

Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

November 2022



**All Souls Commemoration
2nd November 2022**

**Worship Online at:
[Facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)**

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Who's who at Woodkirk

- Vicar of St Mary's:** **Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.**
Woodkirk Vicarage, 1168 Dewsbury Road,
Dewsbury, WF12. 7JL
01924 472375/07539466724
E-mail: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org
- Reader:** Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
- Lay Pastoral Minister** Gail Townsend 07792 975814
- Churchwardens:** Gary Mortimer 07740 760556
Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
- Assistant Churchwardens:** David Townsend, Pernoe Liburd
- Deanery Synod Reps** Brian Gledhill
Gary Mortimer
- Verger:** Gail Townsend 07792 975814
- Organist:** Mr Stephen Parker
- PCC Secretary:** Dawn Tattersfield
- PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate 07792 211095
- 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
Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
- Electoral Roll Officer:** Dave Townsend
- Data Protection
and Legacy Officer** Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
- Magazine Editor &
Weekly News Sheet:.** David Townsend
Email: Dave@stmarywoodkirk.org
Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.
Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet
by Thursday evening please.

Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Laura Mortimer, Barbara Tate, Gail Townsend, Sandra Gledhill, Pernoe Liburd, David Townsend.

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

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Welcome!

Enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers.

Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Parish News by Post

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

Web site & Twitter

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

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.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow
old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years
condemn. At the going down of the sun and in
the morning, we will remember them.

Laurence Binyan 1914.

Vicar's Letter

Well what an end to the month of October this has been with Lizzy and Tom getting married – thank you to all who contributed in any way and it was lovely to see so many of you at the Service. A quick picture for those interested:-



November sees us enter into a more solemn period of church life as we remember our loved ones whom we see no longer in our All Souls' Service (2nd November) – we then move on to remembering all those whose lives were lost or shattered during wartime on Remembrance Sunday. We are very privileged to have the British Legion with us on this day – see poster on P25

It isn't long before Advent creeps upon us as we look in earnest for the coming of Christ not only in the stable but also towards His second coming.

This year Advent commences on Sunday 27th November. A four week journey of reflection through Advent commencing on Wednesday 30th November at 7.30pm will take place on line. If you have never taken part in them on line then please consider doing so as they are a way to have some quiet reflective time in the busyness of Christmas. They will also be thought provoking and make you think!

Most of our events this year have been cancelled for various reasons and so we are looking forward to our Christmas Tree Festival which opens on Friday 2nd December and closes with a Family Carol Service on Sunday 4th December at 4.00pm. On Saturday 3rd December we will be holding our Christmas Fair in the Parish Hall from 10.00am to 2.00pm and the Tree Festival will be open all day.

I do hope that as we build up to the busyness of December we take time for ourselves and time to be with God as we once again imagine ourselves to be part of that stable scene.

Best wishes

Sharon

Whether the weather!

In the middle of October, a weather forecaster remarked that it was 40 years ago since the infamous storm that made Michael Fish famous for getting the forecast wrong. You may remember that Michael told us that a lady had been in touch with the BBC and said she had heard that there was a hurricane on the way and he said not to worry as there wasn't!

Then followed one of the worst storms in living memory.

It also reminded me of a quote from Jerome K Jerome's 'Three Men in a Boat' which says "...but who wants to be foretold the weather? It is bad enough when it comes without our having the misery of knowing about it beforehand"!!

And I seemed to recall something about the great prophet Elijah, Baal and the weather...no it's not the start of a joke, although you could be mistaken for thinking so. Anyway, I interrogated my online bible and sure enough up popped a reference from the 1st book of Kings 17-19.

I think it would be helpful here if I refer to the end of the previous chapter, 1 Kings 16:29-34 from my Bible Handbook, where it says...

"In the writer's view, religious life in Israel reaches an all time low during the 22 years of Ahab's reign". (Please see note at the end of the article for a bit more information on Ahab's father).

King Ahab had married Jezebel which brings political strength and trade benefits, but Jezebel follows the religion of Baal and persuades Ahab to do as well.

Baal was worshipped as a weather God who could give or withhold the produce of the land, so through the prophet Elijah God proves to King Ahab and his people that He alone [God] has power over the weather.

At this critical time, as if from nowhere, Elijah makes a sudden and dramatic appearance, telling King Ahab that there will be no dew or water for the next three years ‘...except by his word’.

The passage then goes off at several tangents involving wadis, ravens a widow and her son and Obadiah, (honestly Soap Operas have nothing on some of these Old Testament passages!) until we get to the part in 1 Kings 18:17 when King Ahab sees Elijah and accuses him of ‘troubling’ Israel to which Elijah responds that it is Ahab and his father’s house who have forsaken the commandments of God and worshipped the Baals.

Elijah tells Ahab to assemble all the Israelites at Mount Carmel with the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who are provided for by Jezebel.

Now at this time in biblical history, animal sacrifices were offered to the Lord and so Elijah challenges all the other prophets to set up their altar and sacrifice but they cannot light the fire, they have to call upon their ‘Gods’ to do it.

After they had prepared their altar they ‘...called on the name of Baal from morning until noon’ but nothing happened. Then Elijah gets the people to throw water onto his sacrifice, altar and the ground around it so it is all wet, then he calls on the Lord asking Him to provide the fire, which God does and the people once again believe in God.

Following this incident, the prophets of Baal and Asherah are killed and it is this action that sets Jezebel into great anger wanting to kill Elijah, which in turn is what sends Elijah fleeing into the mountains of Horeb where he has his encounter with God.

