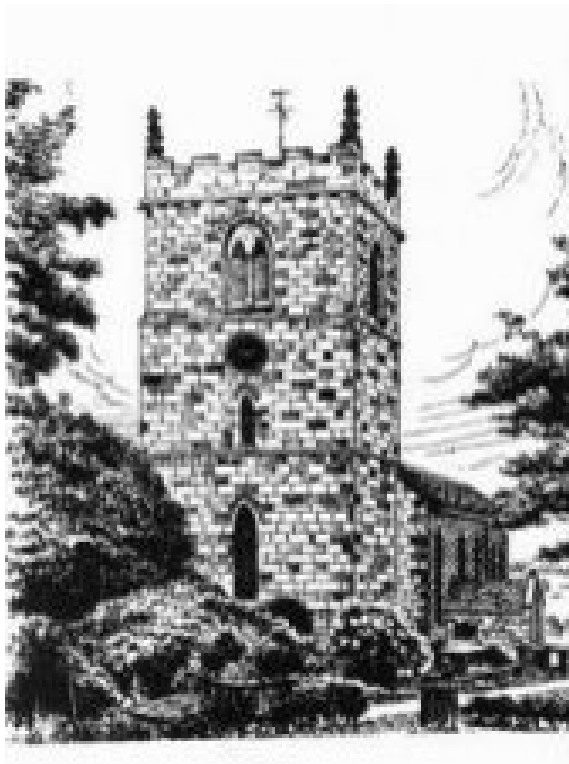


# **Parish News**

**St Mary's, Woodkirk**

**July/August 2020**



**Worship Online at:**  
***Facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk***

**[www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://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** Gail Townsend 0113 2528710

**Churchwardens:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

**Deputy churchwardens:** Gary Mortimer

Pernoe Liburd

**Verger:** Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710

**Organists:** Jason Hawkins

**PCC Secretary:** Dawn Tattersfield

**PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate

**Social Chairman:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

**Parish Centre Hire:** Sally Shaw 01924 475048

**Child Protection Officer:** Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963

**Health & Safety Officer** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Dave Townsend 0113 2528710

**Data Protection** Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

**and Legacy Officer**

**Magazine Editor &** David Townsend 0113 2528710

**Weekly News Sheet:** Email: Dave@stmarywoodkirk.org

Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.

Mobile: 07745 301746

Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet  
by Thursday evening please.

**Deanery Synod reps:** Brian Gledhill & Gary Mortimer

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

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

Laura Mortimer, Barbara Tate, Gail Townsend, Sandra Gledhill, Pernoe Liburd,  
Elizabeth Wilkinson.

If you enjoy the magazine— a donation of 60p really helps to keep it going!

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## **Care and Share**

**If you have recently lost a loved one then come  
and share lunch together on the following dates:**

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For more information please contact Jane on 07969 640396 or visit our Facebook page  
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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.

**What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.**

William Henry Davies

## Vicar's Letter

How time and events have moved on this past month and as per the Government and Church of England guidelines we have been able to open the church this past week for Private Prayer ONLY and we have notified our local Funeral Directors that we are able now to carry out funerals. In order for us to do this a complete risk assessment has been completed and is available for you to view on our church website ([www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)).

This is our second week of opening for private prayer and there has been a number of people who have attended on all occasions. We plan as far as possible to keep to the following opening times:- Monday 10.00am-12noon, and Thursday 6.00pm-8.00pm and they will be confirmed each week in our weekly notice sheet which can be found on our web page or a notice will be place on our facebook page on a Sunday evening. Please remember that Bathrooms will be closed for the time being and you are welcome to bring a cushion and a bible or prayer book on the understanding that only you touch them and you take them home. You will be asked to sanitize your hands on entry and exit into the church.

You are welcome to bring your own bible and cushion on the understanding that only you touch them and take them home. We have twelve pews available to sit in – if you live alone then only you can sit in a pew, if you are married or in a bubble then you can share a pew.

If you have any symptoms of COVID or are in quarantine then please do not enter into church at this time as others will be put a risk. If you are in a vulnerable category then again please take care and follow government guidelines.

### **SO when will we be open for worship?**

Government guidelines state that churches can open for worship from the 4<sup>th</sup> July. However, “can” does not mean we will. It is important we

wait for the Church of England to issue the appropriate guidelines, although from a Health and Safety and COVID perspective we are happy that we have complied with all guidelines and that a thorough risk assessment has been carried out so that we can keep you as safe as possible and that the church environment is as risk free as possible.

However, there are a few technical issues of how we merge streaming with live worship? What sort of worship should we offer? There will be no singing allowed and guidelines state contact should be kept to a minimum so maybe a said Eucharist or said Service instead? Should this be at 10.30am or should we stream the 10.30am with hymns as we do now and then hold a said service in the afternoon so people can attend? To keep people safe, do we need to take bookings for seats and have two services? These are complicated issues and need further discussion with the PCC – the next meeting of which is on 13<sup>th</sup> July.

Therefore, at this point in time I am unable to give you a definite date of when we will reopen for worship on a Sunday but you can rest assured that I and the PCC will continue to work towards the best interests of all concerned and if that means we need to take the time to reassess all that we do then you can be assured that this is in everyone's best interests. If anyone wishes to make comments or suggestions to the PCC then please email them to me for consideration.

Again the government states that weddings can go ahead from the 4<sup>th</sup> July but there are restrictions and complications to overcome and we will be discussing all of these issues in our next Church Council meeting in mid-July.

