

CHURCH NEWS APRIL 2020

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM HOLY CROSS SWAINBY AND ST MARY'S
POTTO

Delivered to your door to keep you in touch

CORONAVIRUS

Our church buildings are now closed, but our church is very much alive, in prayer and service to others.

On 17th March the Archbishops of Canterbury and York announced that all public worship in the Church of England would be suspended until further notice to comply with government guidelines.

Robert, our Rector is posting a daily service of Eucharist on You Tube – Daily Eucharist for the Whorlton Church.

The Annual Parish Church Meeting is postponed to a later date, and all our forthcoming arrangements are cancelled for the time being.

An excerpt from the Archbishops' letter: "Being part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead. Our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day. We may not be able to pray with people in the ways that we used to, but we can certainly pray for people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support."

EASTER BLESSINGS TO ONE AND ALL

The printing of this month's edition is kindly sponsored by an anonymous donation

A message from Robert, our Rector:

We must suspend our services and close our churches, but the Church is alive and prays. In all our parishes of the Benefice of Whorlton, the clergy and ministers will keep praying on behalf of all those who live in Swainby and Potto and the other villages. Daily Eucharist will be celebrated by one of our priests and you are welcome to join the service online in a special YouTube channel called Whorlton Church. Search on Google for 'Youtube Whorlton Church'

as=subscriber. We will also provide other possibilities for prayer and worship. However, it is important that each one of us finds time for prayer. St Teresa of Avila, the great Spanish mystic used to say: Nada de turbe (let nothing trouble you). God will suffice. So with this faith in our compassionate God, let us pray for one another. Let us also be obedient to civil and ecclesial authorities. Stay calm and trust in god's providence as nothing will happen to us without His knowledge and will. God bless all of you.

Some prayers for this time:

Anxiety

God our healer, who walked upon the chaotic waters

And said to the storm 'Be still', you know the frailty of our hearts,

How easily anxiety can overwhelm us. Set us free we pray from the curse and burden of anxiety,

And by the miracle of your grace, show us how perfect love casts out fear.

For your love's sake Amen (Patrick Woodhouse).

Lord in these days of mercy, Make us quiet and prayerful,

In these days of challenge, Make us stronger in you

In these days of emptiness, Take possession of us

In these days of waiting, open our hearts to the mystery of your cross.

(Angela Ashwin).

Keep us good Lord
Under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious
Be with those who care for the sick,
And lift up all who are brought low
That we may find comfort
Knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
In Christ Jesus our Lord.

REPORTS COME AND SEE MISSION

The Pilgrimage on Saturday 14th March which formed part of the Bishop of Sheffield's Mission was well supported. On a drizzly morning approximately 60 people and several enthusiastic dogs set off from the church hall and walked first to the Old Church where there was a brief act of worship and then began the trek to the Lady Chapel at Osmotherley. The path, muddy in places, led up to Scugdale and then along the top to the Lady Chapel where when all were gathered a service was led by Father Albert, and Revd Robert Opala. The theme was ecumenism, and there were references to the great pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. There is a surprising amount of planning involved in such an occasion, and we are grateful to all those involved in making the day such a success.

There was a Meditation on Saturday in Swainby Church hall, led by Robert, and on Sunday 15th March there was a benediction Eucharist in Hutton Rudby church. The weekend took on a greater significance in our lives than we expected due to the decision to suspend all worship until further notice.

LENT LUNCHESES

We have been holding lent lunches in this parish for more than 30 years and generally we have had a lunch every Wednesday during the period of Lent. In recent years we have collected in the region of about £3000 each year for a variety of charities. This year we managed to have three lunches before the virus put an end to all activities. The first was run by a team from our local Girl Guiding Branches to raise money for Overseas Trip and raised £399.25. The next two lunches were both run by Lorna, Georgie, Margaret and Andrea. The first was for the refugees in Samos, and made £399.25 and the second was for Together Middlesbrough and made £424.25. Thanks go to all who supported those charities.

DELIVERIES – USEFUL INFORMATION

Rusty Bike 01642 688549 <https://www.facebook.com/therustybikenorthyorks/>
The Orangery Café 07970 060119 <https://www.facebook.com/thejpcorangery/>
The Blue Bell Inn 01609 882272 <https://www.facebook.com/bluebellinglebycross/>
The Black Horse 01642 700436 <https://www.facebook.com/blackhorseswainby/>
Roots Farm Shop* 01609 882480 <https://www.facebook.com/RootsRounton/>

*Deliveries on Wed, Thurs, Fri. Order by phone. Payment by card, BACS, or cheque.

Beswick's fruit and veg 07713 881014 <https://www.facebook.com/1461700610/posts/102>

W&W fresh produce 01325 321175 <https://www.facebook.com/fruitandveg81/>

Ian Garbutt (Milk, Butter, Fruit Juice) 01642711655

Whitegates Nursery 01609 882355 Delivery of garden supplies

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100+ CLUB The March draw will take place in April

During this time of difficulty MIDDLESBROUGH FOOD BANK are in urgent need of several food items, particularly long life milk, tinned meat and fish and coffee. Please donate instore at supermarkets or Hutton Rudby Spar.

CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

Rector: The Rev. Dr Robert Opala 01642 701245. robertopala62@yahoo.co.uk

Assistant Curate: Father David Sudron: 01642 701321.

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Churchwardens: Lorna Kessell 07917524751 & Amy Mazingham

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CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS: Email: swainbychurch@btinternet.com. Queries to Lorna or Sue Lawton 01642 700491.

Church News Editor: Pauline Kynge email: pkynge@gmail.com Deadline for May, April 20th.