



North Wakefield Benefice

North Wakefield Team of Churches

Newsletter for October 2025



Ps 85:9-12 ... the Lord will bless us with good things, and the land will produce rich harvests

Dear Friends, “Do not ill-treat a foreigner; you know how it feels to be a foreigner, because you were foreigners in Egypt.” Exodus 23:9

Autumn is upon us with colder mornings and harvest festivals. It’s a special season starting with thankfulness for all we have and ending with remembrance. I know I’ve been thankful for the fruitfulness of the trees in my garden this year.

I wonder what you are thankful for? I wonder what would change if we looked more for things to be thankful for than we do for things to be angry about. This summer I’ve heard a lot of anger. I’ve seen it on the news and I suspect you have too. Anger that’s stemmed from fear, particularly of people who seem different to us, but also a fear stemming from the cost of living crisis.

I remember feeling the fear of difference myself when I went travelling at 23. I arrived in India, a country I really didn’t understand, a woman on my own, with people coming up to me all the time wanting me to buy things or give them money. I found the sights, smells and everything overwhelming. In the airport I met a lovely Indian guy who invited me to eat with his family. They were shop owners – middle class – yet living in a house I couldn’t imagine even existing in England. I eventually hired a car and travelled outside of Delhi and gradually I grew to understand and love the country and my fear disappeared as I learned to understand it better.



When I was training in Bradford I worked alongside a lot of asylum seekers (by a lot probably 20 or so; asylum seekers actually form less than 0.3% of the population of West Yorkshire). I heard their stories, I shared their lives. I saw the trauma that many of them were carrying. But I also saw genuine faith. When our congregation was swelled by a number of asylum seekers our worship did change. But it was enriched. I learned new worship songs in Farsi sung with a joy and an exuberance often unknown to us English people who tend to be much more reserved. I was thankful for the perspective they added to my worship, the joy they brought to our congregation. And, like many of the asylum seekers I’ve encountered, these were educated people. People who had careers in their homelands but whose lives were in danger if they were to return. These people had nothing to speak of but were generous beyond all imagining. We grew to love them and they us.

They taught me to be thankful for the safety and the freedoms we enjoy here. Not just on an intellectual basis but through their experiences, based on a reality I now understood better. They taught me to be thankful for the rich diversity of cultures and traditions we have in this country. The asylum situation is complicated with lots of causes and influences but fear of something different isn’t unusual, it’s universal. But if we take time to know people as individuals instead of putting them in a category of “other” we find there’s a lot less to be scared of than we thought.

The Bible tells us that perfect love casts out all fear. That perfect love can only come from God and the love we share is just an echo of the love we receive from

God. But as we receive love from God, so we need to share it with those around us – and not just those who seem like us. So my prayer is that we lean into that love and we open our hearts to share that love with everyone we meet – no matter what their ethnicity, their faith, or their differences from us. Because in the words of Martin Luther King “Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that!” and it’s only when we love that we will see peace in our world and lives transformed.

Blessings to you all this autumn, *Rev Diane*

Events for October

Friday 3rd October, 3pm [Stanley](#)
Macmillan coffee afternoon—please come along and support our event!

Saturday 4th Oct, 2pm [Wrenthorpe](#)
Harvest Afternoon Tea with musical entertainment. Tickets £10 per person.

Harvest Festival Services

Sun 5th October, 9.15am [Outwood](#)

Sun 5th October, 9.30am [Alverthorpe](#)

Sun 12th October, 10.45am [Stanley](#)

Saturday 11th Oct, 10.30am [Stanley](#)
Coffee morning with refreshments, bacon sandwiches, raffle and more!

Monday 13th Oct, 12pm [Wrenthorpe](#)
Forget-me-not bereavement group.

Tuesday 14th Oct, 11am [Stanley](#)
Harvest lunch with singing from the school choir. £6 per person.

Saturday 18th Oct, 10am [Wrenthorpe](#)
Women of Substance group, looking at the story of Leah, with lunch and crafts.

Sunday 19th Oct, 10.45am [Stanley](#)
A special service for Disability Sunday.

Monday 20th Oct, 10.30am [Outwood](#)
Mother’s Union meeting in church to prepare Foster leavers packs.

Thursday 23rd Oct, 7.30pm [Outwood](#)
Men’s Group meeting at Kirklands Hotel, Leeds Rd –learn about City of Sanctuary.

