Death is not Dead	p26
•	Church mouse tales	p31
•	How Time flies—when your having fun	p32
•	Hymn No 253 in the Purple Book	p35

Also this Month:

	• Like
Father Like Son	P22
Brian has a point	p23
Poetry Corner—Dear Child	p25
Albert's Quiz	p29
Sandra's Seasonal Suggestions	p34
Quiz Answers	p37
Diary for the next six weeks	p38
From the Parish Registers	p39

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St Mary's Church Woodkirk

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If we can help in any way please do not hesitate to contact Rev'd Sharon (see p2).

Nicola Waites -Childminder

Contact: 07791374818

<u>nicolawaites2@gmail.com</u>

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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 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

Wheelchair Access

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

Living in the light of eternity changes your priorities

Rick Warren

Vicar's Letter

"Once I had a secret love" resounded around the Church Hall one Saturday evening last month as 42 people gathered to watch the film "Calamity Jane" and to share a cowboy supper together. It was a great evening of fellowship with many non church people attending also.

One of the problems for churches today it seems to me is that we are unable to talk to people about our faith—it is as if it is almost an embarrassment—something to be actioned on a Sunday but we are not going to shout about it from the highest hills or tell it to the golden daffodils.

Christianity is a relational religion—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They are in relationship in the Godhead and we are in relationship with them just as we in relationship with our church family, or our own families. All relationships involve communication so what makes it so difficult to talk about our faith or to be excited by it, so much so, that we just can't help shouting it from the highest hills.

Sometimes it is simply embarrassment. Sometimes we have so many questions and yet we are scared of asking them for fear of feeling stupid. I know when I first started training it appeared that everyone else knew it all and I didn't know anything! Which is simply untrue. We can all learn from each other.

Times change and we have to change with them. If we want the next generation to have any idea of who Jesus is and what he did for us then we have to try to communicate to others in as many different ways as possible.

We have to be inclusive to children and make them feel welcome, and not tolerated. We have to be prepared to move seats if someone new comes in and sits down where we usually sit. We have to support new ventures as they happen otherwise there will not be a church here at St Mary's in 10 or 20 years time.

When I was inducted here one year ago, Bishop Paul gave me permission to challenge you and to initiate change for the long term good of the Gospel. This I intend to do but with your help.

Things to look forward to will be Messy Churches at Harvest, Christmas, Easter, and Summer, a preaching series on Stewardship in October, and Advent Reflective Services.

I am contemplating bringing back Sunday evening Services or maybe Friday evening services, some old school and some new ventures — I know a lot of people may like a BCP Evensong service, others may like a more worship music style or a taize style but what about Cafe Church or Youth Services?

We will be running a new Christian course called "Start" followed by a second course called "Moving on". These may be for new Christians but it is a way we can learn to talk about our faith together making us more confident Christians.

We have one 3 year old who attends regularly what about his needs? We are in the process of building a team of younger people who can facilitate Sunday School and Youth Groups.

We have strengthened our links with Hilltop and Westerton and this year we have been invited to go into Blackgates and more excitingly they want to bring their children into our Church and they want us to go into classrooms. These are very exciting times so please if you are able pray for all these ventures, offer help when you can, and if its not your cup of tea what's happening this week then support it anyway. Talk to me about what you want, what services you may like, what you would like to see for children what you would attend. We have to feed our faith and our knowledge and our bible study together and all of this will be happening soon.

Change is never easy. I don't like change and I certainly won't be putting out the baby with the bathwater but a little nudge here and there to help us to grow is essential if we are to be not just an attractive church but a church that really cares about those who have not heard the message of Jesus and all that stands for and means. It also means that we go our into the community.

I am as enthused and excited as I was the day I became Vicar of St Mary's—I see the possibilities but we have to be brave and step out of our comfort zones a little. "Calamity" was only able to shout her secret love from the highest hills because her love was returned. Jesus loves us more than we can ever know and safe in that love we can answer His call to make new disciples. Sharon

Ten of The Best Witty and Funny Church Signs

- Notice in a church parking lot. Trespassers will be baptised.
- 2. If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.
- 3. Do not wait for the hearse to take you to church.
- 4. How will you spend eternity Smoking or Non-smoking?
- 5. Fight truth decay -- study the Bible daily.
- 6. No God No Peace. Know God Know Peace.
- 7. Free Trip to heaven. Details Inside!
- 8. When the restaurant next to a chapel put out a big sign with red letters that said, "Open Sundays," the chapel reciprocated with its own message: "We are open on Sundays, too."
- 9. Come work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours are long and the pay is low. But the retirement benefits are out of this world.
- 10. In the dark? Follow the Son.

