

The Erringden Eagle



Mytholmroyd & Cragg Vale News Oct 2025 Visit our website

www.erringdenbenefice.org.uk

If you are on Facebook why not join the group 'Friends of the Erringden Benefice'?

From St John's.....

Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch takes place on 12th October.

Join us for the **Curry Night** on 18th October and the **Whist Drive** on the 31st.



There are yoga classes on Sunday and Friday evenings (check on the web-site for times and to book—<https://www.oervalesandhills.co.uk/>).

Please let Julie know if you would like a stall at our Christmas Fair in November.



From St Michael's.....

Diary Dates:

Sunday 5th October - Harvest Festival
food gifts will be donated to Calder Food Support

Sunday 9th November—Remembrance Sunday

November 30th Advent Sunday. There will a confirmation service at Todmorden Parish Church in the afternoon.

December 11th. Chrisitan Aid 'Big Sing' at St Michael's

December 13th Santa's Grotto in St Michael's church hall

December 21st Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm.

Events and activities in October

Date	St John's	St Michael's
Wed 1st		
Thu 2nd		9.30am Angels 6.00pm Bell ringing practice 7.30pm Choir Practice
Fri 3rd		9am Benefice prayers 7 for 7.30pm Quiz Night
Sat 4th		10am Coffee in Erringden Room 11am Gardening group - all welcome
Sun 5th	9.30am Worship	11am Worship - Harvest Festival
Mon 6th		10.30am BREW
Tue 7th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	2.00pm Guild meeting — Quiz 7.00pm PCC meeting
Wed 8th		2.00pm Book Club
Thu 9th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	9.30am Angels 6.00pm Bell ringing practice 7.30pm Choir Practice
Fri 10th		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 11th		10am PCC Coffee Morning in Erringden Room
Sun 12th	9.30am Worship - Harvest Festival and Gift Day 11.30am Harvest lunch	11am Worship
Mon 13th	YCA - Harvest Lunch @ Hinch - booking essential.	10.30am BREW
Tue 14th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 15th		
Thu 16th	7.30pm History Group	9.30am Angels 6.00pm Bell ringing practice 7.30pm Choir Practice 8.00pm Wives meeting—Andy's Man Club

Date	St John's	St Michael's
Fri 17th		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 18th	6.30pm Curry Club—see poster	10am Coffee in Erringden Room
Sun 19th	9.30am Worship	11am Worship
Mon 20th	3.30pm PCC meeting	10.30am BREW
Tue 21st	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 22nd		
Thu 23rd		9.30am Angels 6.00pm Bell ringing practice 7.30pm Choir Practice
Fri 24th		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 25th		10am Coffee in Erringden Room
Sun 26th	9.30am Worship	11am Worship
Mon 27th	2-3pm Exercise Group	10.30am BREW
Tue 28th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 29th		
Thu 30th		6.00pm Bell ringing practice 7.30pm Choir Practice
Fri 31st	6.30 for 7pm start - Whist Drive	9am Benefice prayers

The church bell tower and the ringing of the bells!

The bell tower can be a mysterious place to many yet, when the bells start ringing, it makes itself known from the inside out.

Some are lucky to hear the bells ring joyfully on Sunday mornings to call those near-by to church, to celebrate a wedding, or to simply rehearse during the week. They can also be rung in a solemn way using half muffled bells to remember our war dead which is a very different experience. However the bells are rung, they sing out and move through villages and cities across the land and bring cheer to so many.

The tower is a special place, almost like a secret part of a church or cathedral that not everyone will discover. Some may not realise they've walked straight passed the tower door. Through these doors one will usually find a spiral staircase, some tighter and more of a climb than others. Not always for the faint hearted though as it can

be a challenge. I myself feel much happier in our little tower here at St. Michaels than Halifax Minster!

What I discovered quickly after I started was a definite bellringing culture which feels slightly separated from the rest of the church. As a newcomer to bellringing, I realised on my first go how much of an art it is to ring and have been so surprised by the positive impact it's had on me. It was during June's PCC meeting Roy and Stephen discussed the possibility of bringing back bellringing to St Micheal's. My hand shot up as quick as a sally!