Saturday 25th Oct, 10am [Alverthorpe](#)
Lifeboat meeting with prayer, Bible study, discussion and refreshments.

Sunday 26th October
Remember to turn your clocks back!

Memorial Services

Sun 26th October, 3pm [Stanley](#)

Sun 26th October, 6pm [Wrenthorpe](#)

Sun 2nd November, 3pm [Outwood](#)

Sun 2nd November, 6pm [Alverthorpe](#)

Sunday 9th November
See next month’s magazine for details of all our Remembrance Sunday services.

Contact details for our clergy:

Associate
Vicar



Rev Diane Komorowski
St Anne’s Vicarage,
121 Wrenthorpe Road,
Wrenthorpe, WF2 0JS

07903 044570
revddianek@gmail.com

St Peter's Church, Stanley



Lake Lock Road
Stanley
WF3 4HW

Stanley



Services every week at St Peter's:
10.45am on Sundays -Holy Communion
Our weekly family service includes Holy Communion most weeks, followed by refreshments and time to chat.

9.30am on Mondays—Morning Prayer
A short informal prayer service.

Weekly events at St Peter's

Mondays 10am - 12pm	Lighthouse Café A warm space with drinks, snacks, games, jigsaws etc. 
Mondays 1pm- 2pm 	Stanley Community Choir New members welcome, no audition! Make friends and enjoy a sing-song.
Tuesdays 10.30am- 1.30pm	Tuesday lunch club for older people with games, quizzes, talks, films, crafts and a hot lunch—£6.
Wednesdays 10am-12pm	Lighthouse Café Also on Wednesdays!
Wednesdays 1.30pm- 3.30pm	 Knit & Natter Enjoy a cuppa, company & a 'crafty' time.
Thursdays 9.15am- 11.15am	Children's Ark baby and toddler group with toys, play, singing and snacks.



Harvest Festival Service Sunday 12th October, 10.45am

A warm welcome to our harvest festival service on **Sunday 12th October** when we will be giving thanks for all God's many blessings to us. This will be a non- communion family service and will be followed by a bring and share lunch to which everyone is invited.

Donations of food are welcome: gifts such as fresh fruit and vegetables will be used in our harvest lunch on Tuesday 14th October, and dried or tinned food will be donated to CAP Care in Wakefield which supports homeless people.

Disability Sunday Sunday 19th October, 10.45am

At our morning service on 19th October we will be reflecting on how we can support those with disability, as a church and as individuals. We will hear about the experiences of church members who are living with disability.

This will be a communion service, but set out café-style with tables.



Community Harvest Lunch

Tuesday 14th October 11am—1pm

Everyone is warmly invited to St Peter's church on Tuesday 14th October for a Community Harvest Lunch. There will be a delicious home-cooked meal and refreshments. Arrive from 10.30am for tea and coffee, and at 11.30am we will be welcoming Stanley St Peter's school choir to entertain us with some harvest songs. We will also have some fun harvest themed quizzes!

The cost per person is £6.



Macmillan coffee morning

Friday 3rd October, 3pm—5pm

Coffee and cake? Tea and a bun?



Please come and join us and support the Macmillan charity

Tuesday Lunch Club

Every Tuesday 10.30am-1.30pm

The lunch club is an ideal activity for older ladies and gentlemen, costing just £6 for a hot 2 course meal and various activities. We have a lot of fun and always learn something new! Here is our plan for the next few weeks:

- Tues 7th Oct—Mother's Union talk
- Tues 14th Oct—Harvest lunch
- Tues 21st Oct—Learn about Diwali
- Tues 28th Oct—Board games

New members are always welcome.

Don't be lonely! Please join us!

Contact details for St Peter's Church

Clergy

For baptism and wedding enquiries, to request home communion visits and one-to-one prayer, please contact Rev Diane Komorowski—see page 3 for details.

Church Office

Room hire enquiries, information about church groups, publicity:

Eleanor Plant 01924 835746
churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

Church Officer roles

Jason Plant Church Warden
David Sunderland Church Warden
Libby Gates PCC Secretary
Jason Plant Treasurer

Safeguarding concerns

Dave Florence 07957 203898
daveflorence@gmail.com

Memorial service

Sunday 26th October, 3pm

To remember loved ones who have died recently or in the past. Everyone welcome, please just come along.



Young People's Bible group

Wednesdays, 4pm-5.30pm

From early November, Rev Diane will be starting a Christian discipleship group for young people of high school age at St Peter's church on



Wednesdays, from **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** 4pm-5.30pm. Please contact Diane if you'd like to find out more.

