

ST MICHAEL'S, HOLBROOK

PARISH NEWSLETTER

March/April 2024

The Benefices 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 John, the Churchwarden.

From our Curate

Dear Friends

This year the official Church of England Lent course is called 'Watch and Pray' and 'invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places . . . in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning'. It is a reminder that God is with us wherever we find ourselves.

Thirteen years ago, in March 2011, I found myself in my apartment in Tokyo; it was a Friday afternoon, and my Ladies' Reading Group, eight retired Japanese ladies, had just arrived. They met twice a month, to drink tea and read together. I had just served our first cup of tea when the earthquake started.

Unlike the usual small quakes that are often experienced in Japan, this was a big one, and it lasted about six minutes. This seemed like an eternity compared to the usual few seconds. When it finally stopped, we turned on the television and watched live coverage in horror as the massive tsunami rolled in and obliterated towns on the coast in Tohoku in north-east Japan, as well as a nuclear power station.

Although Tokyo is over two hundred miles from Tohoku, life was disrupted, with power cuts and ongoing aftershocks. As the news worsened about the nuclear power station, a lot of foreign residents of Tokyo left temporarily. I stayed, but it was a strange, unsettling time.

Two things stick in my mind as giving me great hope. The first was a short conversation I had with a Japanese colleague. It was during the school holidays (the school year ends in March in Japan) and I had gone into the staffroom to do some work for the new academic year. We talked about everything, and how the situation seemed to be stabilising, and she said, "I think we're going to be OK." I felt such relief hearing her words.

Lent had started only two days before the earthquake, on March 9th. The Bishop of Hokkaido, who was the Primate of the Japanese Anglican Church at the time, sent a message to all the churches in Japan, addressing the fear and anxiety we were feeling. He concluded with the encouragement that Easter would be even more moving and meaningful for us, as we had experienced a time of great sorrow, but could see some positive signs of recovery starting to happen.

That has stayed with me, and as I watch the news, and look around the world in February 2024 I see a lot to make me weep. The Palestinians of Gaza are trapped in a terrible situation. The death of Alexei Navalny, the Russian activist, has just been announced.

And so, we journey through Lent, we walk with Jesus through Holy Week, and we stand at the foot of the cross and weep. But we also go with the women to the garden on Easter morning, and stand before the empty tomb, and experience for ourselves the great joy that comes with our Risen Lord.

With every good wish and every blessing

Rachel

ROTA OF SERVICES FOR MARCH/APRIL 2024

Date	Church	Time	Service	Read/ Welcome
3 March	Exodus 20:1-7; John 2:13-22			
Lent 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	
10 March	Exodus 2:1-10, John 19:25b-27			
Mothering Sunday	Holbrook	11.00	Parish Eucharist	JIS
	Hazelwood	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
17 March	Jer 31:31-34; John 12:20-33			
Passion Sunday	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	
26 March				
Palm Sunday	Holbrook	11.00	Parish Eucharist	MB
	Hazelwood	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
29 March				
Good Friday	Olivet to Calvary	19.00	GLS/JIS	
31 March	Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-8			
Easter Day	Holbrook	09.30	Parish Eucharist	SS
	Hazelwood	11.00	Parish Eucharist	
	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	Sung Parish Mass	
		18.30	Solemn Evensong & Benediction	
	Turnditch	09.30	Parish Eucharist	
7 April	Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19-end			
Low Sunday Easter 2	Christ Church, Belper	11.00	United Benefice Service	
	Holbrook	10.45	Service at HMMC	

NEW DEANERY NEWSLETTER

Please follow this link <https://mailchi.mp/48d3443caf7f/dovederwentnewsletter>

LIFE EVENTS

We would love to help you mark key moments in the life of your family. Contact our Curate for more information on christenings, weddings, funerals, house blessings or ways to mark anniversaries.