It frequently surprises me how my inspiration for a magazine article can unearth bits of the bible I don't look at all too often, but then how that little known story links in to something very well known, as in this case.

Further musings led me on to think about how there are similarities between Old Testament prophets and weather forecasters... quite often the prophets were dour foretellers of doom, and how often, when you have something important planned (usually in summer) do you watch the weather forecast in dread as unseasonal temperatures and lashing rain threaten to ruin all our carefully laid plans!

Well, the next time the weather forecasters get it wrong, perhaps you'll remember Elijah and the prophets of Baal (and dash to put up the gazebo!).

With love and showers

Dawn xx

Further information on Ahab's father...

Ahab was the son of Omri, I can't really tell you much more of his ancestry without going through half of the preceding chapters of 1 Kings. A quote from the Oxford Bible Commentary (Barton & Muddiman) states 'The dynasty founded in Northern Israel by King Omri is of great significance to the political development of the country...a great amount of building took place across the entire land...Non biblical sources...show reluctant respect for the far reaching power and influence of Israel at the time of Omri's dynasty. The Biblical authors, however are not interested in the kingdom's fame, describing it as thoroughly Godless.')

Our Organist Stephen says goodbye

When our organist Stephen Parker and partner Jonathan decided they would move to the east coast it was a sad day for St. Mary's. We have been very blessed to have Stephen come and play for us for the last 2 years or so - his skills on the organ are surely among the best in the county, having previously played at Dewsbury Minster amongst others.



When he arrived Stephen immediately worked on the organ to improve its sound quality and make sure everything was in the best shape to make the music sound as good as possible. Which it surely does - but this is much to do with the man on the keyboard himself.

Both Stephen & Jonathan have engaged with the church socially as well as spiritually and supported many events along the way.

Stephen & Jonathan left us on the last Sunday in October to make their new life together in Bridlington. As Stephen said goodbye he thanked Sharon for her support - and even said we weren't bad as a congregation either...

We wish them both well in their new venture and hopefully they will pop in to see us when they are over this way.



From Solomon to Herod via Trevor!

Hi there

I am very lucky in that members of the Church family occasionally bring me books, magazines and other items which they have come across, generally when they are having a bit of a tidy up, and which they think I might find of interest.

One such occasion was when Trevor passed me a little book entitled 'From Solomon to Herod, The Story of Israel'. It may be a little while since Trevor passed this to me, but I was looking for something to have a look at the other evening, and I picked up this little book.

Now the reason for me sharing this with you, is that I am somewhat excited by this little book, not always the case with theological books!, but reading the foreword has kindled my interest. It starts;

'This is a book about the period from the death of Solomon to the birth of Christ'.

But then it tells you how to use the book; having your bible to hand so you can look up references and the step by step stages of working through parts of the Old Testament. I've only glanced forward a few pages at the moment and find references to Numbers, Judges, I and II Kings, Amos and Hosea.

Now through my 'reading of the Bible in a year, on which I got a little stalled, I have found some of those Old Testament books difficult to read and follow, and perhaps more importantly keep interest in, and as this little gem of a book has chapters titled The

Kingdom is divided, The exile in Babylon and refers to Alexander the Great, as well as 'Questions for discussion' at the end of each chapter, I am hoping to be reinvigorated in my bible study. Time indeed will tell.

What is also interesting is that the 'questions for discussion' at the end of the first chapter include;

What was the mistake Omri made in his foreign policy, and Compare Elijah and Elisha and their work in Israel

And if you have seen one of my other articles, I make reference to Omri, coincidence...or perhaps divine guidance???

It's when things like this occur, apparently unconnected aspects that link together, before writing for this month's magazine the name of Omri didn't mean anything to me.

So, many thanks Trevor, I look forward to this Old Testament Bible Study, and will keep you all updated on my progress.

Love and theology

Dawn x

Ambrose Edward Barlow (Order of St.Benedict) (1585 – 1641).

He was an English Benedictine monk who is venerated as a saint in the Catholic Church. He is one of a group of saints canonized by Pope Paul VI who became known as the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales.

Ambrose was born at Barlow Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, near Manchester in 1585 (in the parish of Manchester). He was the fourth son of the nobleman Sir Alexander Barlow and his wife Mary, daughter of Sir Urian Brereton of Handforth Hall. The Barlow family had been reluctant converts to the Church of England following the suppression of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Ambrose's grandfather died in 1584 whilst imprisoned for his beliefs and Sir Alexander Barlow had two thirds of his estate confiscated as a result of his refusing to conform with the rules of the new established religion. On 30 November 1585, Ambrose was baptised at Didsbury Chapel and his baptism entry reads "Edwarde legal sonne of Alex' Barlowe gent' 30". Ambrose went on to adhere to the Anglican faith until 1607, when he converted Roman Catholicism.

In 1597, Ambrose was taken into the stewardship of Sir Uryan Legteh, a relative who would care for him whilst he served out his apprenticeship as a page. However, upon completing this service, Barlow realised that his true vocation was for the priesthood, so he travelled to Douai in France to study at the English College there before attending the Royal College of Saint Alban in Valladolid, Spain. In 1615, he returned to Douai where he became a member of the Order of Saint Benedict, joining the community of St Gregory the Great (now Downside Abbey), and was ordained as a priest in 1617.

