

# Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

**September 2022**



Worship Online at:  
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[www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)

## Who's who at Woodkirk

- Vicar of St Mary's:** **Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.**  
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- 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](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.

'It's never too late to be what you  
might've been.'

George Eliot.

## Vicar's Letter

Well! Here we are – it's September already! Where did the last two months go? We have been very lucky and had some very nice weather. There have been community events such as WF3 Kindness's Family Day, Woodfest, Lee Gap Fare and sadly there have also been some tragedies – the death of **Tomasz Ługowski** and Anthony Crosswaite and our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

As we move from August to September the life and rhythm of the church picks up pace as we now begin to build relationships with schools for another year, and work with families and children not least with our ABC group and there will even be a Teddy Bear's Picnic!

This year our Family Fun Day will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> September in the Vicarage Garden. It's always a good day for children and adults alike. This year we are also opening the church on the same day for the National Heritage Day which will allow those who wish to visit the church, to learn a little bit about its history and the history of the churchyard. We are lucky to have the Morley Family History Society on that day too.

As you know, the PCC have been working very hard to raise money for the East Window and we are getting there slowly but surely – a total of £33,500 has been raised, and the total cost is £75,500.

So it is with that in mind, that yours truly will undertake a

sponsored walk for the 30 days of September, a total of 19,000 steps daily (approximately 8.5 miles). I enjoy walking but it is a challenge to do that amount every day especially on very busy days and the tiredness does build up but I really think this is worth doing and I am very grateful to those of you who will sponsor me. You can follow my progress either on St Mary's Facebook Page or via the weekly Notice Sheet.

I want to just say a word about the Cost of Energy Crisis – more and more people (families, those living on their own, or who need heat or power for medical conditions) are going to suffer and fall beneath the bread line this winter. As a church we seriously need to think about how we can serve our community as we move into winter. We can start by making sure those we know are okay, by being a good neighbour. Personally, my own fuel bills have risen to a level that is ridiculous and if the Price Caps keep increasing the Standing Charge alone will cripple the average family. For those on benefits it will simply be impossible to manage.

Take care of yourselves – my prayers are with you.

Sharon

## Vicar's Sponsored Walk East Window Appeal

In the last 50 years – have you  
attended St Mary's Church,  
Woodkirk?

Have you had your wedding here?  
The funeral of a loved one? A child  
baptised?

If so, you will have sat in front of our  
beautiful East Window.

Sadly, after having it examined and  
reports prepared, our East Window  
needs urgent repairs and we would like  
to preserve it for future generations.  
As a church we have raised £33,500  
towards the total cost of repair of  
£75,500 but we need your help.

If you are able to sponsor Rev'd Sharon  
or donate towards the East Window  
fund then we would be very grateful  
and it will mean that its future is  
secured for the next generation.

Rev'd Sharon's sponsored walk will take  
place in September for a period of 30  
days. Each day she will walk 19,000  
steps (approx. 8.5 miles daily) and this  
will be recorded on our facebook page:  
[facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)



If you wish to sponsor her or make a  
donation to the East Window appeal then  
visit:

[stmarywoodkirk.org/eastwindow](https://stmarywoodkirk.org/eastwindow)

Or



SCAN ME

We are very grateful for any  
sponsorship or donations given.

Our prayers are with you.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Woodkirk Brownies

It has been great to be back at Brownies after the pandemic. We started the term in September with the Brownie Adventure, autumn crafts and games. We ended the first autumn term with a promise party with our new brownies and everyone renewed their promise.

In November we returned with Remembrance Day crafts and a visit to the church. We then worked on the winter challenge badge where we completed different winter crafts and activities and made our own gonks! We ended the term with a Brownie and Rainbow craft night where we welcomed our families back. The night was a huge success and our raffle helped pay towards our subscriptions in February.

In the new year we started the Brownie Programme Skills for my future - "To look to the future and build your skills to become independent and successful in life"

The brownies worked hard on this challenge any enjoyed finding out about different occupations and life skills such as handling money. We made crafts for St Valentines day and visited the pantomime in Morley. During the second spring term the Brownies spent a few weeks decorating a pottery cake stand for mother's day and we enjoyed a Easter Craft night with the Rainbows.

The summer term started with more work on the Brownie Adventure "Take action – empower yourself to make a difference, and use your voice to help your community and the wider world." Here we looked at the importance of communication, about listening well and keeping attention when talking, we look at recycling and environmental issues.

During the last half term, we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee with a red white and blue party, crown crafts and London charm bracelet making. We created badge designs for the forthcoming division event

'Bee Amazing' and enjoyed a summer craft night with the rainbows where we made magnets, flip flop key rings and completed magic painting sea creatures.

