



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 14th December 2025

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion Darfield

Saturday 20th December 2025

4:00 p.m. Carol Service Great Houghton

Sunday 21st December 2025

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Darfield

6:00 p.m. Carols by Candlelight Darfield



Advent 3 The Ministry of the Kingdom

O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel

From the Latin (12th Century) 1851: tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 MP 493

This time of Advent should be more than just a countdown to the celebrations of Christmas. We are urged to prepare our hearts and minds for the spiritual journey that is ahead of us. In this we are commanded to prepare for the second coming of the Messiah and the continuing ministry of the Kingdom until this event occurs. At this time of year, we often look back over the year since last Christmas. We have seen many changes in 2025. Our small team of Worship Leaders has become smaller as members have moved to other Parishes to develop their own Ministry as they move towards Ordination. This has also affected the membership of our Parochial Church Council as they seek to maintain the Ministry of the Kingdom in the Parish of Darfield.

The **Kingdom of God**, otherwise the Kingdom of Heaven or the Kingdom of Christ, was a major feature in the teaching of Jesus, two thousand years ago. Many of His parables start with "*The Kingdom of Heaven is like...*" Matthew records the parables of the weeds, the mustard seed, the yeast, the hidden treasure, the pearl and the net. [Matthew 13: 24-52]

Theologically, the Kingdom of God refers to God's reign over His Creation, a reign marked by justice, peace, love and the fulfilment of God's will.

The Ministry of the Kingdom, here in our Parish, covers all the spiritual and practical work performed by individuals and groups. We should be aiming to reflect God's reign on earth whilst awaiting the coming of Christ. In many ways this may take us out of our comfort zone as we seek to share the good news of Christ's coming through our words and deeds. We should also join in with worship and prayer, both individually and collective and become living examples of kingdom life as we display hope, patience and joy in the middle of a waiting world.

Communions: **Christmas Eve 11:30 p.m. Great Houghton**
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Darfield

Third Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Isaiah 35: 1-10
 Psalm 146: 4-10
 James 5: 7-10
 Matthew 11: 2-11

Readings for this week December

14th Proverbs 25: 11-20
15th Proverbs 25: 21-28
16th Proverbs 26: 1-12
17th Ephesians 5: 21-33
18th Ephesians 6: 1 -9
19th Ephesians 6: 10-17
20th Ephesians 6: 18-24
21st Philippians 1-11

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Prayer Square

**This week we are
praying for the residents
of Darfield**

*Palermo Fold
 Marsala Walk
 Sorrento Way
 Belvedere Drive
 Lugano Grove
 Genoa Close*

**Community Shop on the Go
 Will be back in January
 Warm Welcome Space**

*9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 18th December 2025
 Back on 8th January 2026*

St Michael's

Craft & Natter back after Easter
 Thoughtful Thursday 8th January



Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden

Peter Robinson 01226 753 572

PCC Secretary

Karen Walton

Parish Safeguarding

Peter Robinson 07910 728 581

Parish Email

Allsaintschurcharfield@gmail.com

Our Web Site

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

Facebook

@darfieldallsaints

All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).