Thoughts for the Day

Character is what you do when no one is looking.

- Henry Huffman

It is not fair to ask of others what you are unwilling to do yourself.

- Ann Eleanor Roosevelt

Prayerful Thought

If you are used to using the internet you will know about you tube, if you aren't then you may have heard of it. Basically, you tube is a website that people 'post' (or place) videos on of all sorts of things, I watched some you tube videos when studying as there are some great biblical references. (see https://www.youtube.com 'The Bible Project' Read Scripture, the ink drawing is brilliant) and I have helped myself when stuck with a crochet or knitting problem by watching someone else show me.

Those of you not that familiar with the digital age may remember either being taught something at home or at work by someone who was experienced, in work training terms it was often referred to as 'sitting with Nellie'.

What the internet has provided is a way for those of us who learn better by watching, the means to develop our skills by being able to watch someone else on screen show us how.

As I was thinking about this, I recognised that I am quite a 'visual' person learning things better if someone shows me how to do something.

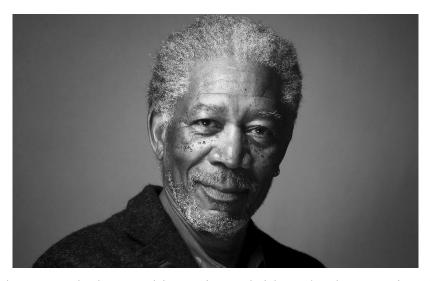
But the other thing I have recognised is that when I am reading a book I will quite often visualise what the character looks like, although I do recognise that the picture in my head is often influenced by what I may have seen on television or in a film.

I'm sure I'm not the only one who, however hard I try, when I think of Moses visualise him as looking like Burt Lancaster, or sometimes, although not always Jesus has the look of Robert Powell, from Franco Zefirelli's epic movie.

I had an update to my biblical visualisations recently when I watched a film called Evan Almighty. If you are unfamiliar, the film is a comedy the main plot being a modern day retelling of Noah's Ark. The main character, Evan, receives numerous 'hints' about the number 614 referring to Genesis 6:14 where

God tells Noah to build an ark. The character does as much as he can to avoid the request until he finally accepts his task.

Evan meets God who is played by Morgan Freeman, so guess what, now when I have a picture of God in my head, he looks like Morgan Freeman!



When asked what God looks like, children (and probably adults too) would describe God as a very old man with a long white beard, bushy white hair, and wears a flowing white dress or robe. Frequently cartoonists will add sandals and unruly white eyebrows.

Whether it's a towering figure or simply an enormous hand descending from Heaven, we find it difficult to conceive God's

appearance as similar to our own. This is puzzling as Genesis repeatedly states that we are created in God's own image. However, we know from our bibles that those who did meet God or spoke to Him had an 'extraordinary encounter'.

In the creation story after the serpent has tricked Eve and Adam to eat the fruit from the tree of knowledge (Genesis3:8-9) there is no description of God when He talks to Adam and Eve, however, Jacob actually physically encounters God when he 'wrestles with a man' (Genesis 32: 24-28) but it is only after Jacob is injured that we find out his opponent was God, again there is no detailed description. In Exodus 3: 1-6, which is one of my favourite stories, when God talks to Moses (or Burt Lancaster!) in the burning bush, no description or human characteristics, just a voice out of the flames.

Now I'm not a particularly clever person and I'm sure it's not theological, but all this, starting from a simple film image of Morgan Freeman 'playing' God has had me thinking about how I personally think about God and perhaps that's how God wants me to think.

How can I in any way shape or form comprehend what God, our omnipotent and omniscient Creator looks like? I could read books and web pages all day, every day and I would doubt that I would be able to tell you what God looks like, so God is helping me. He provides me with an image I can relate to in the form of Morgan Freeman. I have recognised that my

imaginings aren't particularly on how he looks, but the behaviour he shows. His determination to get the job done and save His people, His philosophy, kindness and ability to provide help when asked for, oh and a lovely deep voice!

I am in no way wishing to trivialise God and His image, but perhaps I want to make you think a little. I'm not making fun of God, quite the opposite, I am using something I have seen to help me understand.

