

# CHURCH NEWS MAY 2020

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM HOLY CROSS SWAINBY  
AND ST MARY'S POTTO

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*Delivered to your door to keep you in touch*

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## 100+ CLUB

The lucky winners were:

### MARCH DRAW

£25 Stan and Gladys Watson (131)

£10 Michael and Margaret Gaines-Burrill (66)

£5 Andy and Janet Wilde (108)

### APRIL DRAW

£25 George and Carolyn Hopper (29)

£10 John Howard (85)

£5 Angela Wilson (38)

## CHURCH SERVICES ON YOU TUBE

Robert and Lisa continue to give us daily services on YouTube and we are most grateful for this. They get more and more adventurous as time goes by and we are increasingly delighted.

Contact Robert or Lorna if you are unsure how to find the YouTube channel – WHORLTON CHURCH.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxFmcdnhpB3wcx4i1SvO7OQ>

Our churches and the church hall are of course still closed as I write: church income is much reduced but the expenses have changed little. Should you wish to contribute financially to our churches you could do so by either setting up a Standing Order (contact Robin Cook, 01642 700569, for more details) or sending a donation either by bank transfer to Whorlton PCC, sort code 55-61-02, account number 36120618, or in the form of a cheque made out to Whorlton PCC to our Treasurer, Geoff Brown at 6 Church Lane, DL6 3EA.

## EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT HELPLINE

The NHS Chaplaincy team and the Therapeutic Care team of James Cook University Hospital have set up an emotional and spiritual helpline for Covid19 patients and their relatives. It covers all hospitals in the South Tees NHS Trust. The support is only open to patients and relatives who either have received Covid19 treatment or are receiving treatment within the trust area. The number to ring is 01642 282400 or email [st.tees.patient.experience@nhs.net](mailto:st.tees.patient.experience@nhs.net) to leave messages which will be delivered to your loved ones. Please make sure that everyone is aware of the number.

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## CELTIC PRAYERS

*Ancient Celtic prayers have a modern relevance.*

There is an ancient Celtic prayer that is as relevant today as it was all those centuries ago:

Be Thou between me and all things grisly

Be Thou before me in all things mean

Be Thou between me and all things gruesome

Coming darkly towards me.

This little prayer, from around the 5<sup>th</sup> century has that sense of foreboding that we are feeling in these dark days. The Celts were largely a rural people living in turbulent feudal times and they understood how to turn concerns and desires into prayer. Day to

day life was hugely uncertain – plague and smallpox ravaged the country and touched the lives of all, including St Cuthbert, who probably died of plague in 687.

Alexander Carmichael, a Victorian ethnographer who worked in the Hebrides and the Scottish Highlands, wrote down Celtic Christian prayers during his visits to the working people of those ancient places. He realised that these prayers had a long history, handed down through generations via the oral tradition. And so we have prayers like this:

Thou my soul's healer  
Keep me even  
I am tired, astray and stumbling,  
Shield me from snare and sin.

The Celts felt an intense closeness to God - part of their everyday life, whether milking cows or working in the fields:

Mayest Thou thyself, O God of life,  
Be at my breast, be at my back,  
Thou to me as a star  
Thou to me as a guide  
From my life's beginning to my life's closing.

The old prayers acknowledge the exhaustion of living with uncertainty and the desire for peace:

I am placing my soul and my body under thy guarding this night, O God,  
O thou Father of help to the poor feeble pilgrims  
Protector of earth and of heaven.

It is in some ways a comfort to know that we are not the first generation to confront all this.

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**CLIFF CLARK**

Formerly of Hollin Hill Farm, Scugdale passed away peacefully on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Due to the current circumstances a private family burial took place at Crathorne on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

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## MIDDLESBROUGH FOODBANK

If you would prefer to donate money rather than food items to the foodbank at this difficult time go to their website – [middlesbrough.foodbank.org.uk](http://middlesbrough.foodbank.org.uk) - and click on DONATE and you will be directed to a give.net page. The postal address for cheques is: Unit 5 Wear Court, Wallis Road, Skipper's Lane Industrial Estate, Southbank TS9 6DU.

**DELIVERY INFORMATION** - The following businesses will deliver to addresses in Swainby and Potto

**The Rusty Bike:** 01642 688549. [www.facebook.com/therustybikenorthyorks/](http://www.facebook.com/therustybikenorthyorks/)

**Roots Farm Shop:** 01609 882480 [www.facebook.com/RootsRounton/](http://www.facebook.com/RootsRounton/) Deliveries Wed, Thurs Fri.

**Beswick's Fruit and Veg:** 07713 881014

**Ian Garbutt** (milk, juice, butter etc) 01642 711655

**McMahon's Fruit and Veg**, via the Parish Council: Order on Tuesday for delivery on Thursday to the church car park at 3.30 p.m. email [dolly.hannon@btinternet.com](mailto:dolly.hannon@btinternet.com) or ring 01642 700838. Delivery can be arranged if you are isolating. Thanks to the Parish Council for arranging this.

**Whitegates Nursery** West Rounton, for all gardening supplies: 01609 882355. Email: [info@whitegatesnursery.co.uk](mailto:info@whitegatesnursery.co.uk) with your order giving a phone number. There is a small delivery charge.

### **CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS**

**Rector:** The Rev.d Dr Robert Opala 01642 701245. [robertopala62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:robertopala62@yahoo.co.uk)

**Assistant Curate:** The Rev.d David Sudron: 01642 701321.

**Reader:** Gordon Clarke 01642 701740

**Churchwardens:** Lorna Kessell 07917524751 [swainbychurch@btinternet.com](mailto:swainbychurch@btinternet.com)

Amy Mazingham 01642 700656

**CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS:** Email: [swainbychurch@btinternet.com](mailto:swainbychurch@btinternet.com). Queries to Lorna or Sue Lawton 01642 700491.

Church news editor: Pauline Kynge email: [pkynge@gmail.com](mailto:pkynge@gmail.com) Deadline for June is May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**BE JOYFUL**

**KEEP THE FAITH**

**DO THE LITTLE THINGS!**

**SAINT DAVID**