This year we have been joined by Izzy who is doing her adult leadership and Holly that has volunteered as part of her D of E and has decide she would like to do her Young Leader Qualification.

Hannah Tombling  
Leader



## **The August Sermons.**

In August Dawn, Neal and Gail were invited to preach their own take on a bible reading of their choice.

These are included through the magazine for you to enjoy. First was Dawn with her view of Genesis:

### **Genesis 1:1 – 2:3**

So today I'm focussing on our first reading, the story of creation, the very start of the Bible

I wonder if you saw any of the news a few weeks ago when they shared with us images of space taken by the James Webb Space Telescope, quite amazing images sent from 1 million miles away from earth.

A friend was telling me that she had been sat with a friend who more or less said these images proved there wasn't a God, her reply was "How can you be amazed at such images and not see God".

'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said 'Let there be light' ...'

Creation is a tremendous mystery.

I know that scientists keep looking , and finding answers, but there is still mystery, and whether you believe that the world was created literally as in Genesis, or you see it as a story, a poem, it doesn't matter. There's a pattern to it:

God said let it be  
God made it  
God gave it a name  
God saw that it was good

The story is full of great images –

bright lights in the sky,  
great waters of the deep,  
plants and trees,  
swimming creatures of the deep,  
swarming creatures of the air,  
wild animals and finally,  
people – male and female,  
made in God's image and likeness, whatever that means,  
the whole creation – wonderful, mysterious, majestic, glorious –  
even down to the tiniest of animals and insects, birds and fish.

The world God made in all its beauty and glory is special.

But what have we done to it?

What impact has humanity had on it?

What has human greed and selfishness,  
human desire for growth and development  
had on the delicate balance of nature that God created.

Why should we be bothered about the world God made?

Why should we be bothered about the beauty and splendour of  
creation?

Why should we be bothered about the environment and protect-  
ing the world?

Why should we be bothered about the future of this world that  
God has given to us?

Well, we are not 'owners' of creation, it is given to us as a Scared  
Trust.

As human beings God didn't create us to be equals with him in  
creation, nor did he create us to be exploiters of creation.

When God created human beings he made us to rule over creation.

It's important that we understand what God meant when he said 'rule' over creation. We need to understand our place in creation.

We're not the same as the rest of creation, nor are we completely separate from it.

We were created not to exploit creation, not to have dominion over it in an autocratic sense but to have a responsibility, under God to preserve and sustain creation and enable it to continue and develop.

That puts a responsibility on each of us to take the environment seriously.

As we gaze on creation, as we look at every part of it, we experience the presence, the love, the beauty, the splendour, the glory of God.

But, sadly, we have misused our responsibility, we have been misguided in the way in which we have treated the wonderful world we live in.

We have abused the trust God has placed in us.

Let me give you some facts and figures.

Every day between 1 and 3 species of plants or animals are lost forever, they become extinct.

We throw away an enormous amount of plastic every day

We are putting more carbon dioxide into the air than ever with the fuels we burn.

The over-deforesting of trees increases the problem, in the last

30 years over 25% of the earth's forests have been cleared. Around 125 square miles of tropical rainforest is cleared every year.

Over the last 25 years every month has got warmer.

If you take the average temperature for the last 25 whole years, 9 out of the last 10 have been warmer than average.

In the 1980's there were only 8 days in the whole decade where the temperature reached 30C. In the 1990's there were 45 days; and already this decade that figure has been exceeded.

In the UK as a whole, on average there were 2 weeks of snow a year. Now it is 3 days.

Yes, people have different views on global warming and on CO2 emissions and greenhouse gases but, whatever you think about them there is no doubt that we, human beings are responsible for much of the changes taking place on the planet, in God's creation.

God placed us on this earth to care for it but we have and continue to make a mess of it, we have abused the trust God has placed in us.

What can we do?

Well, we can work to restore creation, to replenish what God has given and we have ruined.

Do you know that, if every person in the UK planted just 1 tree then millions of pounds of greenhouse gases would be removed each year.

A lot is talked about carbon footprint.

It's a measure of the impact of human activities on the environment in the amount of greenhouse gases produced in units of

carbon dioxide.

In order to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide given out we can  
use green energy from renewable sources  
turn off lights and other equipment when not in use  
turn down the central heating by just 1 or 2 degrees  
turn washing machine temperatures down  
fill the kettle with just enough water for what we need  
use energy saving light bulbs

You may be sat there thinking, well I do some of that, or perhaps quite a lot of that, but I don't feel that it's making much difference, I know I do, but then I'm going to refer to our Gospel reading to reassure you that it does.

