

ST MICHAEL'S, HOLBROOK

PARISH NEWSLETTER

January/February 2024

The Benefice of Christ Church Belper, All Saints' Turnditch, St John the Evangelist, Hazelwood and St Michael, Holbrook.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we wish to share friendship and the love of God with all whom we meet and support one another.'

CONTACT DETAILS:

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: Vacant

CURATE: Revd. Rachel Burdett CJN Tel: 07340 990483, belpercurate@gmail.com

WARDEN: John Maxwell-Jones 01332 679632/07890 241 673 johnmaxj@icloud.com

For any concerns re safeguarding please contact Jonathan, the vicar.

From our Vicar

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, I'm sure quite a few new year's resolutions will have been made and broken. Not so much the ones like "lose weight" or "eat more fruit" which can't really be judged in the short term, but certainly the make-or-break ones like "stop smoking". That's because resolutions require resolve. It's not enough just to have a feeling that something would be a good idea – resolutions must spring from deep within us where our willpower wrestles with the force of habit and our fondness for instant gratification.

Willpower must also battle with inertia, and impatience – we must be prepared to change, and we must be in it for the long haul. When two people marry, so popular songs and films have it, they say "I do". Well, they don't! They say "I will". They engage their willpower and look to the long term, the future – not just the present moment.

There is something about looking to the future as I write this, because I will retire on 31st January. I was 65 just before Christmas and that is the age at which I had always intended to retire. Carole and I will be living in Belper, so we may see some of you around.

It is very much a time of mixed emotions; of endings and new beginnings. Although I'm certainly not leaving the Church of England, I am reminded of St John Henry Newman, who left the C of E for the Roman Catholic Church in 1845. Although he was looking to the future with joy, he was leaving friends and the Church he loved. His final Anglican sermon (1843) was called *The Parting of Friends*. Here is its conclusion:

And, O my brethren, O kind and affectionate hearts, O loving friends, should you know anyone whose lot it has been, by writing or by word of mouth, in some degree to help you; if he has ever made you feel that there was a higher life than this daily one, and a brighter world than that you see; or encouraged you, or sobered you, or opened a way to the inquiring, or soothed the perplexed; if what he has said or done has ever made you take interest in him and feel well inclined towards him; remember such a one in time to come, though you hear him not, and pray for him, that in all things he may know God's will, and at all times he may be ready to fulfil it.

With every good wish and blessing to you all,

Yours, in Jesus Christ,

Fr Jonathan

ROTA OF SERVICES FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

Date	Church	Time	Service	Read/ Welcome
21 Jan 2024	Genesis14:17-20; John 2:1-11			
Epiphany 3	Holbrook	10.45	United service at Holbrook Moor MC	
	Hazelwood	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
28 Jan	Malachi 3:1-15; Luke 2:22-40			
Candlemas	Holbrook	11.00	Parish Eucharist	JIS
	Hazelwood	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
4 Feb	Proverbs 8:1,22-31; John 1:1-14			
Second Sunday before Lent	Holbrook	10.45	United service at Holbrook Moor MC	
	Hazelwood	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
11 Feb	2 Kings 2:1-12; Mark 9:2-9			
Sunday next before Lent	Holbrook	11.00	Parish Eucharist	PW
	Hazelwood	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	All-Age Worship	
18 Feb	Genesis 9:8-17; Mark 1:9-15			
Lent 1	Holbrook	10.45	United service at Holbrook Moor MC	
	Hazelwood	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
25 Feb	Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Mark 8:31-end			
Lent 2	Holbrook	11.00	Parish Eucharist	JML/CJL
	Hazelwood	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	

Holbrook St Michael's Church and Village Quiz 2023

Thank you to all those who bought the quiz and those who returned their answers. I hope you all enjoyed searching for the answers!

This year our two top Quiz Experts could not be separated - so Kathleen Eley and Lilian Phipps were joint winners and each received a prize. A runner-up prize was also awarded to Mary Elliott.

If any of you who bought a copy of the Quiz would like to see a copy of the answers - please let me know.

Richard Biggin

Food bank

The Statons continue to collect donations at 18 Pond Road each week, taking our contributions down on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

EVENTS ACROSS THE BENEFICE

Wed 24 Jan @ 2.00pm @ Holbrook Moor Methodist Church. "Churches United in Holbrook Fellowship" Speaker John Maxwell-Jones on Christmas traditions in France.

Wed 7 February @ 7.30pm Holbrook WI – Pam Smith – Dancersize

Wed 14 February @ 9.30am. Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes at Christ Church, Belper.

Thurs 15 February @ 7.30pm in the Arkwright Hall. Holbrook Augmented Choir Practice resumes.

Sat 24 February @ 12.00 noon. St Michael's Ploughman's Lunch in the Arkwright Hall—see poster.

Wed 28 February @ 2.00pm @ Holbrook Moor Methodist Church. "Churches United in Holbrook Fellowship" Speaker Lily Shaw.

CHRISTMAS 2023

We would like to extend our thanks to all involved in the Christmas services, particularly the members of our Augmented Choir who excelled themselves at the Village Carol Service. This year's service was very well attended and our congregation numbers are slowly beginning to build back up to pre-pandemic levels. It was lovely to welcome several members of the community as lesson readers & all performed brilliantly. Our church was beautifully decorated for the Festive Season & thanks go to all who helped in any way. It was lovely to welcome visitors into church and on Zoom for our services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

FAREWELL TO FATHER JONATHAN PAGE

A large congregation filled Christ Church, Belper on Sunday 7 January for Fr Jonathan's final Mass as Vicar and Priest in Charge of the four churches across the two Benefices. A card and cheque were presented to Fr Jonathan on behalf of St Michael's. His departure means that we are now in an interregnum. In the first instance, please contact John Maxwell-Jones as Churchwarden, should you need to, and he will direct your enquiry to the appropriate person.

GOOD FRIDAY – OLIVET TO CALVARY – HOLBROOK AUGMENTED CHOIR

This year's cantata will be Maunder's "Olivet to Calvary." To help reduce the church heating costs, we will start our practices on Thursday 15 February at 7.30 p.m. in the South Room of the Arkwright Hall. As always, all are welcome, but please let John know so that he brings enough copies.

ZOOM – ONLINE SERVICES

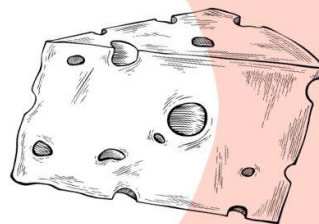
A reminder that we started streaming our services online during lockdown and have continued to do so for the benefit for some of our congregation who find it physically difficult to attend in person. Please contact John if you would like the link.

ONLINESHOPPING

As you shop online remember to sign up to the Giving Machine (www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) and ensure all your online purchases generate cash for the church at no cost to you.

REGISTERS

No services in church or in the churchyard to report this month. However, we record with sadness the deaths of Donaleen Darby and Tessa Hawkins, both faithful members of the congregation over many years. We extend our sincerest condolences to Christopher Darby, Roy Hawkins and their families.



Holbrook St Michael's Church

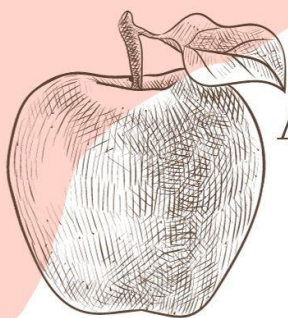
PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

Saturday 24th February 2024

12:00-2:00pm

Arkwright Hall

Adults £7, Children £3



Tickets Available until 21st February from Sue or John - 07718679976 / 07890241673