If God wanted faith to be easy, he would have ensured that descriptions of Him were sprinkled liberally throughout the Old Testament, but He doesn't, He tells us we are made in His image. We cannot limit God to human description, but we are a 'visual people' and it is always much easier for us to comprehend something if we can see it. So if I find it easier sometimes when reading or thinking about God, to imagine He looks like Morgan Freeman, then I think God will enjoy that and have a bit of a giggle to Himself, because the focus is not that I imagine God looks like Morgan Freeman, but that I am trying to understand something and the only way I can do this is by putting Morgan Freeman into the picture as the 'God Character'. The important thing for God is that I am reading something in the Bible, I am interested enough to be reading His story and in the case of writing this article, trying (probably very badly) to explain this to others.

With unconditional love and grace, God created us in His own image while giving us a glimpse of Himself in Jesus Christ (John 1:18). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells us, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see

God" (Matthew 5:8).

We may not see God's face, but worry not, He knows us and looks upon us with His unfailing love (whether He looks like Morgan Freeman or not!).

With love and prayers
Dawn x

The Children's Society

HOUSE BOX COLLECTION TIME

Do you have a Children's Society Collection Box? If so, then it's the time of year when we get to empty them and send off what you have so generously collected to help the vital work of the Children's Society.

In the past, you have passed the boxes to Susan Walshaw, however, after many years, Susan has decided to 'pass on the baton' and so this year, could I ask that all boxes are passed to me please. I can't hope to be as good as Susan,

she is definitely a hard act to follow, but bear with me and I will do my best.

If you do not have a collecting box but would like one, please ask me and I can provide one. Because of the accounting of the monies, I will require you to complete a short form, but other than that, you only need to take a box, put any coins in it throughout the year and then pass it to me for counting and sending off once a year.

If you decide to take a box, you will be joining over 120, 000 other people who help change the lives of some of our countries most vulnerable young people. Last year over £1.6 million was collected in bits of loose change.

Don't think for a moment that your little bits of coins can't help, they can, as Tesco would put it...'Every Little Helps', and if you still doubt the impact a few coins make, see the Box Holder Newsletter on the noticeboard.

Thank you in anticipation of you returning your boxes to me, I hope to be inundated with boxes of coins in the not too distant future.

Dawn Tattersfield

It is with grateful thanks that we say thank you to Susan and Brian for all their many years of hard work both at St Mary's and in particular the work they have done on behalf of the Children's Society. They have undoubtedly contributed to changing many children's lives during this time.

Sharon

JOHN FIELD 1520? -1587 THE ARDSLEY ASTRONOMER.

Yet another eminent resident of Ardsley associated with St Mary's Church, Woodkirk, is John Field. Very little has been written about him and I haven't found any mention by local historians.

However a plaque in the porch St Michael's Church, East Ardsley states: 'Beneath this porch lies buried John Field 1520-1587. He was the first astronomer in this County to make known the discoveries of Copernicus'.



John Field is severally known as the Proto-Copernican of England; astrologer of the young Princess Elizabeth Tudor; an associate of John Dee who was astrologer of Queen Mary Tudor [and who became Dr John Dee in 1585]; a farmer of West Yorkshire; and agent of the Royal Court of Wards and Liveries. In his Will of 1586 Field described himself; "I John Field of Ardeslow, farmer, sometimes studente in the mathymathicall sciences."

By Colin Burland

Come and join us in Church between 10.00 and 12.00 for coffee and cake, or nibbles and a ______ natter



All proceeds to a cause that touches all our lives.

Gail

Like Father Like Son

What better example can a son have than that of his Father. It seems to me this is very biblical and prophetic. The Church of England wants to be inclusive to younger people and you can't get much younger than this to serve on the altar.



This young quite able to the wine, and water, dong the and to hold

man is pass bread to gong, the

wafers during Holy Communion but his most favourite thing is to hold Christ's Cross high at the beginning and end of our Service. May God bless him richly for his service.

Sharon

Brian has a Point.

As some of you may know, the East Wall of the Church has needed re-pointing as part of the Quinquennial Report (5 yearly building inspection). It couldn't just be any old pointing though - a special mix of mortar was required, with Lime and the right type of (named brand) sand to be used to make it compatible with the stone.