I hope you are all keeping well and of course if you need anything please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes  
Sharon  
Vicar

## A brief history of (Woodkirk) time....

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales described Woodkirk or Ardsley West like this:

**ARDSLEY (West)**, or Woodkirk, a parish in Wakefield district, West Riding of Yorkshire; on the Leeds and Wakefield railway, at Ardsley station, 5 miles NW of Wakefield.

It includes six hamlets, and has a post office, of the name of West Ardsley, under Wakefield. Acres, 2,250. Real property, £5,139. Pop., 1,646. Houses, 335. Coal is worked, and bricks are made. The living is a vicarage in the diocese of Ripon. Value,. £265.\* Patron, the Earl of Cardigan. The church was rebuilt in 1831. There are two Methodist chapels, a partially endowed school, and charities £10.

**By 1938 the area looked like this:**



The railway can clearly be seen as well as the 'bad bend' in the road just next to the church. Back then there were just a few small hamlets surrounded by fields. Barely a house stood on the Dewsbury Road.

David

## How do I join an on-line Service?

If you are not so familiar with the on-line world but you would like to join one of the services, here's some good news! It's easy!

**Go to: [facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)**

**Then select 'Videos' from the side bar.**

**To join a 'Live' service look for the right time in the diary on page 33.**

**You can also view previous services from the same location.**



St Mary's Church, Woodkirk's video

3 hours ago · 133 views

## George and Jemima on line..

Also watch out this month for a special on-line performance of favourite puppets George and Jemima.

Go to the St.Mary's facebook page and look down the 'posts' until you see the brown settee.....

Enjoy.

## **Leading their family to Christ**

This is an amazing story I found so I thought I would share it with you all. It is about how these quarantined believers lead their family to Christ.

For almost a decade, Jess and her brother David had been praying for their parents' salvation. As a new calendar year approached this past January, they felt an extra sense of urgency. So, they both agreed to set aside the first Saturday of each month to pray and fast.

When they made those plans, they never imagined they would end up quarantined together as a family for almost three months.

Like many East Asians, Jess and David travelled back to their hometown to celebrate the Lunar New Year at the end of January. While they were there, COVID-19 began rapidly spreading. Municipal governments in many cities put lockdowns in place to help stem the epidemic, which meant Jess and David could not travel back to the cities they worked in.

As the lockdown in their city began, they set aside an additional day to pray and fast together. Every time they prayed together; their mom walked into the room they were using at the same time.

After she had walked in on them praying several times, David asked her if she would join them. She surprised both of them when she agreed and knelt beside them on the floor. David prayed a simple prayer of blessing over her.

The next day, Jess asked her mom what she thought and if she had any questions. Jess explained

the gospel again, as she'd done many times before. This time though, something was different. Her mom was ready to follow Christ. She prayed with Jess and confessed her sin and her need for Jesus. Her mom was the first person to start the chain to lead their family to Christ.

"I will never forget that day," Jess said. "It was the darkest time of our city but the brightest day of my family."

Since then, Jess has been able to spend a lot of time with her mom while they've still been quarantined. They've been able to pray, read the Bible together, and grow closer than ever before.

Jess's mom wasn't the only member of the family who became open to the gospel as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown. Jess and David also had a chance to share hope with their grandparents, who worshipped idols and had never wanted to listen to the gospel before.

The lockdown limited how often they could visit each other, but Jess and David prayed each evening for God to work in the lives of their grandparents. One day just a few weeks after their mom professed faith, David went to check on their grandparents. When his grandmother saw him, the first thing she asked was, "Can I follow your faith in Jesus?"

She told him she hadn't been able to sleep for six days and nights. Nothing had helped, not even praying to her idols. She was desperate for some help and thought that maybe the God her grandchildren talked about could bring her some relief. David was so surprised that he ran all the way home to tell Jess.

“I couldn’t believe it and thought he was kidding,” Jess said. “But it was real. She tried all her own ways and came to us with her last hope.”

The siblings began to pray earnestly. That same night, their grandmother was finally able to sleep.

Though they haven’t committed to follow Christ yet, their grandparents have begun to openly ask questions about what it would mean if they deserted their idols to believe in Jesus, something they’ve never done before.

East Asia’s coronavirus cases have begun to stabilise, so Jess and David expect they’ll be able to return to the cities they work in soon. But Jess said she is excited for what is ahead for her family as God continues to work.

Many believers in East Asia are first-generation believers just like Jess and David. Pray that God will work powerfully in their families during this season, and that many more East Asians will find new life in Christ.

Amen

Gail



## Help available at the Numbers below...

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**Respect - Men's Advice Line**  
0808 801 0327  
(Mon-Fri 9-5or8pm)

**Samaritans**  
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(24hrs free)

**National Centre for Domestic Violence**  
0207 186 8270

## Reckless, careless and foolish??

Well hi there I hope you are all keeping well.

The inspiration for this month's article came from a situation I found myself in after the first most severe restrictions were lifted in early June, enabling us to travel a bit further than our local area.

I was on the phone having a catch up with Rev Sharon and I mentioned that I'd been out visiting my mum, using the M62. I said that whilst driving along, although the roads were still reasonably quiet, it seemed to me that there were a fair few 'idiots' about who seemed to me, to be driving recklessly.

I asked Sharon if she could think of any reference in the Bible to 'recklessness' we both thought about it for a few moments and both came to the same conclusion, that if there was it would be in Proverbs, and BINGO! We came across Proverbs 14:16 which says...

***One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.***

I love it when we can find appropriate references in our Bible that was written (well the Old Testament bits anyway!) over 2 millennia ago.

The thing I thought about was...yes indeed it was lovely to have some freedom back again after nearly 12 weeks of only being able to make essential local journeys, but I felt it would be very foolish to 'waste' that freedom by driving or behaving recklessly, and risking hurting yourself or others.