St Mary Magdalene, Outwood



Leeds Road
Outwood
WF1 2JL

Outwood



Services at St Mary Magdalene

Sundays, 9.15am	Parish Mass
Thursdays, 9.15am	Morning Prayer

Regular Events:

Mondays 7.15pm	Rate My Mind men's group in the Choir Vestry
Mondays	Care4U Community Choir
Wednesdays 10am-12pm	Free Drop-In at the Church Institute: coffee/tea, quizzes, music etc.
Fridays 9.15-11.15am	Mini Monsters at the Church Institute

Outwood Institute contact details

Institute Manager—Keith 07837 386891

Brownies—Rachel 07587 919263

Guides—Karen 07719 669146

Scouts— Josh or Toni 07407 497289

Wives Group— Norma 07854 780694

Mini Monsters— Barbara 07580 042854

Dance Class—Paula 07780 688623

Weight Watchers— Sarah 07775744237

Pre-school—Suzanne 01924 825688



Our Harvest Festival service will be on **Sunday 5th October at 9.30am**, Everyone is very welcome!

MAPPS Men's group meeting

Thurs 23rd Oct, 7.30pm, Kirklands

Dirk Davies will be coming along to this month's meeting to talk about the City of Sanctuary. This national organisation looks out for asylum seekers and refugees and in Wakefield they are based at St Michael's church, Westgate End. Come along to hear how they care for the strangers in our midst, and maybe gain another perspective on the current debate on asylum seekers and refugees.



All Souls Service

Sunday 2nd November at 3pm

Join us at this Memorial service to remember loved one who have died recently or in the past. All welcome.

Community PACT meeting

Discuss local issues with police and councillors at the next PACT meeting from **6pm-7pm on Thursday 30th October in Outwood Memorial Hall.**



Our branch meeting on Monday 15th September met in the home of one of members, where we spent time going through the baptism preparation boxes, checking we had everything we needed and practicing delivering the talk using the items. It reinforced the need to have two people doing it together with Rev Diane, but we are all doing the training!

Thank you to everyone who came to support the Foster Carer's Choir at Treacy Hall. It was a good meeting and they are certainly progressing as a choir. They are performing again on Saturday 11th October in the Ridings centre and also on Tuesday 25th November in one of the free lunchtime concert slots at Wakefield Cathedral. They plan to return to our Treacy Hall café before Christmas to sing carols and Christmas songs.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed items for the Foster Care Leavers' packs. Joy took 5 bags away from Treacy Hall last week!

In 2026 The Mothers' Union will be 150 years old and there will be a national thanksgiving service at 5pm on Wednesday 10th June at St Paul's Cathedral in London. There will also be a gathering at the London Emmanuel Centre on Thursday 11th June from 10.30am to 4.30pm, and a global anniversary gathering in October 2026 in South Africa over three days! More details to follow.

Contact details for St Mary Magdalene

Clergy

For baptism and wedding enquiries, to request home communion visits and one-to-one prayer, please contact Rev Diane Komorowski—see page 3 for details.

Church Warden

Roland Harden 07771 848130
roland_harden@hotmail.com
Brian Taylor 07815 311082
brian5163sullivan@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Beverley Beaumont
beverleybeaumont@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Duncan Hall

Benefice Magazine, Coffee mornings

Brian Taylor 07815 311082

Safeguarding

Pat Robertshaw 01924 824086
davidpat.robertshaw@gmail.com

Our own Province/Diocese have been meeting to plan events more locally in our region. Watch this space for details of how we will be celebrating the MU anniversary closer to home.

Our next meeting is at **10.30am on Monday 20th October** in Outwood church, when we will be putting together our own Foster Care Leavers Pack and hearing about a Romanian wedding, their customs and ceremony.

As always, please ring me for further information on 01924 825866
Sheila Crosby, Branch Leader

St Anne's, Wrenthorpe



121 Wrenthorpe Road
Wrenthorpe
WF2 0JS

Wrenthorpe



St Anne's

Services at St Anne's, Wrenthorpe

Sundays, 10.45am Holy Communion

Wednesdays, 2.15pm Holy Communion

Other weekly events (term time only)

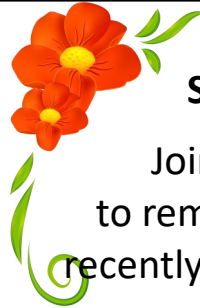
Mondays, 10am Cheeky Cherubs

Mondays, 2.30pm Youth Drop-in

Monthly events

2nd Monday of the month, 12pm-2pm Forget-me-not friendship group

3rd Saturday of the month 10am-2pm Women of Substance group



All Souls Service

Sunday 26th October at 6pm

Join us at this Memorial service to remember those who have died recently or in the past. All welcome.