If you remember, it was the parable of the barren fig tree, where a man, finding no fruit on his fig tree, after three years of growing, tells the gardener to cut it down.

Why should it waste space in his garden if it bears no fruit.

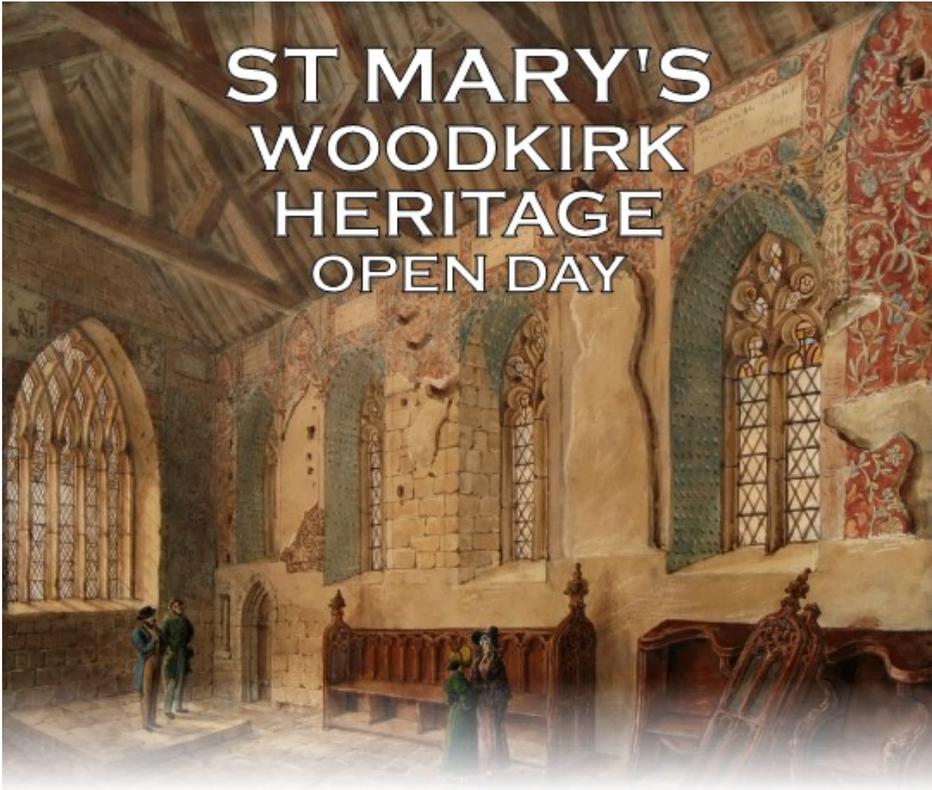
It's like us, all doing our little bit in reducing our waste, reusing things, recycling, we get disheartened and feel that it's not making any difference.

But in this parable, Jesus gives us encouragement, he gives us a chance, like he gave the barren fig tree.

Jesus tended the fig tree, he looked after it, nurtured it, he asked the man to give it another year, another chance, and he's doing the same for each one of us.

We are being given a last chance to look after creation, let us step up to the challenge.

AMEN



# ST MARY'S WOODKIRK HERITAGE OPEN DAY

**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
10AM- 2PM**

**This is an opportunity to come and see your local church, its history and to trace your ancestors in the graveyard. We are pleased that Morley Family History Group will also be in attendance.**

**FREE ENTRY- ALL WELCOME!**

## The second in the August Sermons series is from Neal:

### Sermon - 21st August 2022 - Luke 13:10-17

Let us pray: Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our strength and our redeemer.

Amen.

On Wednesday morning I was flicking through my phone over a very fine cup of tea and came across an image which immediately made me think of the Gospel reading for today, and in particular the leader of the Synagogue.

The image was of a man preaching and saying, "The Bible clearly says ...". Written onto the text was added some words as if written from above so it now reads as follows: "*My interpretation of The Bible To Me, Clearly Says What I want it to say*".

The message of the post was trying to make the point that if we want, we can take a section of the Bible and interpret it in a manner that happens to fit our view.

This is hardly new. Over hundreds and thousands of years argument over the interpretation of the Bible has continued, and arguments will continue with the same number of interpreters as there are interpretations in the future. In a relatively short passage of the Bible, there are 3 to 4 different themes that can be discussed, but this image centres around the motives of the synagogue leaders.

Here we have a lady who has been bent double for 18 years - a considerable proportion of her life in those days. She has made the effort to attend the Synagogue for worship, as Jesus also has done. Note, that she turned up to worship, she was not attending to seek out Jesus to be healed, just to turn up and worship.