I'm not perfect, I'm not for a moment suggesting I am, but I like to think that I value my life, (and the lives of others) more than to risk it in behaving recklessly or carelessly. Sadly our news is often full of stories where people have done just this and have either caused tragedy to their own families, or in even worse situations have caused tragedy to other families.

I looked up in my trusty bible handbook and it told me that Proverbs 10 -22:16 are Solomon's Proverbs. I am ashamed to say that when I looked in my bible, I saw, (for the first time), that my bible has this heading above proverbs 10 too and I didn't know.

The introduction to Proverbs says...

*[It]...is a collection of moral and religious teachings....much of it has to do with practical, everyday concerns. [That] reminds the reader that 'To have knowledge, you must first have reverence for the Lord,' and then goes on to deal with matters of religious morality, common sense and good manners. ...[Its] short sayings reveal the insights of ancient Israelite teachers about what a wise person will do in certain situations, concerning family relations, other business dealings, matters of etiquette in social relationships, and others with the need for self control. Much is said about such qualities as humility, patience, respect for the poor and loyalty of friends.*

It is then perhaps not surprising that almost half of the proverbs recorded are from Solomon, the young man who chose wisdom, then imparted practical instruction ranging over every aspect of life. My handbook says that they (the Proverbs) 'demonstrate the outworking of wisdom and folly in the practical business of living'.

By the time you read your magazine in early July, it could be that the further lifting of restrictions planned from the 4<sup>th</sup> July will have happened, which is wonderful for many people, but we also have to proceed with caution.

Sadly, we saw in the middle - latter part of June lots of stories on our news programmes which showed literally thousands of people crammed onto south coast beaches where unfortunately the rules on social distancing didn't appear to be being observed. I braved Leeds city centre a weekend or two ago to meet my sister and whilst quite a few people were wearing masks and doing their best to adhere to one way systems in shops and follow signs etc, there were quite a few people who were just carrying on with no regard for these new safety situations.

My own personal opinion is, that should we be unfortunate enough to suffer a second spike in infections, it will be caused by complacency. Those 'foolish' people who haven't suffered any illness or have been lucky enough for their families not to be affected and by virtue of this think it's not a problem and won't happen to them.

I do not wish illness on anyone, and I sincerely hope that progress is made in finding more medicines to help us fight this awful virus so that we can go back to hugging our nearest and dearest family and friends without fear of sharing the virus, but until then, remember 'Solomon the wise'...

***One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.***

With love and prayers

Dawn

## Julie Andrews Turning 79

To commemorate her birthday, Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall for the benefit of the AARP. One of the musical numbers she performed was 'My Favourite Things' from the legendary movie 'Sound Of Music'. Here are the lyrics she used:

Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting,  
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,  
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,  
These are a few of my favourite things.

Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses,  
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,  
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,  
These are a few of my favourite things.

When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,  
When the knees go bad,  
I simply remember my favourite things,  
And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,  
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,  
Bathrobes and heating pads and hot meals they bring,  
These are a few of my favourite things.

Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin',  
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',  
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,  
When we remember our favourite things.

When the joints ache, When the hips break,  
When the eyes grow dim,  
Then I remember the great life I've had,  
And then - I don't feel so bad.

## William Walsham How

Bishop How was the Bishop of Wakefield in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. He wrote the hymn 'For All the Saints'.

Known as Walsham How, he was the son of a Shrewsbury solicitor, How was educated at Shrewsbury School, Wadham College, Oxford and University College, Durham. He was ordained in 1846, and after a curacy at Kidderminster, he began more than thirty years actively engaged in parish work in Shropshire, as curate at the Abbey Church in Shrewsbury in 1848. In 1851 he became Rector of Whittington and was at one point Rural Dean of Oswestry in 1860, then Suffragan Bishop of Bedford and in turn Bishop of Wakefield.



It was during his period at Whittington he wrote the bulk of his published works and founded the first public library in Oswestry. In 1863–1868 he brought out a *Commentary on the Four Gospels* and he also wrote a manual for the Holy Communion. Published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge during the 1890s under the title "Holy Communion, Preparation and Companion...together with the Collects, Epistles and Gospels" this book was widely distributed and many copies still survive today. In the movement for infusing new spiritual life into the church services, especially among the poor, How was a great force. He took a stand against what he regarded as immoral literature and Thomas Hardy claimed that he had burned a copy of his novel *Jude the Obscure*. How was much helped in his earlier work by his wife, Frances A. Douglas (died 1887).

Walsham How appears as a significant character in Bernard Pomerance's 1979 Broadway play *The Elephant Man*. In a 1982 television adaptation he was played by William Hutt.

### **Contributions to Botany**

Walsham How "had an excellent knowledge of the British flora." In 1857 he was one of the founders of the Oswestry and Welshpool Naturalists' Field Club and Archaeological Society. He was at one time its president, and he contributed a paper on "The Botany of Great Orme's Head" (1865). He was also the botanical contributor to *The Gossipping Guide for Wales*. In 1890 he was president of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union. His obituary in respect of his contribution to botany was published in the October 1897 issue of *The Naturalist*.

### **Church work**

He refused preferment on several occasions, but his energy and success made him well known, and in 1879 he was consecrated a bishop, by Archibald Campbell Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury, on 25 July at St Paul's Cathedral; he became the first modern suffragan bishop in London, under the title of Bishop of Bedford, his province being the East End. There he became the inspiring influence of a revival of church work. He founded the East London Church Fund, and enlisted a large band of enthusiastic helpers, his popularity among all classes being immense. He was particularly fond of children, and was commonly called the children's bishop.