Would you like to be confirmed?

Rev Diane is running a confirmation course on Saturday mornings at St Anne's church. Please contact Diane on 07903 044570 to find out more.



School Years 7 - 11



St. Anne's Church Wrenthorpe



Young People's Drop-In

on Mondays from 2.30pm - 4pm in Church

Come and join us for a snack, games, creative activities, watch a bit of a movie followed by some discussion, and more!



After School during Termttime

HARVEST

Harvest Afternoon Tea

With entertainment from

Thinking Forward Singing Group

With songs from the 60s-70s-80s

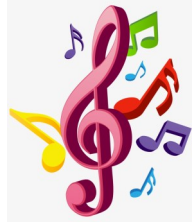
In St Anne's Church Hall

Saturday 4th October,

2pm – 4pm

Tickets £10 pp

(includes a glass of Prosecco)



Come along and support our event!

Enjoy a great time and even get up
for a bop or two!

Tickets available from Jacquie
on 07503075108

Contact details for St Anne's Church Clergy

For baptism and wedding enquiries, to request home communion visits and one-to-one prayer, please contact Rev Diane Komorowski—see page 3 for details.

Church Wardens

Lynn Fowley 07890 589907
ldfowley@live.co.uk

Lisa Cooper 07768 553901
lccooper@btinternet.com

PCC Secretary

Lynn Fowley 07890 589907
ldfowley@live.co.uk

Treasurer

David Payne
david.payne24@gmail.com

Church Hall bookings

Bob Illingworth 07443 459558

Women of Substance... Saturday 18th October 10am—2pm

This month we are looking at the life of Leah. She was Jacob's unloved wife who chose to praise the Lord.

Some people seem to have it all and then there is Leah. Leah got a rotten deal; she wasn't her sister Rachel, she was different in many ways but was still a woman who deserved to be loved. Leah's dad tricked Jacob into marrying her, but Jacob only had eyes for her sister Rachel. Leah tried everything to make Jacob love her, but he only had eyes for Rachel.

Leah eventually changed her focus from her unloving husband and chose to praise her God. She realised she was beautiful and precious in God's eyes. Her fourth son was born and she called him Judah, which means, "I will praise the Lord!" Judah went on to be the father of his tribe. God blessed this special woman.

Come along, enjoy fellowship, enjoy learning from God's word about the women who He chose to bring about His purpose. Enjoy a delicious lunch and a lovely craft suitable for everyone.

Lynn Fowley, 07890 589907 or ldfowley@live.co.uk



St Paul's, Alverthorpe



St Paul's Drive
Alverthorpe
WF2 0BT

Alverthorpe



St Paul's

We are St Paul's Church, Alverthorpe

Sunday and mid-week services:

9.30am Sunday morning: a mixture of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer

9am Tuesday morning: Morning Prayer

11am Wednesday morning: a short 'said' Holy Communion

We have tea and coffee after all services. We are on Facebook, and broadcast live every Sunday morning service

A WARM welcome guaranteed

Bishop's visit postponed

We had been looking forward to welcoming the new Bishop of Wakefield Malcolm Chamberlain to visit our churches next month. However, his visit has now been postponed 'til January. Bishop Malcolm was welcomed at a special service at Wakefield Cathedral last month.



DON'T FORGET!!
Remember to turn
your clocks back one hour
on Sunday 26th October.



Our Harvest Festival service will be on

**Sunday 5th October
at 9.30am**

This will be a family Parade service and everyone is very welcome to join us.



Lifeboat prayer group

**Sat 25th October
10am—11.30am**

The Lifeboat prayer group is a spirituality group for the whole benefice, meeting on the last Saturday of the month in the East Room at St Paul's church in Alverthorpe, from 10am—11.30am. We enjoy refreshments, a time of prayer, Bible study, and discussion. Everyone welcome.

All Souls Service, Sunday 2nd November at 6pm

Join us at this Memorial service to remember those who have died recently or in the past. No invitation is required, please just come along. All welcome.