Jesus was the one who sought her out and approached her to be healed. "*And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him,*". This isn't a 'lifting down a man to Jesus from the roof' situation.

Now let us compare this to a Sunday morning in Woodkirk and try to compare this account to 2022. We've all turned up from our own very

varied homes and families to worship this morning. Our time is very different of course, to the time Luke is writing in. The law was that only grievous bodily infirmities should keep people from public worship, so the lady was doing her duty.

Now, the next bit of the comparison is a little difficult as we don't have a 'Jesus' character with us every Sunday, but let's imagine we did. Somebody who seems, from our point of view, to be a bit of a trouble-maker. He takes over the proceedings and heals the old lady. She walks upright. Well, we'd all be sort of amazed, or would we? Isn't this chap continuing to be a trouble-maker? Isn't he disrupting the nice little order of how things are done? How would we respond? Would we welcome him with open arms and say "well done, have a cup of coffee and a piece of cake?", or would we continue to be suspicious? The ruler of the synagogue in the Gospel clearly was most perturbed with the situation and tried to regain his authority with everybody there. He did not, however, address Jesus directly. I wonder why this was? Was it because he felt power over the congregation so thought he'd try to get them on side? Possibly. It is clear that he felt threatened by Jesus - here was somebody who was disrupting the accepted order of how things were. That couldn't possibly be allowed to happen.

So, how did he try to address it? Well, he tried to bring up the issue of doing anything apart from worship on the Sabbath - his interpretation of the Bible for his own ends. The reading from Isaiah, apart from being beautifully written like all of Isaiah, talks about keeping away from doing "thy pleasure" on the Sabbath. The leader in the synagogue tried to make out that Jesus should not have been healing on the Sabbath, as if it's a normal occurrence like popping to the shops! How many people were going around healing others then? There isn't actually a law saying that healing can't be done on the Sabbath - it was his way of using a perceived rule to contradict and attack Jesus' work - interpreting the Bible for his own ends.

Jesus then responds. Hold on, you make a point of moving your cattle

on the Sabbath (something that could have been done before the Sabbath or after with no ill effects on the cattle), but I can't heal a person suffering so much and have to wait until tomorrow? Apparently the leader was 'ashamed'. I reckon he was probably internally seething, and when the news travelled to other leaders, the seething probably continued!

There is a written hierarchy for the Commandments. As Jesus says in Mark's Gospel:

*And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.* Mark 12:31

Greater than keeping the Sabbath in whatever way the Synagogue leader was trying to make out. Jesus called the woman 'daughter of Abraham' which was virtually unheard of. Putting her on equal footing with the Sons of Abraham which was a much more common situation. Very much, making all God's creations equal and definitely a neighbour.

So, what was the reason this incident was written about by Luke and included in his Gospel and how does it help us reflect on our lives now. The first thing that comes to mind is not using rules to stop something necessary and morally right from taking place. Surely the act of Jesus healing the woman was the most basic of God's Laws "*To Love Thy Neighbour as Thyself*" and that compassion is a cornerstone of Jesus' teachings.

Jesus wasn't finished here - later on he cured the man with dropsy, even asking "*Is it lawful to heal of the sabbath day?*" He continued to cause controversy and argued with the spiritual leaders - and we all know how that panned out.

The ending of the story is also emphasised - where the whole crowd basically ignored the hypocrisy of the leader and cheered Jesus. They had seen the natural justice and agreed that it is completely right and proper that Jesus healed the woman. They used their own judgement to decide the correct side. The parallel to the modern day is exact. How many times in our lives do we have to judge for ourselves the huge

amount of opinion that is thrust on us, quoting all sorts of things - often in social media and popular press. Bible quotes, information which has been made up, propaganda from all sorts of sources. We must make the correct and just judgement to form our own opinion, and act as necessary. It is something we do everyday, be critical about what we read, what we hear, and the motives of those who are saying it, and always come back to Jesus' words - *Love Thy Neighbour as Thyself*.

Let us pray: Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.  
Amen.

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## **Teddy Bears Picnic**

Are you under 5? Would you like to bring your Teddy and your Big Person to a Teddy Bears Picnic?

You would? That's great!

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
11.00am-1.00pm  
Vicarage Gardens  
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Woodkirk

Picnic Food Provided

Activities and Games



St Mary's Church, Woodkirk

# FAMILY FUN DAY

Woodkirk Vicarage Gardens, Dewsbury Road

**SATURDAY 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org)

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

## **The third of the three August Sermons - Gail.**

### **Where There's Vision, There's Hope**

Revelation 21:1-7

At the beginning of this month Dawn did her sermon on the first book of the Holy Bible, so I am going to try and end the month on my thoughts about the last book. The Revelation reading is at the end.