Brian Gledhill very kindly offered to undertake the work, which required the mortar to be applied to specially prepared joints of the correct depth and width, meaning a lot of extra preparation was required to produce the required standard of finished joint. It took Brian several many hours of work to complete the task visits and inspections by the surveyor - the first to including two inspect a sample square metre which Brian prepared, and then a second inspection at the end - to approve the quality and standard of workmanship. This has saved the Church a considerable sum as Brian undertook all the work freely

meaning only the materials had to be purchased. There are still some more parts to do but the largest section is complete and should be

good for another 100 years.

David



Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Marks

Our very own Organist Sammi Hawkins married her childhood sweetheart Dan Marks at St Mary's Church on Saturday 5th August 2017. Dan also plays the organ and has on many occasions covered services here too. Thy are reknown for their piano duets and they didn't disappoint on their wedding day when they again produced a wonderful piano duet for us all to enjoy. May God bless them richly in their marriage and we give thanks as they approach their 10th Anniversary of being together (and they are so young!!)



Dear Child

In your despair I AM there Lifting and holding you Surrounding you with my care Carrying you when your legs give way When the burden of grief is too much for the day I AM your strength when you can't go on I AM your voice when the song is gone. The day may be black but I AM the light And I AM aware of your heartbreaking plight All your tears I will wipe away When the day ahead is too much to bear Lean on me, shelter under my wing The storm WILL pass you can endure Be sure I AM with you I AM your LORD Your father who loves you You have my word That moment by moment I am by your side Faithful servant in me abide My love will heal your broken heart My dear, dear child my love will sustain Until you feel joy again. That day will come as you draw close to me Faithful servant, child of mine Through your life I see Jesus shine.

Your Father

Death is not Dead.

Too many of us view the resurrection of Jesus as little more than a nice, happy conclusion to the gospel story. But the Easter story isn't just "what happens next" to Jesus after his death. It doesn't just wrap up the story; it fulfills it. In fact, there really is no story without it.

Steven Spielberg is my favourite movie director. E.T., Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Jaws for example. Childhood dreams and fears were built around them. But for all his brilliance, the man just can't do endings. Too often his movies are over-resolved, with things tied up a bit too neatly and set against a sunset that begs belief—the three worst endings being Minority Report, Saving Private Ryan, and A.I.

Too many of us view the resurrection of Jesus similarly—as little more than a nice, happy conclusion to the gospel story. As if after all the darkness of the betrayal, denial, and death, Spielberg was brought in to do the ending. Somewhere in the background a lavish sunset blazes away.

But as I said, the Easter story isn't just "what happens next" to Jesus after his death. It's not just a matter of chronology but theology—vital, glorious theology. Without it we have nothing, and are nothing. The resurrection saves us. Good Friday is no good at all without Easter Sunday.

Paul reveals the necessity of Easter in a striking way: "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

He connects the resurrection to our justification. He's not saying we're half-saved by the cross and half-saved by the resurrection. But he is saying without the resurrection, we are lost. No resurrection means no justification: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Cor. 15:17).

If Jesus is dead, our sin debt remains unpaid, and we remain under sin's dominion. If there was no Easter life for Jesus,

there is no new life for us. The blood of Jesus saves us because he is now alive.

But why exactly do we need the resurrection for these things to be certain? The wider story of the Bible shows us. The raising of Jesus from death is significant because death is significant. Only when we understand what death means will we be able to grasp what Easter means.

Death is the consequence of sin. Adam was told this as far back as Genesis 2—eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and "you will surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17). God is life, so turning from him is fatal. Sin both earns death (Rom. 6:23) and births death (James 1:15). Death is what sin chooses, what sin receives, and what sin deserves.

This accounts for why we have such a strange perception of death. Death is, when we think about it, one of the most normal things about life in this world, as sure as our birth. Yet we can't reconcile ourselves to this reality. Death never really feels natural. It feels wrong. So we put huge effort into living as though death is not going to happen.

Our unease with death indicates we know perhaps more than we realise. Death (like sin) does not belong here. It's something we weren't meant to experience. But sin leads to death, and so the existence of death proves the reality of sin.

As we grasp the significance of death, we can start to see the significance of resurrection. Raising Jesus from the dead was not an arbitrary stunt by God the Father. It wasn't just a mega-miracle to prove he's still there and still bigger—though that is true. No, the resurrection has meaning. The resurrection is the outworking and proof of our salvation because death is the outworking and proof of our sin. Jesus' new life shows us the cycle of sin and death has finally been broken. There is new life to be had. Sin has been conquered.