After his ordination into the priesthood, Ambrose returned to Barlow Hall, before taking up residence at the home of Sir Thomas Tyldesley, Morleys Hall, Astley. Sir Thomas' grandmother had arranged for a pension to be made available

to the priest which would enable him to carry out his priestly duties amongst the poor Catholics within his parish. From there he secretly catered for the needs of Catholic 'parishioners', offering daily Mass and reciting his Office and Rosary for the next twenty-four years. To avoid detection by the Protestant authorities, he devised a four-week routine in which he travelled throughout the parish for four weeks and then remained within the Hall for five weeks. He would often visit his cousins, the Downes, at their residence of Wardley Hall and conduct Mass for the gathered congregation.

Ambrose was arrested four times during his travels and released without charge. King Charles I signed a proclamation on 7 March 1641, which decreed that all priests should leave the country within one calendar month or face being arrested and treated as traitors, resulting in imprisonment or death. Ambrose's parishioners implored him to flee or at least go into hiding but he refused. Their fears were compounded by a recent stroke which had resulted in the 56-year-old priest being partially paralysed. "Let them fear that have anything to lose which they are unwilling to part with", he told them.



On 25 April 1641, Easter Day, Ambrose and his congregation of around 100 people were surrounded at Morleys Hall, Astley by the Vicar of Leigh and his armed congregation of some 400. Father Ambrose surrendered, and his parishioners were released after their names had been recorded. The priest was restrained, then taken on a horse with a man behind him to prevent his falling, and escorted by a band of sixty people to the Justice of the Peace at Winwick, before being transported to Lancaster Castle.

Father Ambrose appeared before the presiding judge, Sir Robert Heath, on 7 September when he professed his adherence to the Catholic faith and defended his actions. On 8 September, the feast of the Nativity of Mary, Sir Robert Heath found Ambrose guilty and sentenced him to be executed. Two days later, he was taken from Lancaster Castle, drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, hanged, dismembered, quartered, and boiled in oil. His head was afterwards exposed on a pike. His cousin, Francis Downes, Lord of Wardley Hall, a devout Catholic rescued his skull and preserved it at Wardley where it remains to this day. It is not the skull of Roger Downes of that same family, the libertine and friend of the Earl of Rochester.

When the news of his death and martyrdom reached his Benedictine brothers at Douai Abbey, a Mass of Thanksgiving and the Te Deum were ordered to be sung.

On 15 December 1929, Pope Pius XI proclaimed Father Ambrose as Blessed at his Beatification ceremony at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. In recognition of the large number of British Catholic martyrs who were executed during the Reformation, most during the reign of Elizabeth I, Pope Paul VI decreed that on 25 October 1970 he was canonising a number of people who were to be known as the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales of whom Ambrose was one.

Gail

Climate Change Conference

COP27



Dear friends

You may have heard mention of COP27 on the news bulletins, and I wanted to share with you, a resource from the Diocesan Environment Team.

This year the UN Conference of Parties (COP) Climate Change Conference is being held

in Sharm-El-Sheikh, Egypt from the 6th to the 18th November and the team have put together daily prayers and intercessions for during the period COP27 is happening.

Whilst we may have enjoyed some of the hot weather we experienced during the summer, we also recognise we need global action and collaboration to protect our global home, God's earth.

Will you join me and others across the diocese in praying daily for the talks that will be taking place in Egypt? Here are the prayers for each day:

6th November

Gracious God,

We give thanks for the ways in which countries and nations have come together to address the global crisis of climate warming.

We praise you for the efforts of individuals who have raised our awareness and changed hearts and minds.

May we, together, create the political climate for effective action.

7th November

Let us pray for the transformation and adaptation of our carbon-based economies, and of our social and ecological systems. To increase our resilience and strengthen us for the tasks ahead, and help us to develop our capacity to deal with the many problems which come with climate change.

8th November

Climate Change Conference – COP27

Dear friends

Pray for the recognition for the need for climate finance systems to support

actions addressing climate change, and to recognise our responsibilities to the poorer nations in funding and resources.

9thNovember

Give thanks for climate technologies, for wind energy, solar power and hydropower, drought-resistant crops, early warning systems and sea walls, and the visions for the future.

10thNovember

We give thanks for the power of the sun above us, for the warmth of the ground beneath us, for the freedom of the wind around us, for the strength of waves and the rhythm of tides.

Grant ingenuity and inspiration in the development of renewable energy.

11thNovember

Bless all educators and scientists as they reveal the wonders of creation.

May all people have the chance to learn, to understand and to participate in sustainable lifestyles.

12thNovember

Grant wisdom and effectiveness to environmental campaigners as they seek to change hearts and minds, and raise awareness of our need to respect and protect the earth.

13thNovember

Thank you for the physical landscapes that surround us.

We thank you too, for the inner landscape of our thoughts and feelings, as the environment forms us, may we form an environment which is beneficial to all your creatures.

14thNovember

Pray for indigenous peoples across the world, for recognition of their local knowledge and for their inclusion in governance and decision-making in nature conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the land and quality of life.

15thNovember

Pray for the ocean as a fundamental part of the climate system and the global response to climate change. For places affected by sea level rise and coastal erosion.

16th November

Pray for the integrity of all ecosystems, including forests, oceans, and the cryosphere (the frozen parts of the earth's surface), for the protection of biodiversity, and all endangered species of flora and fauna.

17th November

We praise you for the capacity of trees and plants to absorb and store carbon dioxide.

We give thanks for those who plant and preserve our woods and trees, may the leaves of the trees help the healing of the nations.

