

Dear all,

Last week, thinking about rights Vs privileges, I wrote about my frustration at not being allowed to drive. This week, the minimum legal “stop driving” period expired; my doctor cleared me to drive, and my insurance company said they were happy too. So I am driving now, but... I wondered ‘who would have known if I had driven when I shouldn’t?’ I hadn’t had to tell the DVLA and, short of any accident raising questions, no one would have known if I had driven.

It reminded me of a mantra chanted in some street theatre I saw many years ago:

‘Good is only good if you get noticed,

Bad is only bad if you get caught’

It’s not hard to see this in the world, either in people signalling their virtues to seek approval (without necessarily taking any action in support of these virtues), or in keeping quiet about failings (whether they have acted on them or not). Sadly, even in church, we can present a mask so that people see what we want them to see.

That’s not how God sees it:

‘...The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’ (1 Samuel 16:7 NIVUK)

For me, this is a question of integrity – God expects us to hold to His principles *even* (or *especially*) when no-one else sees what we do, and regardless of what they would think if they did see.

We will get this wrong sometimes; I will cover this in my next email in 2 weeks (spoiler: we have a God *who forgives us* when we turn back to Him!)

Thinking of our activities over the next 2 weeks:

This Week:

Sunday (5th) I am leading our worship service at 10 am, and Revd Irene is preaching on Romans 7: 15-25a and Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-end. We are also joined by Siyoli Waters who will be leading our sung worship, with Dave Waters updating us on his work.

We are still looking for volunteers to be present in the church on Sunday afternoon as we are offering facilities for those visiting Swanland ‘Open Gardens’.

During the week we have our last meeting before the summer break of our parent and toddler group, **Cygnets**, on Tuesday (7th) at 10.30 am. '**Singing at St.B's**' meets on Wednesday (8th) at 7.30pm and our **Coffee Morning** is on Thursday (9th) at 10 am as usual. **Men's Breakfast** is a week later this month on Saturday 11th at 8.00am.

The Following Week:

SEAT Afternoon tea - Saturday 11th July, 2-4pm, at John and Shirley's house (Nursery House). Following Richard and Mary's visit to Kenya, they have brought back hats, bags, aprons, spoons, necklaces and much more. You are invited to afternoon tea to purchase these and hear a short talk from Richard at no 3pm. Please feel free to bring friends and family.

Sunday (12th) Sue is leading and Andrew is preaching on Romans 8: 1-11 and Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23. (This will not be a communion service.)

Being the second Monday of the month (13th), **Healing Rooms** meets at 2.00pm in The Lounge. Then our **PCC Meeting** takes place Monday evening at 7.00pm in The Lounge. Cygnets, has broken up for the summer, restarting on 15th September. The **Church Prayer Meeting** is on Tuesday (14th) at 6.30pm in The Lounge, with '**Singing at St. B's**' on Wednesday (15th) at 7.30pm, and our **Coffee Morning** on Thursday (16th) at 10 am as usual. Being the third Friday (17th) GAPP meets at 10.15am, with the **Women's Bible Study** (Third Saturday) meeting on Saturday (18th) at 9.00am.

All the details can be found on the church website: [Church calendar and Events](#), where you can also find the [July Rota](#).

This week, **Bishop Eleanor** helped present **Vision36 at ACC-19** in Belfast: a bold proposal to plant or restore one million churches across the Anglican Communion by 2036.

The proposal seeks to encourage Anglican and Episcopal provinces in discipleship, church planting, and church revitalisation, building on the Season of Intentional Discipleship and the Jesus-Shaped Life initiative.

Alongside the Five Marks of Mission, Vision36 also proposes new Marks of Missionary Discipleship: to Encounter, Follow, Belong, Grow, Make, and Multiply.

Bishop Eleanor said the Commission is proposing these complementary discipleship marks as "... things that we must be intentional about in order for discipleship to become a part of who we are always... to enable the life of discipleship to continue to flourish."

[More information](#)

Foundations in Ministry: recruiting for September

A new Foundations in Ministry cohort begins in September, based at the Diocesan Office in York.

Foundations in Ministry is for anyone exploring a sense of call to ministry, in the church and beyond its walls. It is also the first step for those considering authorised or licensed ministry.

The 10-month course includes in-person and online sessions, helping you reflect on your growth as a disciple of Christ and as a public minister. You will learn alongside others, with support from a mentor in your local church context, as you develop basic ministry skills and grow in confidence.

To find out more, including the full course guide and application form, visit the [Foundations in Ministry web page](#)

The next email from me – Saturday 18th July.

Kevin

Revd Kevin Barnard, Vicar of Swanland

Day Off: Friday

The Vicarage, 3 St Barnabas Drive, Swanland. HU14 3RL
Tel: 01482 590973 Email: vicar@stbchurch.org.uk

Texts and WhatsApp only: 07880 288124

Church Office:

For all administrative enquiries, including hall hire, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Mon - Thu 10.00am - 12.00pm

St Barnabas Church, Main Street, Swanland. HU14 3QP

Tel: 01482 632941 Email: admin@stbchurch.org.uk

A Church Near You: achurchnearyou.com/st-barnabas-swanland

Follow us on Facebook: [@stbtbswanland](https://www.facebook.com/stbtbswanland)

Our parish of Swanland is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. Read [our policy](#) here. For concerns, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer Graham Dunn, phone 07974 020837 or email safeguarding.stbchurch@gmail.com. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority's children or adult social care services.



The Parish of Swanland, St Barnabas Church

Reg Charity No: 1130240