Early July came round, and we had our first meet on a warm sunny Thursday evening. From day one we've been very fortunate as both Roy and Stephen are experienced ringers who have led the way along with a ringer and teacher called Karl. He resides in Bingley now but started bellringing here at St. Michael's when he was a young lad growing up in Mytholmroyd. There's even a picture of his great grandad going back to 1925 above the bell chamber door! He makes the journey across every Thursday to act as one of the main teachers and we're incredibly grateful to Karl for passing on his skills and knowledge. We also have a young woman called Rachel who's been ringing for about 7 years who can also teach new starters.

She moved to Mytholmroyd early this year and was thrilled to hear bellringing was starting up so close to her new home. She also rings at Halifax Minster and Manchester Cathedral so again we're incredibly lucky to have someone so experienced on our doorstep. There are others experienced ringers that travel across to Mytholmroyd for extra practice as well, and it really makes a difference for the novices to experience the sights and sounds of ringing rounds, methods and call changes. I'd not realised how much there is to learn in bellringing. In some ways I'm glad I didn't research much prior to the first meet as it's all been a wonderful and surprising encounter.

Other new starters from church have joined as well as other locals in Mytholmroyd and it's been excellent having a group of us learning together. It's great to see and recognise the progress we've all made and there's such a sense of camaraderie especially that first time a novice manages to ring on their own.



There's also something special with the bells at St. Michael's as the ropes have the rare Yorkshire Tails, which is a hot topic in bellringing. Not only are they specific to Yorkshire but only seven churches still have full sets of them including us. There are some who really don't like ringing with Yorkshire Tails as all they know is the standard double-backed rope ends. The Yorkshire Tail can cause quite a stir, as one can imagine, but I think I've decided I prefer them although I may be a little biased.

It's true when people say it's a fantastic hobby and a place where friendships are made with the regular meeting of new people. It also tests your focus and ability to work slightly under pressure especially if you're new or not used to certain bells etc. The main rule is 'Don't look up!' One must really go against the instinct to look towards the top of the rope and just trust the rope will behave if the right steps are followed.

I hope you've all been able to hear the bells on a Thursday as they sing across the village. Someone heard them as they walked through Redacre Woods one sunny evening and said it was joyous to listen to. Let's hope we can keep the tradition going and the wonders of bellringing alive here in at St. Michaels.

Thank you

Rebecca Garrud

St John's Church, Cragg Vale

Come and join us at



Cragg Curry Club!

Saturday 18th October

from 6.30pm

Come and enjoy a delicious meal with
family and friends!



A choice of curries
Plus rice, naan bread etc!

£12

Donations bar

Email [gjwsa2@gmail](mailto:gjwsa2@gmail.com) or text 07443420907

to book your place!

Rotas St Michael's	Stewards	Readers	Prayers	Coffee
5th October	Jenny Sheila P	Eric	Margaret	Madeline Sandra
12th October	Madeline Daphne	Libby	Daphne	Nancy Gloria
19th October	Gloria Sue L	Lesley	David	Christine Margaret
26th October	Geraldine Linda	Christine	Roy	Sandra K Gill J
2nd November	Eric Linda K	Margaret	Christine	Jackie Kathryn

Rotas St John's	Stewards	Readers	Coffee	Communion assistant
5th October	Ed Howard	Angela	Amanda	Julie
12th October	Geraint Sue	Sylvia	Viv	Ed
19th October	Amanda Anne B	Ann	Sylvia	Pat
26th October	Geraint Sue	Pat	Julie	Sylvia
2nd November	Anne B Sylvia	Geraint	Carol	Ann

	Readings	Gospel
5th October Trinity 16	Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4 2 Timothy 1.1-14	Luke 17.5-10
Harvest festival readings	Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Philippians 4.4-9	John 6. 25-35
12th October Trinity 17	2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c 2 Timothy 2.8-15	Luke 17.11-19
19th October Trinity 18	Genesis 32.22-31 2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5	Luke 18.1-8
26th October Last of Trinity	Jeremiah 14.7-10, 19-22 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18	Luke 18.9-14
2nd November All Saints	Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18 Ephesians 1.11-23	Luke 6.20-31

Our Interregnum Prayer

All knowing and loving Father, we bring before you our three parishes of St John's, St Mary's and St Michael's as we look forward to the appointment of our New Vicar.

We pray that the person you are calling to lead us will hear and respond to that call. We ask that your Holy Spirit will prepare us to respond, with open hearts and minds, to all the future holds for our three churches and the communities around them.

We ask this in our Saviour's name. **Amen**

Please send articles and detail of events for November to Margaret by
15th October