18th November

Gracious God,

Grant us the expectant hope that this damaged earth will be healed of its pain and restored to wholeness. Come among us to judge the world with righteousness and to change both hearts and minds.

Turn us away from exploitation to avert, minimise and address loss and damage to your world,

As we work towards the nurture of creation.

(Written by Christine Jack. Inspired by Praying for the Earth by Rob Kelsey 2021. Remembering the Environment in our Prayers of Intercession)

Thank you.

Dawn x

Prayerful thought – never give up on prayer

In the middle of October I preached at the Sunday Holy Communion.

Slightly wrong footed by the fact that I had misread the reading on which my sermon was based, I nevertheless continued as planned and hopefully provided some things for those present to ponder over.

The main part of the reading was of persistence in prayer from Luke 18 v 1-8 the story of the Persistent widow. The moral of the story being that we should never give up on prayer.

As we all know, during the past year or so, we have been greatly blessed and our worship has been enhanced by the amazing playing of our organist Stephen. Sadly, by the time you read this article, Stephen and his partner Jonathan will have left us for pastures new, and they will be sorely missed.

However, the reason for my mentioning this is in relation to Stephen's choice of hymn on the day that I preached. I didn't know the second hymn, entitled Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, but it was so fitting and really supported the message that we should never give up on prayer. The words were these:

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, unuttered or expressed;
The motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast
Prayer is the burden of a sigh, the falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye, when none but God is near.*

*Prayer is the simplest form of speech that infant lips can try;
Prayer, the sublimest strains that reach the Majesty on high.
Prayer is the Christian's vital breath, the Christian's native air,
His watchword at the gates of death – He enters Heav'n with prayer.*

*Prayer is the contrite sinners voice, returning from his ways,
While angels in their songs rejoice and cry, "Behold he prays!"
O Thou by whom we come to God, the life, the truth, the way,
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod – Lord, teach us how to pray!*

Well what more do we need to say?

Some of us find prayer difficult to do, and yet amongst everything else we do, it is perhaps one of the simplest.

Perhaps we feel our prayers are silly or trivial, perhaps we find it difficult to sit still and pray, perhaps we can't think what to say (not generally a problem for me!).

I have attended a number of Diocesan events about prayer, and I'm pretty sure I have referenced these in previous magazine articles. Well meaning theologians and clergy provide any number of aids to prayer for example;

Lighting a candle to give you something to focus on,
Holding a cross or other item in your hand

Or you can try the **Hand Prayer Model** – using your hand, your thumb to pray for people close to you your index finger, praying for those 'who point the way'. Use your middle finger to pray for those in authority, your ring finger for those in need and your little finger to pray for yourself and your needs.

One of the best events I attended was led by former Bishop of Oxford John Pritchard (now retired) who led a training evening on 'How to pray'.

I could certainly relate to one of the early points he made that we are 'serial beginners' and that prayer is not complicated, he said;

*"Prayer is not a transaction, a divine ATM, it is not a clever technique.
Prayer is as natural as breathing, it is an instinct that we develop into*

a special relationship.'

The essence of it all really is that prayer doesn't have to be long or complicated, and like most things in our lives, that are important to us, how we do it is personal, we're not all the same.

The key part is to make sure you make prayer part of your day. You may not be able to sit down first thing as you get up, or last thing before you go to bed, but even saying a quick prayer whilst boiling the kettle or hanging out the washing is just as valid/important as kneeling with your hands together and your eyes closed.

And remember the first few lines of the song Stephen played, as mentioned above;

*Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, unuttered or expressed;
The motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast...*

*Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice, returning from his ways,
While angels in their songs rejoice and cry, "Behold he
prays!"...*

*O Thou by whom we come to God, the life, the truth, the way,
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod – Lord, teach us how to
pray*

And if ever you're stuck and don't know what to pray, you can always pray with the words our Saviour taught us...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name...

With love
Dawn x

St Mary's Church, Woodkirk

Remembrance Sunday Service

Sunday 13th November 10.30am



...We will remember them

A warm welcome to the British Legion

Help available at the Numbers below...

NEVER ALONE

NSPCC
0808 800 5000
(24hrs)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247
(24hrs free)

Mind
0300 123 3393
(Mon-Fri 9-6)

Victim Support
0808 168 9111
(24hrs)

Cruse Bereavement
0800 808 1677
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

ChildLine
0800 1111
(24hrs)

Action on Elder Abuse
0808 808 8141
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

Respect - Men's Advice Line
0808 801 0327
(Mon-Fri 9-5 or 8pm)

Samaritans
116 123
(24hrs free)

National Centre for Domestic Violence
0207 186 8270

Pastoral Care

Telephone Calls—We understand times have been difficult—please know we are here if you need anything. Gail Townsend is our Pastoral Minister and she regularly telephones those who are unable to leave their homes at this time. If you would like Gail to give you a weekly call then please do not hesitate to contact her on 07792 975814.

Baptisms—At the moment we are continuing to arrange Baptisms and we will follow the relevant guidelines set out by the government. We will keep in touch with you if you have already booked if anything changes. If you wish to make an enquiry or book a Baptism please contact Barbara Tate on 07792 211095.

Weddings, funerals, Ashes, or the reading of banns—in the first instance please contact our Verger who co-ordinates these events. Our Co-ordinator is Gail Townsend on 07792 975814 or email: gail@stmarywoodkirk.org. We will follow government guidelines throughout this winter and if we need to inform you of changes then we will contact you when and if the government makes changes.