Revelation is the last book in the holy Bible, a vision into what is to happen before the second coming.

I would like to share with you some of my thoughts on the Book of Revelation. Revelation is one of my favourite books in the Bible. John one of Jesus's beloved disciples, has been tasked with writing the book of revelations, a book that will prepare us for the second coming of our Lord, I may not be around for this happening but reading this book feeds me with fear and joy. Just look around the world today and we can all see the destruction happening caused by man's greed, but there is hope and we can gain this by putting our trust in the Lord. Let us look at what King Solomon said, I think he got it right when he said, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint...". What I'd like for us to think about this morning is the flip side of the coin: "Where there is vision, there is hope."

As for John, he is sent to live in exile on the island of Patmos, and it was from there that he wrote this seemingly strange and compelling book. Revelation is actually a word of hope addressed to Christians under persecution. It can be summed up in three words: Hang in there! Yes, things are bad ... and they're likely to get worse. The Good News is God's in charge, and it's God who will have the last word. So, be brave and keep the faith and never lose sight of the vision for which we strive: The Kingdom of God on earth.

Thinking of the Book of Revelation in this way, let us imagine ourselves huddled with a small group of other Christians – perhaps in a home or a cave or some remote hideout – reading John's words and picturing the vision he casts, in our Gospel passage today.

The telling words come in verse: 5 "Behold, I am making all things new." No matter how bad things are in the world around us – or in our

personal lives – God has the ability to restore peace and health and beauty and vitality. It's up to us not to lose sight of the vision.

Why not let us apply this to our own lives. Have you ever wished you could wipe the slate clean and start over? I've often thought that, if I ever write a book, I'd devote one whole chapter to "do-overs" – things I'd do differently, if I had a chance to do them over again. I think we may all make mistake it our lives. We make bone-headed decisions and bad choices, and sometimes those bad choices have lasting consequences.

Well, we can't go back. What's done is done. But we can start anew. That's the Good News. At any given point in time, we can say to ourselves those three critical words, "From now on ..." and resolve to do things differently.

That's what H. G. Wells did. in his autobiography, the first seven chapters begin with the words, "I started over again..." By God's grace, we don't have to be stuck in the past; we can make the necessary changes and get a fresh start. Of course, it helps if we know where we are going, and that's where having a vision is so important. Jesus said, "But seek first God's Kingdom

So, where do we begin? What's the first step? I think the first step is to recognise our need for God in times of trouble. Let us think of it as being reconciled again with Christ. Simply resolve from this moment forward to put Christ first and honour him as the Lord of our lives; then let us do our best each day to obey his Word and follow his example. We can all be amazed at the difference it'll make. Paul told the Corinthians,

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.*

*The old things have passed away.*

*Behold, all things have become new."*

Putting Christ first allows us to know that, beyond all else, we are a child of God; that no matter what we have done or what others say about us, nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

That's why it's so important not to lose sight of Christ and his kingdom, but to stay focused and keep the vision before us. I think one of the best ways to do this is to remember the parables of Jesus.

They're all about the kingdom of God.

Say to yourself: The kingdom of God is like:

A good Samaritan, who cared for a stranger in distress ...

A farmer who sowed his seed and, in spite of all the obstacles, it yielded a hundredfold.

A great banquet in which the dregs of society were treated as honoured guests ...

A good shepherd, who left the flock in search of one sheep that was lost ...

A loving father who had two sons, one who was faithful, one who was not, yet he loved them both the same ...

Labourers in a vineyard who were paid the same daily wage, though some worked a lot longer than the others.

In times of persecution and hardship, we may be tempted to look up to the heavens and wonder if there is anyone really there. In times of ease, our faith may grow lukewarm and lazy. In times when the brokenness of our world is so obvious, we can only weep. But Revelation shows us a glimpse of the throne room of heaven, so that we can see who is there: God in all his glory, the Lamb upon the throne. We do not need to weep because there is one who is worthy: one who will rescue the world, one who fulfils God's word, one who has triumphed, one who can open the scroll. He is already victorious!

Take courage. Do you think it sounds unrealistic to think that the kingdoms of this world could become the kingdom of God? George Bernard Shaw didn't. He said:

*"You see things as they are and ask, Why?"*

*I dream things that never were and ask, "Why not?"*

Keeping the vision of Christ and his kingdom alive allows us to be confident that Christ is at work even now reconciling the world to himself and blessing us with the gifts of heaven.

I think nobody knew this better than Samuel Stone, who wrote the words to the hymn, "The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord." The third verse says it best:

"Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation

Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.”