When he came to East London in 1879 "he found great need of women's help for the poor in the huge parishes of his diocese". He then planned to establish a Deaconess Community and applied to the (West) London Diocesan Deaconess Institution. They sent Sister Louisa in autumn 1880 and the East London Diocesan Deaconess Institution was founded at Sutton Place, Hackney.

## Bishopric

In 1888 he was made the first Bishop of Wakefield, and in the north of England he continued to do valuable work. His sermons were straightforward, earnest and attractive; and besides publishing several volumes of these, he wrote a good deal of verse, including such well-known hymns as *Who is this so weak and helpless, Lord, Thy children guide and keep* and *For All the Saints*. As bishop he consecrated many churches, including the Church of St John the Divine, Calder Grove in 1892.



Monument to Walsham How and his wife, in Whittington, Shropshire.

He died while on holiday in Ireland, on 10 August 1897 in Leenane, County Mayo. Although there is a marble memorial to him in Wakefield Cathedral, he was buried in Whittington, Shropshire, where he had been rector for 28 years. There is also a memorial plaque to him inside the London city church of St Helen's, Bishopsgate, bearing the line 'Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest'.



## **Hymn: For All The Saints.**

1. For all the saints, who from their labours rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

David

## St. Barnabas

Barnabas appears mainly in Acts, but also appears in several of Paul's epistles.

Barnabas, a native of Cyprus and a Levite, is first mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles as a member of the early Christian community in Jerusalem, who sold some land that he owned and gave the proceeds to the community. When the future Paul the Apostle returned to Jerusalem after his conversion, Barnabas introduced him to the apostles.



The successful preaching of Christianity at Antioch to non-Jews led the church at Jerusalem to send Barnabas there to oversee the movement. He found the work so extensive and weighty that he went to Tarsus in search of Paul (still referred to as Saul), "an admirable colleague", to assist him. Paul returned with him to Antioch and laboured with him for a whole year. At the end of this period, the two were sent up to Jerusalem (44 AD) with contributions from the church at Antioch for the relief of the poorer Christians in Judea.

They returned to Antioch taking John Mark with them, the cousin or nephew of Barnabas. Later, they went to Cyprus and some of the principal cities of Pamphylia, Pisidia, and Lycaonia. After recounting what the governor of Cyprus Sergius Paulus believed, Acts 13:9 speaks of Barnabas's companion no longer as Saul, but as Paul, his Roman name, and generally refers to the two no longer as "Barnabas and Saul", but as "Paul and Barnabas"

Only in Acts 14:14 and 15:12-25 does Barnabas again occupy the first place, because Barnabas stood in closer relation to the Jerusalem church than Paul.

Paul appears as the more eloquent missionary - the Lystrans regarded

him as Hermes and Barnabas as Zeus. The King James Version renders the Greek name "Zeus" by the Latin name "Jupiter" (Acts 14:12).

Returning from this first missionary journey to Antioch, they were again sent up to Jerusalem to consult with the church there regarding the relation of Gentiles to the church (Acts 15:2; Galatians 2:1).

According to Galatians 2:9-10, Barnabas was included with Paul in the agreement made between them, on the one hand, and James, Peter, and John, on the other, that the two former should in the future preach to the pagans, not forgetting the poor at Jerusalem. This matter having been settled, they returned again to Antioch, bringing the agreement of the council that Gentiles were to be admitted into the church without having to adopt Jewish practices.

After they had returned to Antioch from the Jerusalem council, they spent some time there. Peter came and associated freely there with the Gentiles, eating with them, until criticised for this by some disciples of James, as against Mosaic law. Upon their remonstrance, Peter yielded - apparently through fear of displeasing them, and refused to eat any longer with the Gentiles. Barnabas followed his example. Paul considered that they "walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel" and upbraided them before the whole church.

Paul then asked Barnabas to accompany him on another journey. Barnabas wished to take John Mark along, but Paul did not, as he had left them on the earlier journey. The dispute ended when Paul and Barnabas took separate routes. Paul took Silas as his companion, and journeyed through Syria and Cilicia; while Barnabas took John Mark to visit Cyprus. Some scholars suggest that Paul may have been somewhat influenced by the attitude recently taken by Barnabas, which might have proven prejudicial to their work.

Barnabas is not mentioned again in the Acts of the Apostles. However, Galatians 2:11-13 says:

*"And when Kephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face because he clearly was wrong. For, until some people came from*

*James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to draw back and separated himself, because he was afraid of the circumcised. And the rest of the Jews (also) acted hypocritically along with him, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy."*

Barnabas is also mentioned in the First Epistle to the Corinthians, in which it is mentioned that he and Paul funded their missions by working side jobs and (it is implied) went without wives and other benefits other apostles received (1 Corinthians 9:6); Paul states that he and Barnabas forsook those benefits "that we may cause no hindrance to the Good News of Christ" (1 Corinthians 9:12).

Church tradition developed outside of the canon of the New Testament describes the martyrdom of many saints, including the legend of the martyrdom of Barnabas. It relates that certain Jews coming to Syria and Salamis, where Barnabas was then preaching the gospel, being highly exasperated at his extraordinary success, fell upon him as he was disputing in the synagogue, dragged him out, and, after the most inhumane tortures, stoned him to death. His kinsman, John Mark, who was a spectator of this barbarous action, privately interred his body.

Although it is believed he was martyred by being stoned, the apocryphal Acts of Barnabas states that he was bound with a rope by the neck, and then being dragged only to the site where he would be burned to death.