Notice Sheets—If you would like to receive a copy of our weekly Notice Sheet via email—then please drop me an email giving me permission to add you to the list. My email address is vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

Please note we are GDPR compliant and take great care of your private information.

GEORGE & JEMIMA. THE BIG SHOP

If you missed it - our resident puppets were in action last month...

Both pop up. George seeming a bit ratty.

Jemima. Hiya George, how's it going?

George. (sighing) Hi Jemima, give me a minute, I'm worn out.

Jemima. Why's that? what ya been up to now?

George. I've been shopping.

Jemima. You've been doing what?

George. You heard me Jemima, I've been shopping.

Jemima. You never go shopping George, please tell me more.

George. I can't, I'm stressed.

Jemima. Aw come on George, it can't have been that bad, come on tell me.

George. Oh, ok. Well, ya know Saturday is normally my big play out day, cause no school on Saturday.

Jemima. Yeesss

George. So, my Dad had to go away for the weekend with his work.

Jemima. So, what's that got to do with it?

George. Well, with my Dad being away, there was no one to look after me.

Jemima. So, what about your Mum?

George. Yeh Mum was at home, but she needed to do the dreaded big shop, and I had to go with her.

Jemima. So, what's wrong with that?

George. I hate doing the big shop, it's just for food and stuff, and that doesn't interest me at all, cause there's no toys involved.

Jemima. So, couldn't you just put up with it for an hour or so?

George. An hour? an hour? It takes my Mum half a blooming day the way she pratts about

Jemima. So, come on then what happened?

George. Ok. My Mum can't go start the big shop without first going to Starbucks.

Jemima. So, what's wrong with that?

George. Are you joking Jemima? have you ever tried to buy a coffee in Starbucks?

Jemima. Yeh, once, a while back, what's wrong with it?

George. Well, ya just can't buy a coffee can you, it's got to be a Chokka, Mokka, Lokka, Nokka. Or a Latte, Clarty, Farty, Party. Or, or a Chippalino, Piccalino. Cappacino, Al Paccino. Ya just can't just get a coffee.

Jemima. But that's part of the fun of Starbucks George.

George. OK. I order my Al Paccino and the guy askes me for my name. I said "What do you need my name for?" He said "To write on your cup, so We know which is yours" I said "It's there, I can see it, it's mine" Then he gives me it and then asks me for my email address, so I Gave him it. Jemima. Hang on a minute George, you don't have an email address.

George. But he didn't know that did he?

Jemima. So, what did you do?

George. I made one up.

Jemima. So, go on then, what did you give him?

George. "Gorgeous George at St Mary The Virgin Media . God"

Jemima. Good one George, I like that. Then what?

George. We went on to that tiny small Supermarket. I suppose that's why they call it Little.

Jemima. It's Lidl George - Lidl not Little.

George. Whatever. Anyway, this was a lot worse than Starbucks.

Jemima. How come? George. Too much stuff, it did my head in.

Jemima. How do you mean George?

George. Too much to choose from, I don't know how my Mum does it.

Jemima. Such as?

George. All that blooming fruit. I only know apples, oranges, bananas and Pears. I mean, what the heck is a cumquat?

Jemima. (Chuckles)

George. Then all that veg. Spuds & carrots & Onions I'm ok with, but who painted the broccoli purple and them onions red?

Jemima. You're priceless George.

George. I haven't finished yet.

Jemima. What there's more?

George. Yeh, the milk, the milk.

Jemima. What's wrong with the milk?

George. What's wrong with the milk? I just want an ordinary carton of milk. I mean there's full fat, semi-skimmed, is that milk that doesn't know what it's doing. Then there's skinny milk, how can it be skinny, it's in a massive carton. Then there's the one that really puzzles me.

Jemima. Which one?

George. Almond Milk, I mean come on, how do you milk an Almond?

Jemima. Brilliant George.

George. Then suddenly My Mum picked up a jar that said olives on it. I said "Mum put that back" Mum said "why" I said "they Belong to Olive.

Jemima. (Laughs in hysterics)

George. Oh, and get this one Jemima. Mum puts Dove Shampoo in the Basket, I said "Mum we don't have a Dove"

Jemima. Ha ha, I give up.

George. And last but not least, the bread.

Jemima. Ya can't have any problems with bread, or can you George?

George. Oh yes I can. What stupid names for bread.

Jemima. Such as?

George. Ok then, what the heck is a French stick?

Jemima. It's a baguette.

George. That's a small handbag to me. And how about a Cob, a cob's a flipping horse to me. Oh, and get this one. A Bloomer. Someone made a big mistake naming that one. Finally, a seeded loaf, what's the Seeds for? growing more bread?

Jemima. Ya daft as a brush George.

George. One thing I didn't get though Jemima was a big sign over the bread counter which said The Bread of Life, what's all that about.

Jemima. Oh George, don't you listen when you go to Church. I don't know Why the supermarket had this sign, but I can try to explain The Bread of Life as I understand it.

George. I'm all ears.

Jemima Well George, it's Jesus who is The Bread of Life.
George. I don't get it.