It is therefore the resurrection of Jesus—and can only be

the resurrection of Jesus—that assures us of salvation. Only the resurrection proves that our sins have been fully dealt with, that death is no longer our destination but a gateway to perfect, endless life.

The Cross is not a starter pack. God doesn't drum up most of what we need only to leave us fishing around in our pockets to provide the rest.

By dying and rising for us, the Son has closed the deal. In raising him from the dead, the Father has signed for it.

Gail Albert's General Knowledge Quiz

- Which singer joined Mel Gibson in the film 'Mad Max Beyond the Thunderdome'?
- 2. The contents of which classic cocktail are vodka Galliano and Orange Juice?
- 3. Which American state is nearest to the former Soviet Union?
- 4. In which year did Foinavon win the Grand National?
- 5. In which 1314 battle did Robert the Bruce defeat the English forces?
- 6. In which city was the Cathedral Church of St Michael consecrated in 1962?
- 7. On TV, who did the character Lurch work for?
- 8. Which classic children's book was written by Anna Sewell?
- O. How many tentacles does a squid have?
- 10. Which reggae singing star died on the 11th May 1981?
- 11. In which 1951 movie did the characters Charlie Allnut and Rosie Slater appear?
- 12. What is converted into alcohol during brewing?
- 13. Which river forms the eastern section of the border between England and Scotland?
- 14. Which Briton won ice Skating gold at the Lake Placid Winter Olympics?
- 15. In which year was the singer/songwriter Prince

- born,1958. 1960 or 1962? TV commercials for Campari launched the career of 16 which actress?
- 17. Which two families featured in the play 'Romeo and Juliet'? (continued on next page)

- 18. If cats are feline, what are sheep?
- 19. In the song, on which street is 'Heartbreak Hotel'?
- 20. For his part in which film did Frank Sinatra win a Best Supporting Actor Oscar?

Albert Shaw September 2017



Thankyou from Christian



We raised £472.96 during Christian Aid Week in May. This was achieved through a sponsored walk, house to house collections and a church collection. Special thanks to Alice Kelly and Albert Shaw who helped in collecting from houses - not an easy thing to do. Dawn took part in the sponsored walk, which was in the New Miller Dam area. We are grateful to the people who sponsored her and this year the weather was kind. Dawn really enjoyed the walk and the companionship. Albert and I met the group halfway to give them moral support and were thrilled to see baby birds emerge from their eggs, on a nest in the water.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the week profitable.

Love Sally Shaw.

Church Mouse Tales

I am in a state of fluster and confusion. My friend Hubert, the Black Canon has been missing for four days. No not 4 hours - not even 14 hours - I mean FOUR WHOLE DAYS. I don't know who to turn to and to make matters worse - the rain has set in. I would've liked to know just where he was going but I'm just a mouse so I suppose I'll just have to cling to hope as there's no-one else.

I did light a candle on the first night he was gone but that burned out long ago. Loneliness is tough I've discovered - the toughest role I ever played that's for sure. Yesterday I ducked under a pew and banged my head. Hubert wasn't there to comfort me- so pain was the price I paid. I ended up just crawling out of the woodwork......

'Hubert!' I screeched as he walked nonchalantly in through the Monks door.

'Where have you been?' I shouted in a rather shrill - needy - voice.

'I been visiting friends', he explained in a very calm and unhurried way. 'I was trying to tell you this as I left but you were sound asleep - so I whispered into your brain, but your arms and legs were twitching as if someone had set you on a treadmill. I kept calling 'Misha' but it was like they had made you change your name.'

'Never mind', I breathed in a calmer voice. 'Which friends have you seen?'

'Well, first I went to see Norma, she is doing well - then on to Jean. She was a bit poorly so I stayed a day or so. Then it was a half-day trek over to see Marilyn. I stayed there overnight with her Scottish husband - Munroe, and here I am back! Did you miss me?'

'Miss you? Of course I did! I've been worried sick and you - you've been flitting here, there and everywhere like a candle in the wind.'

Misha

How time flies...when you're having fun!

In those immortal words of Richard Wilson's character Victor Meldrew... "I don't believe it!"

Well believe it or believe it not, I am approaching my first anniversary of becoming a licensed Lay Reader here at St Mary's. Sometimes I think it wasn't long ago, and at other times, it feels like it is something I have always done.