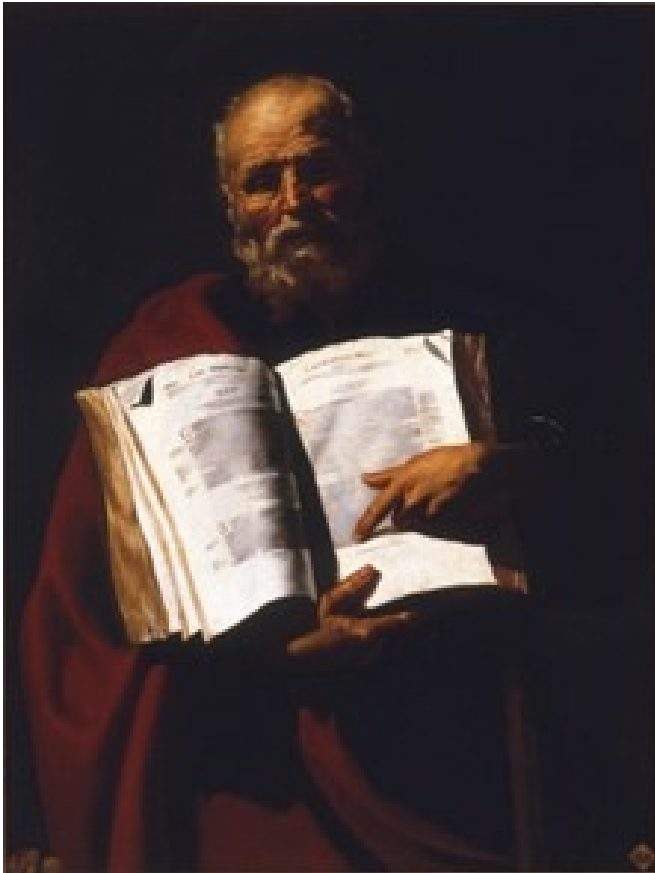
According to the History of the Cyprus Church, in 478 Barnabas appeared in a dream to the Archbishop of Constantia (Salamis, Cyprus) Anthemios and revealed to him the place of his sepulchre beneath a carob-tree. The following day Anthemios found the tomb and inside it the remains of Barnabas with a manuscript of Matthew's Gospel on his breast.

Anthemios presented the Gospel to Emperor Zeno at Constantinople and received from him the privileges of the Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus, that is, the purple cloak which the Greek Archbishop of Cyprus wears at festivals of the church, the imperial sceptre and the red

ink with which he affixes his signature.

Anthemios then placed the venerable remains of Barnabas in a church which he founded near the tomb. Excavations near the site of a present-day church and monastery, have revealed an early church with two empty tombs, believed to be that of St. Barnabas and Anthemios.

Gail



St. Barnabas is venerated as the Patron Saint of Cyprus.

## Ardsley Reservoir

Amazingly, it was constructed in 1880, and is fed mainly from upland reservoirs in the Ryburn Valley, but, following the 1995 drought an emergency feed was created linking the reservoir to underground aquifers in the east. At 120 acres it is used to provide the area with drinking water, as well as the nearby Coca Cola plant.

During World War 2, trees were cut down from the surrounding areas and placed across the reservoir to stop seaplanes landing.

The Car Park is a more recent addition, being added for around 10 years, however it was closed during the peak of lockdown when car journeys were (in theory) not allowed. There were still, nevertheless, cars parked along Haigh Moor Road with Reservoir visitors ignoring these rules. The situation became worse however, when the Government eased restrictions allowing a car journey to a location for exercise, with the Car Park not being re-opened at the same time, Haigh Moor Road became a single track lane with few, if any, passing places. Chaos ensued along the road for quite a few weeks.

Thankfully the car park is once again open and this has eased some of the problems, although the reservoir seems to have become far more popular than it used to be – possibly also due to a ‘pick-your-own’ strawberry field now next to it. In previous years it was often possible to walk around the reservoir and see almost no-one at the same time. It is a very pleasant walk with great views over towards Emley Moor mast and down the M1 corridor, a good path to walk on (although the north-east corner does get boggy after a wet session) and fleeting glimpses of wildlife on and around the water, including Canada geese at certain times of the year.

David



## The optimistic gardener...

Hello there

If you saw last month's magazine you may have read my article on my 'perseverance in the strawberry patch' where I spoke about my frustrations with persistent nettles amongst my strawberries. Well I thought about gardens and gardening again during a morning prayer Rev Sharon led us in, towards the end of June.

The Gospel reading for that Monday was the story of the Fig Tree which you can find in Luke's Gospel Chapter 13 v 1-9. The passage starts with Jesus explaining to people that just because some people had been killed in a variety of ways, it did not mean that they were worse sinners than anyone else. Jesus then goes on to tell the parable of the Fig Tree.

If you don't have chance to look it up now, it is the story of a man who has a fig tree growing in his yard but for three years it has given him nothing, he loses patience and tells his gardener to cut it down. But the gardener says for him to leave it alone, just for one more year, the gardener will dig around the roots and add fertiliser, then if next year it bears no fruit, then he can cut it down next year.

Sharon then read a reflection on that passage, which I'm not going to quote in full, but it went something like this...

The act of gardening relies on a kind of resurrection, the insurance that life has not gone away, but will return, maybe when we least expect it.



Gardens are full of surprises with gardeners being determined, patient and optimistic, qualities we see in the gardener in our bible passage. He will not give up on the fig tree, 'just give me one more year, this might be the one that turns everything around.

True gardeners trust the secrets of life and know that growth is a miracle that is often at work in unseen ways and places. As a leader of Christian youth work (in my work in the Girls Brigade in quite a deprived area of Castleford) this passage has always resonated with me.