Jemima. Ok, listen. After Jesus had fed the people with only bread and a few fishes, he returned to the other side of the sea. The people and his Disciples followed him. Although the food had satisfied them at the Time, they returned to him still hungry. This is why they sought Jesus so desperately. Not for who he was, but because he had amazed them at what he had done. The miracle reminded them of Moses, When the nation was nourished daily with bread from Heaven. Perhaps Jesus, like Moses, could usher in a new age for their people. Jesus spoke to them saying "you worked so hard to find me, but only so you could ask me for bread that satisfies a short while. Why aren't you looking for the bread that will satisfy you for ever? Bread that satisfies forever? The crowd thought, how can we get this miraculous bread from God? They asked Jesus what works of God must we do in order to get this bread? Jesus replied, I am sent from God. Believe in me. The crowd said "you only fed us for a day, but Moses brought down bread from heaven and fed millions, what great work will you do that Demonstrates that you are greater than Moses"? Jesus said "Understand this. Moses did not give you the bread, my father gave it to you. He has now given you the bread of life that I speak of. The people said "give us a sign that will show us how to get bread Forever". They waited intently for his answer. Then Jesus said "I am that bread of life, whoever comes to me shall not hunger and whoever believes in me will never thirst again.

George. Well, that took you a while Jemima, but I think I get it now. If I have my faith in Jesus, he will never desert me and will always be there to protect me.

Jemima. Yes George, you got it.

George. Ok thanks, see ya. (pops down)

Jemima. George, George, where ya going?

George. (from behind the wall) I'm off to Tazda.

Jemima. Goodbye everybody, see you next time
Brian.

The Word of God...

There was a moment when Moses had the nerve to ask God what his name is. God was gracious enough to answer, and the name he gave is recorded in the original Hebrew as YHWH.

Over time we've arbitrarily added an "a" and an "e" in there to get YaHWeH, presumably because we have a preference for vowels.

But scholars and Rabi's have noted that the letters YHWH represent breathing sounds, or aspirated consonants. When pronounced without intervening vowels, it actually sounds like breathing: YH (inhale): WH (exhale).

So a baby's first cry, his first breath, speaks the name of God.

A deep sigh calls His name – or a groan or gasp that is too heavy for mere words.

Even an atheist would speak His name, unaware that their very breath is giving constant acknowledgment to God.

Likewise, a person leaves this earth with their last breath, when God's name is no longer filling their lungs.

So when I can't utter anything else, is my cry calling out His name?

Being alive means I speak His name constantly.

So, is it heard the loudest when I'm the quietest?

In sadness, we breathe heavy sighs.

In joy, our lungs feel almost like they will burst.

In fear we hold our breath and have to be told to breathe slowly to help us calm down.

When we're about to do something hard, we take a deep breath to find our courage. When I think about it, breathing is giving him praise.

Even in the hardest moments!

This is so beautiful and fills me with emotion every time I grasp the thought. God chose to give himself a name that we can't help but speak every moment we're alive. All of us, always, everywhere.

Waking, sleeping, breathing, with the name of God on our lips.

- Unknown Author

Answers to last month's MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Quiz

On a sunny day in Spring, Joe and his wife Mary set sail from a town in **Fife**

on a ship of the **PNO** (piano) Line. They were welcomed aboard by the Bosun's **WHISTLE**. The noise was enough to deafen their ear **DRUMS**. They followed the **CYMBALS** (symbols) on the direction signs and reached their cabin. On the dressing table was a vase of **VIOLAS** (tenor fiddles) and daffodils with large **TRUMPETS**.

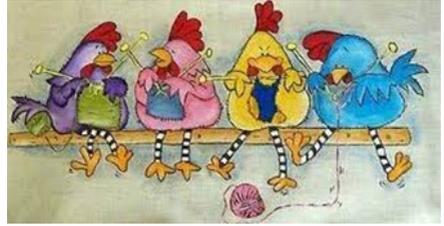
Joe said "this is much better than the **VIOLIN** (viol inn) we stayed in last night." There is even a **TUBA** toothpaste in the bathroom. Mary went to change and put **ACCORDIAN** (a cardy on), pleated skirt and jumper.

"I am so dry that if I don't get a **BASSOON** (bass soon), " said Joe, "I will die of thirst In fact make that a - **DOUBLE BASS**". J

oe sat on a high stool, Mary having short legs thought she would **PICCOLO** one (pick a low one). Joe lit his **PIPE**, "It's a pity there is no tobacco **BANJO** (ban, Joe) as you might save some money," said Mary. "Don't **HARP** on about it," said Joe. Presently they announced that ice cream wafers and **CORNETS** were on sale. Later they sounded the **HORN** and eventually they went ashore. "**HARMONICA** (our Monica) would have enjoyed that trip," said Mary.

Trevor Sykes

Happy Birthday Knit & Natter



It is lovely to be able to celebrate the first birthday of our Knit and Natter group which started at the end of October in 2021.

Elaine and I have led the group, with Cath assisting if we've been away, and we are now a group of between 7 to 14 ladies who meet weekly (with occasional variations due to other commitments).

Not all who attend are members of the church congregation, but join us and share in the life of the church, and becoming part of our Church family. They have assisted with knitting figures for our Christmas Tree for last year's tree festival, helped distributing sponsored walk leaflets and buying raffle tickets, and through our weekly 'subs' we have been able to make two donations to the East Window Fund.

We share fellowship, fun and food, and whilst there is a lot of 'nattering' there is lots of knitting too, although sometimes some like to chat more than knit, it doesn't matter all are welcome.

If you are looking for somewhere to 'be' on a Wednesday afternoon from 1pm til 3pm, do pop along to the Parish Centre, it would be lovely to see you. (Also, if you can't knit or crochet, we have ladies who can show you, and it's also been lovely amongst those who can, to be able to share patterns, techniques, tips and tricks).