May that be our inspiration, both now and in the weeks to come  
Reviewing this book to my life, Jesus has promised to come again, but  
am I strong enough to stand up to the things that have been shown to  
John in the book of Revelation, the trials and tribulations that are to  
come, maybe I will not be around to witness the second coming but I  
have promised God that I will live my life as best I can until he calls me  
home.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

### **Revelation 21:1-4**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth:  
for the first heaven and the first earth have passed away,  
and the sea is no more.

I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice out of heaven  
saying, ‘Behold, God’s dwelling is with people,  
and he will dwell with them,  
and they will be his people,  
and God himself will be with them as their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be  
no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any  
more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.  
And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.  
And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning  
and the end. I will give unto him that is a thirst of the fountain of the  
water of life freely.

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and  
he shall be my son.

# SWEET TREATS



Rainbows and Brownies will be hosting a 'Sweet Treats' tombola at the family fun day on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. We would greatly appreciate any donations of sweets and chocolates. The donations will need to be boxed/sealed and still in date by the end of September 2022. Donations can be left with either myself, Gary or Sharon. Thank you from all the Rainbows and Brownies.

Laura Mortimer

## Hymns during August

During August Rev Sharon invited us to provide our favourite hymns and she and Stephen would try and fit them all in to be played across the Sundays in August.

I always have difficulty in choosing a favourite hymn as I love so many of them, but as it happens many of those I love had been requested by others and so I enjoyed all of them.

Now I can't remember whether one particular hymn was played on a Sunday or if it was a Wednesday service, but the hymn I am thinking of is 'Father hear the prayer we offer'.

It is one of my favourites, and on whatever day we sang it, I was thinking about the words particularly in relation to prayer, which I suppose is sort of the point!

I'm sure we have all at some point in our lives prayed for something personally that was perhaps materialistic or even a bit frivolous, I know I have. It is perhaps in our human nature, particularly when we are starting out on our spiritual journey and do not know really what prayer is about.

I often think that some of the hymns we sing would do justice as said prayers, and I suppose that shouldn't be too surprising either, as hymns are such an important part of our worship and thanksgiving.

If we think about those who gathered as early Christians, they wouldn't have had hymn books, there would have been chants and sayings, parts of their worship with musical accompaniment.

Even up to probably the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century, and the time of the social reformers, it was only the well off who would be able to read. Hymns would be taught and remembered 'by wrote' the regular repetition making the well known songs become the rousing hymns we know and love today.

You know what it's like, you see the hymn words on a Sunday or Wednesday (or at other special services as and when they occur) and say "...oh I don't recognise the words but I might recognise the tune..." then the collective sigh of joy as the opening bars reveal a well known tune!

Anyway, back to 'Father hear the prayer we offer'...

The thing that made me think was the fact that the words don't say what we want, but rather what we don't expect from our prayers. Think about it as words of prayer rather than song...

Father hear our prayer,  
We don't ask for things to be easy but for courage and strength throughout our lives.

We don't ask for our path to be easy green pastures, but that we should tread our steep and rugged pathway 'rejoicingly', with good cheer.

We don't expect to rest and stay forever by still waters, but for the rocks and mountains to be eased from our path.

Then the final verse brings it beautifully together for us at the end...  
Lord be our strength in hours of weakness, be our guide in our wanderings, and when we try to do things, fail to do things or face danger, Father, be there at our side.

That sounds like a pretty good prayer to me.  
Amen

Love and singing

Dawn x

## House Box Collection Time.

Hi there

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

The House Box collections have been raising funds for young people since 1882, and it is still an excellent way to raise much needed funds, by putting your coppers and small change into your box. Over £1.3 million was raised in this way last year.

If you could return your boxes to me during September please (or as soon as possible thereafter) then I can empty them and pass them back to you for another year!

Some of you may find that you don't seem to have as much change, but never fear!! You can donate via a cheque (payable to Woodkirk PCC (but please write 'Childrens Society' on the reverse of the cheque, or you could donate electronically through the Church Bank Account, (please make sure you identify it as Childrens Society so that Barbara sees it). Bank details as follows:

Virgin Money  
Sort Code 05-01-31  
Account Number: 31405751  
Account Name: Woodkirk PCC