I don't have a clue how many hundreds of girls have come to Girls' Brigade over the 40 years I have been both member and leader, but many many of them, particularly in the last 20 or so years as life becomes more secular, have still wanted to come and see what it is about, and many of them stay until they get to secondary school.

However, it is perhaps those who only come for a few weeks. Or few terms or perhaps 18 months that I think of when I think of this passage.

Youth work is not easy, you prepare every week not knowing whether your group will turn up, or what mood they'll be in when they come. You never know if they've suffered traumas or no tea or whatever. Some weeks can be tough, you've been busy at work, or stressed or aren't feeling 100% but you make yourself go because you care and because you know you can make a difference to that girl(s) day. I might be the only person who's sat and listened to her that day.

The resonance with Luke and this parable, and the fact that life

hasn't gone away. That moment of kindness, listening, may stay with that girl until she is old enough to do something about it, and could make her think before she acts when she is a young, or older adult. We (youth workers) plant seeds, we don't always see any fruit from those seeds, but just like the fig tree, we give it chance, we provide spiritual nourishment and leave it to God to do the rest.

The reflection on the bible passage concluded by saying...

Gardeners are prepared to wait and watch, bringing all their experience wisdom and resources to bear. Even so, nature is beyond our control and so is the soul. The Spirit tends our souls and the whole people of God, patiently and lovingly, will life be found in us?

Whether you have a chance to work with/interact with young people, or whether you just interact with adults, close family and or friends, never be afraid to talk to them about God and His love for them. God may be making you the gardener, the one to add nourishment to someone that helps them bear fruit in the future instead of being at threat of being chopped down.

(Oh and addendum to last month's article, I continue my battle with the nettles but have also enjoyed the fruits of my labours in several bowls of freshly picked strawberries with my tea).

With love and optimism  
Dawn x

## Psalm 120

If the events of 2020, with the pandemic and the death of George Floyd haven't caused us to realise this world is the same as 2019, with the lockdown slowly easing, and now seeing all the violence happening here and in America, it made me think about the Psalms especially Psalm 120 in verse 6 its states:

*"Too long have I had my dwelling among those who hate peace"*

Psalm 120 belongs to that compilation known as the Psalms of Ascent: 15 songs nestled towards the end of the psalter that were sung by Hebrews making their way to Jerusalem for worship. Psalm 120 is actually the first of these songs, and thematically it stands apart from the rest. It's not so much a stirring anthem for the march onward as it is a cry for help—*"in my distress I called to the Lord"*

What is distressing the psalmist? He tells us in verse 5:

*"Woe to me, that I sojourn in Meshech, that I dwell among the tents of Kedar!"*

Meshech and Kedar are two nomadic tribes, both to the east of the Promised Land. Elsewhere in Scripture, Meshech is associated with the sins of Magog and Babylon, and the Kedarenes come from the passed over line of Ishmael. Covenantally-speaking, these aren't great places to be. They are metaphors for the wickedness of the world. They are stand-ins for any Gentile region that is far from the people and promises and peace of God.

That's where this psalmist feels he has been living. In essence he is crying: "Get me out of here!" We all need to make that cry.

The Christian life needs to begin with that desire to dwell somewhere else. It's the only thing that will start us on our journey towards God. We should not feel settled here. That's why Psalm 120 is the only beginning that makes sense for the series of psalms that follows. Recording artists will tell you about the importance of what is known as "sequencing"—having good songs for an album isn't the end of the project, putting those songs in the right order is just as important.

The art of ordering the songs on a record is called sequencing; it's what makes sense of the whole, it's what brings cohesion and narrative to what would otherwise be 10 or 12 disjointed tracks. Note the sequencing of the Psalms of Ascents: for the pilgrimage to make sense, Psalm 120 has to be at the start. We all need to be fed up with this sinful world in order to begin our journey to the celestial one. Eugene Peterson captures it like this: "A person has to be thoroughly disgusted with the way things are to find the motivation to set out on the Christian way. A person has to get fed up with the ways of the world before he or she, acquires an appetite for the world. If we want to make the journey to God, we need at first to be thoroughly at one with the way the world is. In Psalm 120, the psalmist has noted that he is in the wrong place, so now he needs to get to the right place. This is the start of the journey! His aim is stated in verse 7: "I am for peace." Literally in Hebrew it reads: "I peace." His aim is all-consuming that it becomes his identity. He is for peace, so where is the natural place for him to go? The city of peace—Jerusalem!

The psalmist's distress is our distress; His aim ought to be our aim as well: we must recognise the emptiness of this world, when we are all going through the upset of not seeing loved ones and the hurt being caused by so much hate. Do we recognise that this world doesn't have what you need are longing for at this time? Does it have God. We must set your aim on Him. We must take the warning of C. S. Lewis, "Aim for heaven, and get earth thrown in. Aim for earth and get neither."

Do we recognise that we are pilgrims? We are passing through (1 Peter 2:11). In the words of an old folk hymn: "No tranquil joys on earth I know, No peaceful, sheltering dome; This world's a wilderness of woe, This world is not my home." There is no peace here, but there is peace in the City of Peace. For the psalmist that was a city in Palestine. For us it's a city in heaven.

How do we properly orient our maps for Home? How do we ensure our compasses are pointing True North? How can we have the same aim as Psalm 120? If you are anything like me, your aim is regularly

off. Do we aim for earth and miss heaven. Do we find ourselves too comfortable with the things of this world. Or find ourselves hopeless against the harm of injustice, forgetting that there's something more than what we have here.

