



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 21st September 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion *Great Houghton*

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship *Darfield*

4:00 p.m. Café Church *Darfield Church Hall*

Sunday 28th September 2025

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion *Darfield*

People of Faith

The Judges Part 2

The next group to be given power over the Israelites were the Midianites who destroyed crops and livestock for seven years. Once again the people called out to the LORD and the Angel of the LORD appeared to **Gideon**. He was told to tear down his father's altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole near to it and replace it with an Altar to the LORD [Judges 6:]. Gideon then gathered an army of 32,000 to go out against Midian. The Lord told him to reduce their number eventually to 300 so that they would not be able to boast that their own strength had prevailed. The Midianites were camped in a valley which the 300 surrounded at night. With sudden light from torches, the blast of 300 trumpets and the cry of 'A sword for the LORD and for Gideon' the Midianites were thrown into confusion and turned on each other. The Midianite's power was defeated, and peace reigned for another forty years until Gideon died.

We know little of the next two Judges. **Tola** rose to save Israel and led them for twenty-three years. **Jair** followed him and ruled for another twenty-three years [Judges: 10: 1-4]

After this the Israelites turned back to worshipping the gods of the local tribes and were given into the hands of the Philistines and the Ammonites. After eighteen years of oppression the Israelites called on the Lord. **Jephthah** was the son of Gilead {the man} and a prostitute, but his half-brothers drove him away to take refuge in the land of Tob. Here he built up what is described as a gang of scoundrels. [Judges 2: 1-3] The people of Gilead {a fertile, mountainous region to the east of the River Jordan} called on Jephthah to lead them against the Ammonites with a promise that he would become their leader. Jephthah accepted their offer and with the Spirit of the LORD on him, went out and subdued the Ammonites. Before leaving, he had made what was to be a devastating vow to the LORD. If he was to be successful, he would sacrifice the first thing that came out of his door to the LORD. On his return his only daughter was the first to greet him.... And the vow had to be fulfilled. Jephthah then led Israel for six years.

We know little of the next three Judges. **Ibzan** 7 years, **Elon**, 10 years and **Abdon**, 8 years, other than the sizes of their families! [Judges 12: 8-13].

The Israelites then went back to their old ways and were delivered into the hands of the Philistines for forty years.

The Plumb Line Prophet [Amos 8: 4-7]

Those of us who have undertaken home decoration, particularly hanging wallpaper, should be familiar with the use of a plumb line to ensure that the first strip is exactly vertical. They would have been well known by the time of the Prophet Amos in the 8th Century BC, having been first noted in ancient Egypt several centuries before. All that is required is a weight, the plum bob, suspended on a chalked string and gravity. In modern times we are more likely to see an electronic laser level taking over the role.

At the time when Jeroboam was King of Israel, the Lord was threatening famine against the people by means of a swarm of locusts and devastation of the land by fire. Amos was talking with the LORD and managed to persuade the Lord to relent. As part of a vision, Amos saw the LORD holding a plumb line against a building and that this would be a symbolic standard for the Israelites to follow. As we know from our readings in the Old Testament, Israel failed on many occasions to match up to the Lord's standards.

Psalm 113:1-3

- 1 *Praise the Lord: Praise the LORD, you his servants; praise the name of the LORD.*
- 2 *Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.*
- 3 *From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.*

14th Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Amos 8: 4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2: 1-7
Luke 16: 1-13

Readings for this week September

21st	Proverbs 11: 11-24
22nd	Proverbs 11: 25-31
23rd	Proverbs 12: 1-10
24th	2 Corinthians 4: 1-18
25th	2 Corinthians 5: 1-10
26th	2 Corinthians 5: 11-21
27th	2 Corinthians 6: 1-13
28th	2 Corinthians 6: 14-18

Prayer Square

This week we are praying
for the residents of
Darfield

East Street
Illsley Road
North Street
Woodhall Road
Woodfield Close

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our
Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Community Shop on the Go and Warm Welcome Space

Darfield Church Hall

Thursday 2nd October from 9:00 a.m.

Community Shop - Next Date: -16th October

*Warm Welcome Space is open
every Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.*

Prayer Ministry Update: September 2025

Our Prayer Ministry Team of just four active members [Irene, Karen, Wendy and Carol] continue to meet before the Sunday Services and weekly to pray for our Parish and to respond to prayer requests. They are no longer able to offer Prayer Ministry during and after our All Saints Communion Services.

The Prayer Box is still available in Church and any prayer requests will be treated with absolute confidentiality. You can also connect with us by contacting Carol: 07542 527 331, to arrange a confidential phone call or a visit. Blessings

Heritage Open Days

Thankyou to all who helped over last weekend
at All Saints' and at St Michael's.

We were able to greet over one hundred
visitors across the two sites

All Saints Harvest Celebration

Sunday 5th October at 10:45 a.m.

St Michael's Great Houghton is open for...

Craft and Natter on Tuesdays between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Thoughtful Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

*We aim to be a visible spiritual presence
in our communities as we strive to make
Jesus known to all.*

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden Peter Robinson 01226 753 572

Safeguarding contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

Parish Safeguarding Officer Sue Holden

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

Facebook [@darfieldallsaints](#)



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Search your current location or Postcode

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



The PCC of Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).