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

Dawn Tattersfield

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

*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 Bit of Everything Quiz.**

1. In 2019 where was the biggest and busiest MacDonalD's? New York, Paris, Moscow or London?
2. What are the White Cliffs of Dover made from?
3. What do you call the curved stick used by the Aborigines for hunting?
4. Which kind of cat is fawn coloured and has blue eyes?
5. What is the capital of Egypt?
6. Are dolphins a type of whale?
7. What type of trees are Pines, Cedars and Yews?
8. Who wrote David Copperfield?
9. Which precious stone is green?
10. Who is Mickey Mouse's girlfriend?
11. Which river flows through Paris?
12. Who led Britain for much of World War One?
13. In 1066 which battle did William the Conqueror win?
14. What vegetable keeps away vampires?
15. Which English King established the Church of England?
16. Which insect transmits malaria?
17. What is the capital of Japan?
18. What is a loom used for?
19. Which American President vowed to put men on the moon before 1970?
20. What is the main religion of India?
21. How did Adolf Hitler die?
22. What is Cape Horn?
23. How long is a leap year?
24. Which parts of a tree trap sunlight and make food for the tree?

(answers on page 41)

## Poetry Corner

### A Monarch to Remember

Elegance and intelligence throughout the many years  
has always been so surely presented  
despite the ever-growing amount of fears  
a dignified way to rule has so surely been invented.

A Monarch to remember.  
Glamour and Glitz  
Passion and purpose.  
The crown perfectly fits  
upon her head's mighty surface.  
Fire to freedom.  
Ignite these flames  
Let the celebrations take place from the hills to the River Thames.

She is a monarch to remember.

Never have I seen a woman so sure,  
a woman so pure  
throughout her days,  
many eras have passed  
many moons have since lit the night sky.  
But none have ever shone as bright and as high  
As the royal highness herself.

Her majesty the Queen is a monarch to remember.

A platinum Jubilee,  
such an inspiring accomplishment  
I wonder if she will ever see  
her power and astonishment.  
The hope she gives to girls such as I.  
A crown I may never wear but my dreams now soar so very high

Fearsome times you have compared  
gruesome times have only made you stronger  
70 years of which you have serve  
so congratulations is what so thoroughly should be deserved.  
**Queen Elizabeth II, a monarch to remember.**

Written by Ellie Longden.

16 year old Ellie wrote this poem and won a school prize.

Congratulations to her and many thanks to Grandmother Margaret  
for allowing us to reprint her wonderful work.



## **Psalm 1**

Whenever I come to church I always enjoy looking at the lovely trees in our church yard, their size and shape, and thinking about what changes they have witnessed over their long life span.

Then, I was leading online Morning Prayer on the 1<sup>st</sup> August, and the psalm was one of my favourites, it was Psalm 1 which refers to a tree in verse 3:

*They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.*

The image of a tree by a stream, getting the water it needs to survive and thrive. Our trees are not planted by streams of water, however, they have deep roots that must be able to find the necessary moisture they need to survive.

This made me think about us and our relationship with God...yes really. You see, like a tree we need to have good roots so that we can be nourished and thrive, but I'm not talking about standing in a pot of soil, or even by a stream (although during our very hot weather throughout the summer, that does sound very refreshing!).

No I'm talking about being rooted in Christ, as St Paul talked about in his letter to the Ephesians 3:17, praying for the divided church in Ephesus (modern day western Turkey) that...

*"...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."*

Think about trees, we have many different sorts of trees in the churchyard, large, small, many different varieties, and certainly the ones nearest the church, mostly will have been here longer than any of us. They must have seen many dry and many wet summers, many cold and snowy and stormy winters, many strong winds, and yet they are still there, stood firm, because they have deep roots to support them. They have an annual new growth of leaves every spring and a death of those leaves in autumn, but in between, they treat us to the fresh green joy and hope of Spring, wonderful shade and lovely soft rustling leaves on a summers day, and the glorious colours of autumn before they lose their leaves and rest over winter when they take goodness and water through their roots, deep underground.

We will be stronger and receive what we need to thrive and survive if, as Paul suggests, we are rooted and grounded, in the love of God.

But we have to work for that nourishment.

We do this by worshiping God, by sharing God's love amongst our families, our friends, and our community, and we gain strength through reading Gods word and learning more about how to live our lives the way God wants us to.

If we keep our roots firmly with God, we take in His love, we receive His grace, freely given, and this encourages us to help others.

The current economic situation is causing anguish for many of us, and there is no quick fix to the situation we may find ourselves in, but if we keep our roots with God, then may we be like the tree in psalm 1 receiving what we need for ourselves and others through, with and in Him.

With love

Dawn x

## **Don't Worry be happy**

My life is like an open book all too often open at the wrong page.

Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't.

Every minute you spend being angry is 60 seconds when you could have had a good time.

Always use a measure – never cook by guess.

The eating will be a pleasure and you'll never have a mess.

O Lord grant that we may never be like porridge – stiff stodgy and hard to stir.