The answer is in the aim of Christ. When we look to his life here on earth we see he endured the same troubles as us. He was surrounded by sin (though He never succumbed to it). He knew this world was not His home, and where did He set His aim? Jerusalem. The city of peace, just like the psalmist. But for Him He knew it did not mean peace, but it would mean death. Jesus was heading for the cross (Hebrews 12:2). Luke 9:51 says, "When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." When the days drew near for him to die, He headed towards that death. He did not shrink from it. He headed towards destruction and curse to ensure that when we aim for Jerusalem we would have peace.

The cross is God's answer to a world of violence. A world that hates peace. The cross is God's answer to a world where injustice seemingly reigns supreme. We see how seriously God takes justice at Calvary. For those who do not repent of the consistent shirking of shalom, for those who are enemies of the church, for those who promote violence and wrongdoing, there will be a day of judgment. For the Christian, our final judgment was brought forward in time and Jesus experienced it all in our place. So that when our aim is off, when we find ourselves forgetting about our true home, when I find ourselves too comfortable here, when we succumb to sin, we are still safe. Jesus died the death that we will be forgiven our sins.

And you know what that reality makes me want to do? It makes me want to be with Him. I hope you feel it too? Don't we all want to be with the God who would love us so much that He would make a pilgrimage of death for us? So we respond to that gift by turning, by endeavouring, by journeying, by making our aim our very identity, one with our God: peace.

Gail



## **Two Quizzes for the price of One.....**

### **Albert's 'Beatles' Quiz**

*From the initials & dates given, name the Beatles songs...*

1. LMD (1962)
2. IWITHYH (1963)
3. AML (1964)
4. H (1965)
5. ER (1966)
6. HG (1967)
7. SFF (1967)
8. BITUSSR (1968)
9. CT (1969)
10. LIB (1970)

### **Albert's Biblical Stars Quiz**

*Name the well known stars whose names appear in the Holy Bible*

1. Brazilian and Manchester City striker?
2. Singer/songwriter who wrote 'Bridge over Troubled Water'?
3. 'Mann' who wrote 'Death in Venice'?
4. Osborne, playwright who wrote 'Look back in Anger'?
5. Hamill who appeared in Star Wars films?
6. Hogan, Australian star of Crocodile Dundee?
7. Shaw, Manchester United fullback?
8. Stanley, first footballer to be knighted?
9. Middle name of Elvis (not Costello)?
10. Giant killer singer/songwriter who sold the world and discussed life on Mars?

Albert

Answers on page 39

## Church Mouse Tales

'This exercising lark is proving most beneficial' I exclaimed excitedly to my friend Hubert, the Black Canon.

'Oh good', he looked up from his book, peered over his spectacles and smiled.

'Yes, today I'm going to go further than I've ever been before...' I went on with enthusiasm.

'Now you be careful,' warned Hubert, 'you'd better tell me where you are going in case of any problems...'

'Problems?' I asked, 'what could possibly go wrong?'

'There's all kinds of hazards a small rodent might encounter,' he replied thoughtfully.

'I'm prepared for anything,' I puffed out my chest defiantly.

'What will you do if you meet someone?' he persisted.

'Well obviously I'll social distance from them.' I explained a little crossly, '...the whole 2 inches too...'

'Er, well ok – make sure you take a face covering then.' he advised in his best concerned tone.

'I have made a suitable mask out of straw.' I declared.

'Good, whilst you're out I shall be performing a deep clean.'

'Oh what is that?'

'It's an efficacious way to make sure everywhere is clean and safe.'

'You are the saviour, Hubert, of the human race', I praised.

'Well, I think that was someone else, but thank you for the sentiment.'

'And by the time I get back we will all be in the pink....' I declared happily.

'I'll drink a drink to that,' observed Hubert.

Misha x.



### Quiz Answers:-

#### Beatles:

1. Love Me Do 2. I Want To Hold Your Hand 3. All My Loving  
4. Help 5. Eleanor Rigby 6. Hello, Goodbye 7. Strawberry Fields Forever  
8. Back in the USSR 9. Come Together 10. Let It Be.

#### Biblical:

1. Gabriel Jesus 2. Paul Simon 3. Thomas 4. John (James)  
5. Mark 6. Paul 7. Luke 8. Matthew(s) 9. Aaron 10. David (Bowie)

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**BAPTISMS**—We welcome into our Church family:-



## DEATHS



We give thanks for the lives of all those who have died within our Parish:

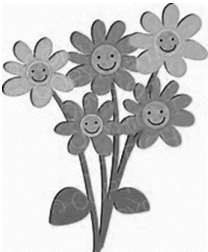
**Bernard Cowling**  
**Sue Shaw**

**WEDDINGS** Please pray for all couples who married at St Mary's, especially:



## FLOWER DONATIONS.

There will be no flowers in church.  
Please watch out for notices and announcements about church opening dates and times.





## Diary for the coming weeks

**All Services ONLINE at [facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)**

Morning Prayer is online at 9.00am every Mondays & Friday plus:

### July

1st Wed	10:00am Holy Communion
2nd Thur	9pm Night Prayer
4th Sat	10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)
<b>5th Sun</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
8th Wed	10:00am Holy Communion
9th Thur	9pm Night Prayer
10th Fri	8pm Quiz Night Online
11th Sat	10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)
<b>12th Sun</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
13th Mon	8pm PCC Meeting Online
14th Tue	6pm Evening Prayer
15th Wed	10:00am Holy Communion
16th Thur	9pm Night Prayer
18th Sat	10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)
<b>19th Sun</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
21st Tue	6pm Evening Prayer
22nd Wed	10:00am Holy Communion
23rd Thur	9pm Night Prayer
24th Fri	8pm Quiz Night Online
25th Sat	10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)
<b>26th Sun</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
28th Tue	6pm Evening Prayer
29th Wed	10:00am Holy Communion
30th Thur	9pm Night Prayer

### August

1st Sat	10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)
<b>2nd Sun</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>

See also page 13 for details of how to join on-line.