Renewing Your Membership

It has been said (perhaps tongue in cheek) that the Church of England is the only organisation which exists for people who aren't its members. A lot of people who aren't "active members" want us to be there for a variety of reasons, christenings, weddings, funerals, concert venues, a quiet space, a place of inspiration. However, the costs of maintaining the building are constantly rising but sadly, our income isn't. I've been reflecting on the cost of membership of various groups I belong to, both locally and nationally. The choir I belong to had to put up subscriptions by almost 10%; other organisations have increased their subs by 5 to 10%.

When the Church of England introduced the Parish Giving Scheme, your PCC signed up for it and several of us find that our contributions increase by the rate of inflation. In the last two years we have been asked to contribute 12% more. We are therefore asking whether you can increase your contributions, either by making a "one-off" donation or by increasing your regular contributions. For those of you who use online banking our Church bank account is "The Parochial Church Council of Holbrook Parish Sort 30-98-97 Account 88214662. If you prefer cash or cheque, many of you know Mr Lew Styles at 43 Town Street and he would be happy to receive clearly marked envelopes, through his letterbox.

Every donation helps & would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you. John Maxwell-Jones, Churchwarden

EVENTS ACROSS THE BENEFICE

Wed 6 March Holbrook WI meet in the Arkwright Hall @ 7.30. This is an open meeting (gentlemen welcomed) with Mountaineer Nigel Vardy as guest speaker.

Tues 12 March – PCC meets.

Sat 16 March Belper Singers concert at Christ Church, Belper @ 7.30. Duruflé Requiem and other 20th century masterpieces.

Friday 22 March – Belper Musical Theatre at Holbrook Moor Methodist Church @ 7.30 pm.

Holy Week Services at Christ Church, Belper

Monday 25 March	08.30 Morning Prayer 18.30 Mass 21.00 Compline
Tuesday 26 March	08.30 Morning Prayer 18.30 Mass 21.00 Compline
Wednesday 27 March	08.30 Morning Prayer 18.30 Mass 21.00 Compline
Thursday 28 March	08.30 Morning Prayer 19.30 Sung Mass/Maundy Thursday Liturgy
Good Friday 29 March	08.30 Morning Prayer 15.00 Solemn Liturgy

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.

Food bank

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

REGISTERS

Nothing to report this month.

Ploughman's Lunch

Many thanks to all our volunteers and helpers for organising this very successful and enjoyable social event, and to all of you who attended. It raised a much needed £354 for church funds. If you would like to help us organise further social events, please contact Sue Staton or John.

Holbrook Parish Church

An augmented choir will present the sacred cantata

Olivet To Calvary

(Maunder)

on

GOOD FRIDAY AT 7.00 P.M.

(29th March)

In

**ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
HOLBROOK**

TENOR — TBC

MORRIS FISHER — BASS

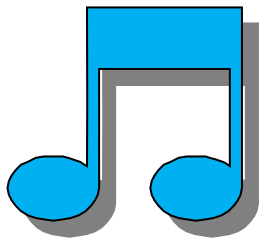
CONDUCTOR = JOHN MAXWELL-JONES

ORGANIST = TOM CORFIELD

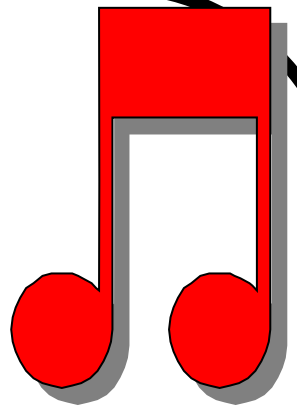
**HOLBROOK MOOR
METHODIST CHURCH**

We invite you to listen to ...

Belper



**Musical
Theatre**



At Holbrook Moor Methodist
Church

Friday March 22nd at 7.30pm

Suggested donation £10
inc.refreshments

All proceeds for Church funds
Tickets from Helen Whitham 07980652431
or Sheila Wheatley 07870403326