Feast day of St Francis—4th October

St Francis (1181-1226) is surely one of the best loved of all the Saints. His close rapport with animals is well known, such as the familiar story of him preaching to the birds. You will also know the popular hymn based on his famous prayer, 'Make me a channel of your Peace'.

Italy's patron saint, whose feast day is celebrated on 4th October, was born in Assisi, the son of a wealthy cloth-merchant. He grew up in high society, enjoying parties, horses and living it up. But then he went to fight in the war between Assisi and Perugia and was taken prisoner for a year.



By the time of his release, Francis had changed. He began to help the poor and the lepers. Then one day a voice which seemed to come from the crucifix in the small, semi-derelict church of Damiano Assisi said "Go and repair my house, which you see is falling down".

This religious experience was the turning point in his life. He began to repair the church, and renounced all his possessions. He even stripped off all his wealthy garments in Assisi's public square. He was provided with simple garments, and he began his new life.

For the rest of his life, he and his followers led a life of simplicity, without luxury, privilege or even possessions. Francis died after an illness at the age of 45 and was canonised in 1228.

Contact details for St Paul's Church

Clergy

For baptism and wedding enquiries, to request home communion visits and one-to-one prayer, please contact Rev Diane Komorowski—see page 3 for details.

Church Warden

David Dews

Unformed groups

Cubs meet Monday evenings, Beavers and Scouts meet Friday evenings:

Bill Sim 01924 382245

Guides meet Wednesdays and Rainbows and Brownies meet Thursday evenings:

Mrs Pat Lambert 01924 376857

Arts Retreat in Halifax, 17th-19th Oct

The Holy Nativity Church in Mixenden, Halifax is holding a 3 day multi-arts retreat in October on the topic of grief. Death and grief are experiences that will at some point touch us all. However, they remain taboo topics; difficult to face ourselves and with others. How can art help us look and understand grief and death better?

This creative arts retreat will consider how the Bible, Christian tradition, and various art forms allow us to approach grief and death, and inspire us in our own creativity.

Tickets cost around £25. Search 'Holy Nativity Church' on Facebook to find out more information about the retreat and how to book.



Prayers for October

A Helping Hand

There is much we can do just to brighten
This world of all take and no give,
There's a great deal that we can contribute
Through the everyday lives that we live.

By supporting one's elderly neighbours
Or through lending a hand in some way
It's by taking a bunch of spring flowers
To someone to brighten their day.

It's by sparing a few precious hours
In the service of those most in need
It's all about setting a standard
And trying to give others a lead

It's the way that we tend to treat others
And help and aid folks in distress
In the care and assistance we offer
That will set us apart from the rest.

The choice that we face is quite simple
The rewards plain for all men to see
"As you did all of this to My brother,
Then," said Jesus,
"You did it to Me."

By Colin Hammacott



The Leaves

The leaves had a wonderful frolic.
They danced to the wind's loud song,
They whirled, and they floated, and
scampered,
They circled and flew along.

The North Wind is calling, is calling,
And we must whirl round and round,
And then when our dancing is ended
We'll make a warm quilt for the ground.

Author unknown

Choices

Dearest Lord Jesus,
You have give us choices,
every day:

What to do and what to say.

Your love is so perfect,
Right from the heart

Please stay with us;

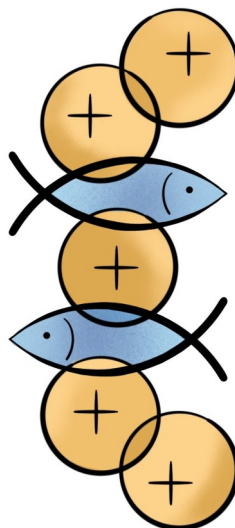
Lord help us do our part.

You are so amazing
so divine;

You are the light
in our lives

Which makes us
want to shine.

Irene Smithson



Autumn Glades

We stroll through leafy autumn glades,
An amber carpet 'neath our shoes;
As Nature's summer beauty fades
She clothes herself in golden hues.

The stillness of October days,
The chillness of a frosty dawn,
Yet autumn sunshine's slanting rays
Caress us with their glowing warmth.

They also warm the southern breeze,
Which comes upon us, as it may,
Releasing crispy, ochre leaves
To gently patter on our way.

Soon, soon comes winter's icy grip,
Of freezing wind and driving snow,
But, just for now, we'll gladly slip
Through gentle autumn's golden glow.

By Nigel Beeton