# ADULT BALLET

COME AND JOIN OUR FUN, FRIENDLY BALLET TECHNIQUE CLASS. THE CLASS IS PERFECT FOR "EXPERIENCED BEGINNERS" BUT ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME.



**WITH EMILY HUMPHREYS**



**Wednesdays**

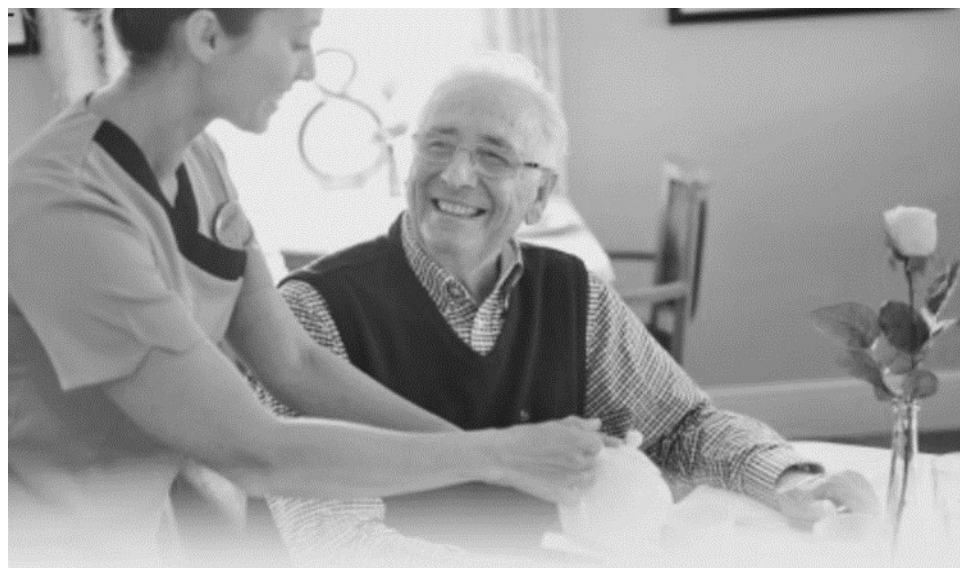
**8PM - 9PM**

**£6 Drop In**

**St Marys Parish Centre, Woodkirk**

**To book your place: [Facebook.com/evhdance](https://www.facebook.com/evhdance)  
[emily@humphreys.dance](mailto:emily@humphreys.dance)**

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## **Lydgate Lodge** *a great place to live*

*"Lydgate Lodge  
is a lovely environment  
for residents and relatives  
alike providing excellent care  
and facilities."*

Son of Resident at  
Lydgate Lodge

([carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk) review)

Lydgate Lodge makes a real difference to the lives of our residents, offering 24 hour residential and dementia care in luxurious surroundings and with an inclusive fee package.

Lydgate Lodge's caring and highly trained staff cherish our residents, assisting them to remain independent and ensuring they enjoy an active lifestyle.

*A home is more than just bricks and mortar - it is a  
place you feel safe, well cared for and relaxed.*



*Passing by? Pop in for a cuppa ...*



### ***Lydgate Lodge Care Home***

Soothill Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 6EZ

[lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk](mailto:lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk)

01924 355 020

**ideal** carehomes

[idealcarehomes.co.uk](http://idealcarehomes.co.uk)

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**Did you know?**

**We place our Parish Magazine on our website each month therefore YOUR Advert reaches many more people.**

**To advertise in St Mary's Parish Magazine**

**Contact: The Editor (see page 2)**

**Annual Fee for Advertising:**

**Quarter Page £35.00**

**Half Page £70.00**

**Full Page £110.00**

## **Shirl's Curls**

Local fully qualified Ladies Mobile Hairdresser with over 20 years' experience.

Shirley brings the professional salon experience to you in the comfort of your home, without the stress of travelling or parking.

Specialising in cutting/styling, foils, colouring and perming.



Get in touch to discuss your needs and to book an appointment.

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

## **Parish Centre Rentals**

**We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre at various times of the week.**

**Nominal Cost is £50 for  
3 hours.**

**Contact: Sally Shaw  
01924 475048 for more  
information.**

**Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.**



 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
**Diocese of Leeds**

# BENNETT OF MORLEY

## FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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An independent family business,  
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1891. The family pride themselves  
on their caring and understanding  
of the bereaved and offer a complete  
funeral service including a pre-paid  
funeral 'plan'.

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### CONSULTANTS

**CHRISTINE BENNETT**  
**RACHEL STONES**

RESIDENCE  
3 HOLLY COURT  
TINGLEY

## What's on

**Playgroup** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
9:30am to 11.25am  
Becky Schofield 07811 146958

**ABC Group** Adults, Babies and Children  
Wednesday 9:15-11:00am (Term time)  
Cheryl 07948271688

**Stepping Stones** Sunday Children's Group (3-12 years old)  
4th Sunday of the Month  
10:30am in Church

**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** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 2:00pm  
Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078

**Beavers** Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm  
Joanne Rutledge 07950 580877

**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 with Holy Communion

A Service for all the family.

### **3rd Sunday of the month**

10:30am Holy Communion

### **4th Sunday of the month:**

10:30am Holy Communion

### **5th Sunday of the month (4 times per year)**

10:30am All Age Worship with Holy Communion

### **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: Barbara Tate on:

0113 253 1266

### **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@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:gail@stmarywoodkirk.org)