Many of you were able to come to a special thanksgiving Service and you have all continued to support me ever since.

I had to make declarations of commitment which were to;

 continue as far as in me lies, to promote peace and unity and conduct myself as becomes a worker for Christ, for the good of His Church and for the spiritual welfare of all people.

- study the scriptures, to deepen my knowledge of the Christian faith and to grow in my discipleship of Christ.
- 3. Give obedience to those who are set in authority over me and work willingly and collaboratively with all who are my fellow workers in the gospel.

and

4. In the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in me to make Christ known to all.

I have endeavoured to meet these commitments, but it is perhaps too soon after only a year to say that I have met any of them, they actually appear to be things that one doesn't complete, but build on as the years go on.

What I would like to say is that it is an enormous privilege to be a lay reader here at St Mary's, I have enjoyed the opportunities and challenges that I have been given and I have enjoyed taking part in services and leading worship.

Whether you feel you have supported me or not, let me tell you, that you certainly have, in big ways and small and it all adds to my ongoing development.

It has been an amazing first year and I thank you all for your help and support and for giving me such an opportunity. Yes it has been fun, and yes it has gone quickly, and I look forward to continuing to serve you for many more years ahead

With love and very grateful thanks Dawn

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 (I bought some ready grown plants early July so I'm hoping they are ready!) 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.
- 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 reduced 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 sweet peas.
- 9. Sow chervil, rocket, hardy lettuce, lamb's lettuce, winter radishes, pak choi, spring onions and carrots in pots to take under cover later.
- Division of perennials can begin. Start with those varieties that are overcrowded, or the first to die down for the year.

Sandra

Hymn Number 253 in the Purple Hymn Book...

I'll be suitably impressed if anyone knows which hymn I am referring to...without looking it up!

It is that wonderful traditional hymn 'O Worship the King' written by Robert Grant.

Now I don't often think much more about a hymn other than that I like it, or like the tune etc, but for some reason when we sang this hymn at Holy Communion one Sunday morning in August, I thought a bit more about it and looked it up.

My initial deliberation was on the words as they referred to God's might in creation "...whose robe is the light, whose canopy space..." and "...almighty thy power hath founded of old..." but I think it was verse 4 which inspired me;

"Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

It reminds us of God's care for us His children, and I wondered about the man who had written the hymn and what his life was like between 1779 and 1838 which was when Robert Grant lived. So I did a bit of 'Googling' and found out the following.

For a start, he lived through the reign of four monarch's,

King George III, George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria, wow. He also would have seen a lot of social change, and if you look him up, you find that he was probably involved in a fair bit of that.

Robert Grant was the son of the East India Company's director. He was admitted to the bar in 1807--which meant he could practice law. The following year, the 29-year-old won a seat in Parliament. He remained in Parliament for many years. Like his father, he was deeply concerned with social issues. Through his persistent efforts a bill was eventually passed which emancipated England's Jews. He fought for other minority groups, too. In the meantime, he was a strong missions and supporter of world influential evangelicals in the Church of England. In between all that, he managed to write hymns, and although his brother Charles printed his twelve hymns in a slender volume called Sacred Poems after his death in 1838, the only one which is still sung by many people is "O Worship the King."

Robert read a translation of Psalm 104 by William Kethe in a 1561 psalm book and this prompted Robert to write his own version of the psalm, familiar to many of us.

Robert Grant held a high position in the East India company and was asked to be governor of Bombay which he accepted. He took over his new duties in 1834. As governor, he had opportunity to put his social concerns into practice, for the poverty and spiritual condition of the common people were appalling. Among his accomplishments were the opening of several new roads, an inducement to commerce. He held the governorship for four years, until his death in July 1838 at the young age of 59. In that time, the people came to love him. When Sir Jamshedji a well-known Parsi (a person of the Zoroastrian faith), built a medical college, he gave it Robert Grant's name. It is the second oldest medical college in India.