Thanks to all our members
Elaine and Dawn xx

Making Christingles

Hi there friends

It's that time of year again when thoughts turn to oranges, yards of red sellotape and almost 1000 cocktail sticks filled with lovely sweeties...

We are planning to hold our two Christingle services on Christmas Eve as usual, but of course Christingles won't make themselves.

I'm looking for you lovely volunteers out there, to come and help us assemble the Christingles which we will do **in Church on Friday 23rd December from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.**

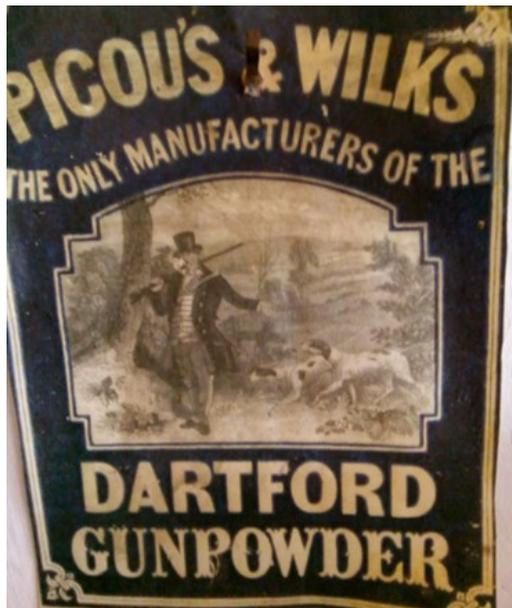
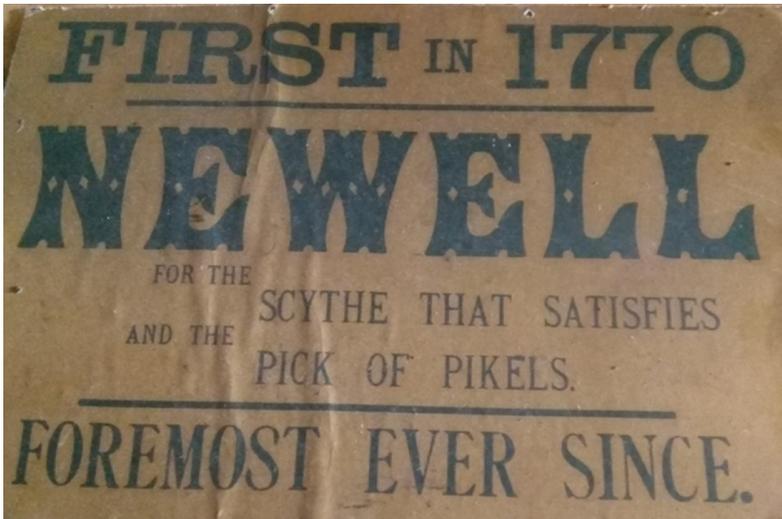
You don't need any previous experience! Come along and join a friendly and industrious 'production line', with refreshments and laughs included.

With love and cocktail sticks!
Dawn x



Adverts you just don't see anymore...

I came across these old adverts in Wales for products you don't really buy so much these days. I particularly like the 'Scythe that Satisfies', although given the current political mayhem maybe the second one has its uses in the month of November...?



All Souls Commemorative Service

Each year we remember our loved ones during the remembrance month of November. This year the service took place on 2nd November. The names of our loved ones were read out during the service and we used fallen leaves, flowers and stones to represent different aspects of life and we used them to create a memorial cross between the choir pews.

The service gives a unique opportunity to remember those we have lost at any time, not just as a result of conflict or war and many people find this to be of great benefit. There are reflective moments of quiet in the service as well as musical interludes and hymns combining to provide a peaceful setting for remembering those who may have died recently or may have died many years ago but are not forgotten.



St, Mary's, Woodkirk



Come along and join us for a

“Knit & Natter”

(or just a natter!)

Wednesday 1.00pm-3.00pm

Commencing October 20th

St. Mary's Parish Centre

Contact Elaine on 07894 402332

ALBERT'S November Quiz.

1. In the nursery rhyme, Bobby Shafto goes to sea with silver buckles on what part of his body?
2. Which word follows 'Armed to the...' to form a phrase meaning formidably armed?
3. Which of the following is a reddish brown venomous snake: Copperhead; Copperfoot or Copperback?
4. Relating to anatomy, what does nasal refer to?
5. Which British band had a hit in the 60's with Itchycoo Park?
6. In politics, Peter Mandelson served as MP for which constituency?
7. In which TV series does John Thomas play the role of Pete Gifford?
8. What word can mean part of a garment or part of a chair or a stage of a journey?
9. 'You're gonna need a bigger boat' is a line spoken by Roy Scheider in which 1970's film?
10. Which word follows 'ladies' to form another name for the plant 'Okra'?
11. Which novel features fictional islands called Lilliput and Blefuscu?
12. Which planet takes only about 3 months to orbit the sun?
13. What is a synonym?
14. Which sea route connects the Pacific & North Atlantic Oceans?
15. Which is the only mammal on earth that can actively fly?
16. What is the tallest building in America?
17. Which 1964 song begins 'Hello darkness my old friend..' ?
18. Place the following fractions in order of size - small to large: $\frac{7}{8}$; $\frac{3}{5}$; $\frac{1}{2}$; $\frac{6}{9}$
19. Who is the world's fastest 100m sprinter?
20. Can you unravel the following letters to give a word meaning Quiet:
LISTEN.