But like cornflakes - crisp, fresh and ready to serve.

A critic is a person who knows the way but can't drive the car.

With thanks to Alice

## Dates for Your Diary

### September

- Fri 2nd 10am-12pm Coffee Morning in Church
- Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30am Holy Communion**  
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Wed 7th 10am Morning Praise with Dawn
- Sat 10th 10am Family Fun Day & Church Open Day
- Sun 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30am All Age Worship with Communion**  
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Mon 12th 7:30pm PCC Meeting
- Wed 14th 10am Holy Communion
- Thur 15th 11am Lydgate Lodge Holy Communion
- Sat 17th 7:45am Ripon Cathedral with St. Michael's.
- Sun 18<sup>th</sup> 10:30am Holy Communion**  
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Wed 21st 10am Holy Communion
- Sat 24th 11am Teddy Bear's Picnic  
3pm Renewal of Wedding Vows.
- Sun 25th 10:30am Holy Communion**  
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Wed 28th 10am Holy Communion

### October

- Sun 2nd 10:30am Holy Communion**  
1:30pm Holy Baptism
- Wed 5th 10am Holy Communion

## 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 on the Diary page. You can also view previous services from the same location**

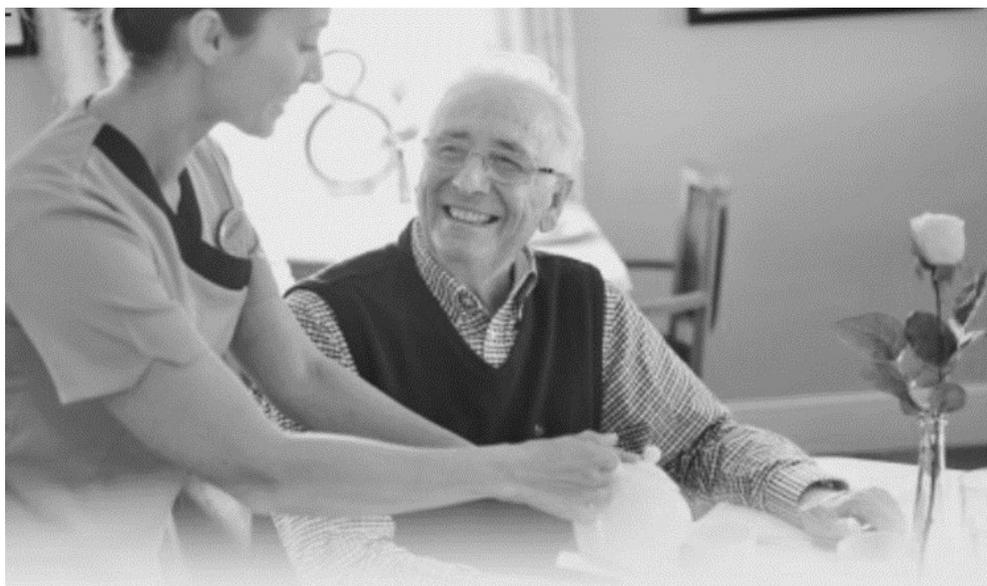


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## QUIZ ANSWERS

1.Moscow (before they pulled out). 2.Chalk. 3.Boomerang. 4.Siamese Cat. 5.Cairo. 6. Yes. 7.Conifers. 8.Charles Dickens. 9.Emerald.  
10.Minnie. 11.The Seine. 12. Lloyd George. 13.Battle of Hastings.  
14.Garlic. 15.Heny VIII. 16.Mosquito. 17.Tokyo. 18.Weaving Cloth.  
19.John F Kennedy. 20.Hinduism. 21.Suicide. 22.Southern tip of Sth America. 23.366 days. 24.The Leaves.

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.

*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

01924 355 020

**ideal** carehomes

idealcarehomes.co.uk

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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

Adda Mai Brewer  
Rio Brett Ellis  
Remi Brett Ellis  
Hope Julia Coates  
Vincent Ryan Vokes  
Summer Rose Bell  
Frankie Jo Henry-Gaunt  
Iris Rae Henry-Gaunt  
Dollie Jean Day  
Eliza Louise Davis



## DEATHS

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



## WEDDINGS :

Lee Akeroyd & Gemma Munday  
Callum Barrett & Rebecca Skinner  
Kyle-Cleone James & Jade Hall  
Aaron Woodham & Stephanie Bickerdike  
Ashley Chapman & Lauren Humphrys  
Thomas Binks & Rebecca Corbett



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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

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

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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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 THE CHURCH  
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Diocese of Leeds

# BENNETT OF MORLEY

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### CONSULTANTS

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RESIDENCE  
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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