So there you go, next time you stand to sing Hymn number 253 in the purple hymn book, you know just a little bit more

Dawn

Albert's General Knowledge Quiz

Answers: 1. Tina Turner 2. Harvey Wallbanger 3. Alaska

4. 1967 5. Bannockburn 6. Coventry

7. Adams Family 8. Black Beauty

9. Ten 10. Bob Marley

11. African Queen (Bogart & Hepburn)

12. Sugar 13. Tweed 14. Robin Cousins

15. 1960 16. Lorraine Chase

17. Capulet & Montague 18. Ovine

19. Lonely Street 20. From Here to Eternity

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Diary for the coming weeks
(Morning Prayer will take place at 9.00am Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri.)
September
2nd Sat
         9:30am
                   Church & Churchyard Clean up
3rd Sun 10.30am
                   Holy Communion
         12.30 & 1.30 Holy Baptism
6th Wed 10.00am
                   Holy Communion—God's Goodness
         7:00pm
                  Warden's Meeting
10th Sun 10:30am All Age Service
                   Holy Communion
         12 noon
                   Harvest Songs of Praise Methodist
         6.00pm
                   West Ardsley
11th Mon 7:30pm
                   PCC Meeting
12th Tue Midday
                   Churches Together—St Michael's
13th Wed 10:00am
                   Holy Communion—BCP
17th Sun 10:30am Holy Communion
                  Holy Baptism
         12:30pm
18th Mon 7:30pm
                   Mission Group Meeting at Vicarage
20th Wed 10:00am
                   Holy Communion—Iona
21st Thu 11:00am
                   Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
24th Sun 10:30am
                   Holy Communion
         12:30pm Holy Baptism
25th Mon 7:30pm
                   Social Group Meeting at Vicarage
27th Wed 10:00am
                   Holy Communion—Healing
29th Fri 10.00am
                   McMillan Coffee Morning in Church
October
1st Sun
         10:30am Holy Communion
         12:30pm Holy Baptism
         7.00pm
2nd Mon
                   Wardens Meeting
         8.00pm
                   IT Meeting
                   Holy Communion—God's Goodness
4th Wed
         10.00am
                   Joint Leeds Deanery Synod—St George's
         19.30pm
7th Sat
         9:30am
                   Church & Churchyard Clean up
         10:30am All Age—Harvest Festival
8th Sun
         12 noon
                   Holy Communion
9th Wed 10.00am
                   Holy Communion—God's Goodness
13th Sun 10:30am All Age Service
         12 noon
                   Holy Communion
14th Mon 7:30pm
                   PCC Meeting
16th Wed 10:00am
                   Holy Communion—BCP
17th Thu 11:00am
                   Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
20th Sun 10:30am
                   Holy Communion
21st Mon 7:30pm
                   Mission Group Meeting at Vicarage
                   Holy Communion—Iona
23rd Wed 10:00am
27th Sun 10:30am
                   Holy Communion
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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS BAPTISMS

We welcome into our church family:-Kasie-Leigh Brooke Charles James Benn Bluebell-Boo Sheard Ada Jayne Frain Jackson Alexander Coupe Edward James Aldridge-Pawelec



DEATHS



We give thanks for the lives of:-

Michelle Crook
Denise Burton

WEDDINGS Please pray for all couples who are were married at St Mary's in July and August 2017:

Nicola and Murray Mcleish Sophie and Jamie Farrar Sammi and Dan Marks Samantha and Jonathan Bass



May...



The light of God surround you
the love of God enfold you
the power of God protect you
the presence of God watch over you

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: Sally Shaw

01924 475048 for more information.

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What's on

Mothers' Union 3rd Monday in the month 2:00 pm

Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078

Playgroup Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9:30am to 12:00pm

Becky Schofield 07811 146958

Girl Guides Tuesday 7:30pm

Vikki Springett 07841 513530

Toddler Group Wednesday 9:15-11:00am

Sally Shaw 01924 475048

Rainbows Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm

Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 607393

Brownies Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm

Hannah Tombling 01924 501892

Keep Fit Class Thursday 8:00pm

Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721

Young at Heart 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2:00pm

Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078

Beavers Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm

Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710

Cubs Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm

Marianne Ingham 07778 542302

Scouts Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927

Explorer Scouts Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm

Chris Ingham 07816 517838

Services

1st Sunday of the month:

10:30am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday of the month:

10:30am All Age Worship for adults and children

12:00pm Holy Communion

3rd Sunday of the month

10:30am Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month:

10:30am Holy Communion

5th Sunday of the month

10:30am All Age Holy Communion for adults and children

Wednesdays:

10:00am Holy Communion

3rd Thursday:

11:00am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge

Morning Prayer 9.00am—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

To arrange for **Baptisms** please contact: Liz Aveyard on 07791 324221

Baptisms held at 12.30pm on 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays

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