(answers on page 41)

Dates for Your Diary

Nov

- Wed 2nd 10am Holy Communion
7pm All Souls Service in Church
- Sun 6th 10:30am Holy Communion with Revd Pinder-Packard**
- Wed 9th 10am Holy Communion with Revd. Mark Watson
- Fri 11th 11am Service of 2 Minutes Silence (10mins service outside)
- Sun 13th 10:30am Remembrance Sunday with British Legion**
- Mon 14th 7:30pm PCC Meeting
- Wed 16th 10am Holy Communion
- Thur 17th 11am Lydgate Lodge Holy Communion
- Sun 20th 10:30am Holy Communion - Christ the King**
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Wed 23rd 10am Holy Communion
- Sun 27th 10:30am Holy Communion**
- Wed 30th 10am Holy Communion

Dec

- Thur 2nd 4pm-8pm Christmas Tree festival starts (in Church)
- Sat 3rd 10-2pm Christmas Fair in Parish Centre
10am-6pm Christmas Tree festival (Church)
- Sun 4th 10:30am Holy Communion**
12-4pm Christmas Tree festival (Church)
4pm Carol Service (child friendly)

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://www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)

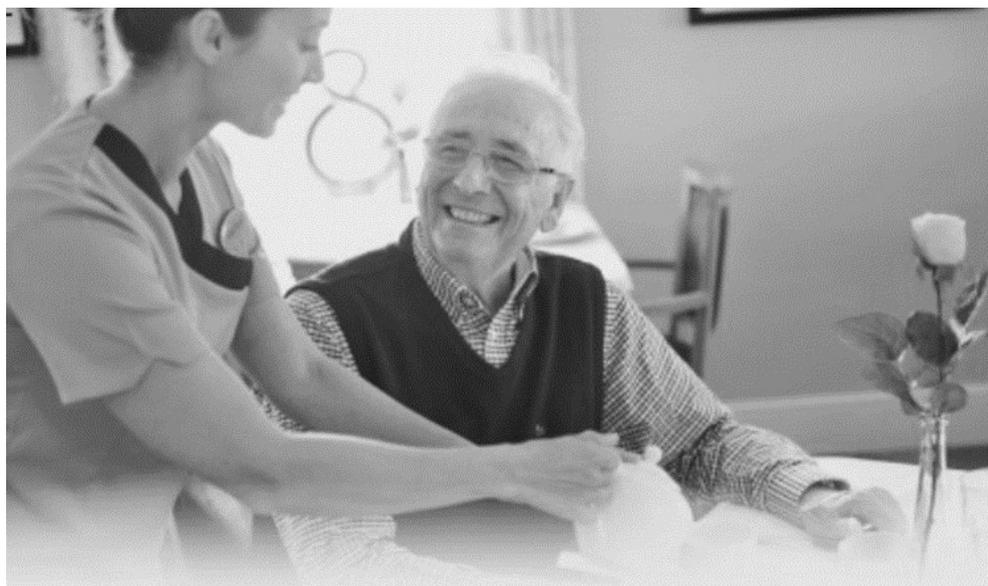
Then select 'Videos' from the side bar.

To join a 'Live' service look for the right time on the Diary page. You can also view previous services from the same location



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Knee 2. Teeth. 3. Copperhead. 4. Nose. 5. Small Faces 6. Hartlepool
7. Cold Feet. 8. Leg. 9. Jaws. 10. Fingers 11. Gulliver's Travels. 12.
Mercury. 13. A word with the same meaning as another. 14. The
Northwest Passage. 15. Bat. 16. One World Trade Centre. 17. The
Sound of Silence. 18. 1/2; 3/5; 6/9; 7/8. 19. Usain Bolt. 20. SILENT
Albert



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 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.

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Passing by? Pop in for a cuppa ...

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lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk

01924 355 020

ideal carehomes

idealcarehomes.co.uk

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS—We welcome into our Church family:—

Lucy Jane Karczmarczyk
Primrose Sue Gomersall
Sophia Belle Christopher



DEATHS



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

Dorothy Wilson
Jason Burbridge
David Stead

WEDDINGS :

Thomas Reid & Elizabeth Wilkinson
Gareth Johnson & Natalie Glover



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Toddler Classes**



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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.

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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 £60 for 3 hours. Regular long term bookings negotiable.

Contact: Sally Shaw

01924 475048 for more information.

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Diocese of Leeds

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CONSULTANTS

CHRISTINE BENNETT
RACHEL STONES

RESIDENCE
3 HOLLY COURT
TINGLEY

What's on (please check with the leader due to current tiers)

ABC Group Adults, Babies and Children
Wednesday 9:15-11:00am (Term time)
Nikki Esberger 07932026419

Rainbows Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm
Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 607393

Brownies Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm
Hannah Tombling 01924 501892

Young at Heart 2nd & 4th 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

Knit & Natter Group: Wednesday 1-3pm
Elaine 07894 402332

Services

Sunday Services.

Each Sunday there will be a Holy Communion Service at 10.30am in Church as well as Online.

Weekday Services

Mondays 9am	Morning Prayer	On Line
Tuesdays 6pm	Evening Prayer	On Line
Wednesdays 10am	Holy Communion in Church & On-line.	
Thursdays 9pm	Night Prayer	On Line
Fridays 9am	Morning Prayer	On Line

See inside for more details

Please see inside for details of how to join a streamed service