



St Mary's Honley & St George's Brockholes
<http://www.hwbparish.org.uk>

Sunday 6th December 2020

Advent and Christmas will be very different this year.

**We must
keep on
protecting
each other.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

**St Mary's is open for private prayer on Friday
3.30pm to 4.30pm.**

This is for private prayer and not for 'catching up' or conversations.
Face coverings are mandatory

Sunday

11.00 am St Mary's Morning Prayer

12.00 St George's Morning Prayer

Sunday Service on Zoom

Service starts at 10.00am

you can join this from 9.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82052570669?pwd=bFY1OHQvd3pGaW90QXNIa2ljUEExqZz09>

Meeting ID: 820 5257 0669

Password: 055008

On your phone +44 203 051 2874

Service sheet can be found on the worship tab on the website

A version of this service will be available on the you tube later.

**Comfort
and Joy**



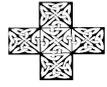
This year do we have room to celebrate even in these difficult times?

We may not be able to meet with all whom we would like to, we may not be able to celebrate as we would like. But as you are at home or on a walk you can celebrate!

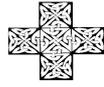
In the coming week you will find large posters with this logo on around the village they each have a reading and a QR code for a carol. We hope that people will bring comfort and joy as they read the reading and listen or sing along with the carols online. [Safely social distanced].

The booklet can also be found on our website to use in your own home or share with others.

Collect
Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.



We Remember: Tears mind of
Arthur Nickerson



Eric Turner

Also the family and friends of

David Hunt

We remember

All who have lost loved ones

In a time and world in which the fragility
of our breath and life has been exposed by a virus
attacking our respiratory system, we remember all those
millions of people around the world whose lives have
been overturned by grief and loss or who are living with
Long Covid and the after-affects it brings, many of which
are as yet uncertain to us.

May they know comfort and healing,
may those who care for them and support them
know that their actions are deeply appreciated,
may we all do what we can to avoid risking others and
ourselves.

Vicar: Revd. Martin Short
01484 661751

martin.short@Leeds.anglican.org

Who you can also contact for Baptisms and
Weddings:

Comfort
and Joy



The Church of England helpline called
Daily Hope. This is aimed at those who
do not have access to the internet and
all the online resources.

GIVING

Help to keep the parish churches open.

All our funding comes from the giving of the people
who attend or those who feel that they want to
support us. We do not receive any money from any
other source.

Now more than ever, please consider giving
generously to support our Mission and Ministry
during these difficult times and beyond. Thank you
for your support. Martin **You can now make
donations online just follow this link.**

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/a459163d-1461-4ce0-bc1c-4c98dca169c8>

Or



A virtual Coffee morning



**Wednesday's on Zoom 9.30 to 10.30 join us at any time online:
chat, share stories, listen to the music... have coffee or tea at
home [even cake if you have some].**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83218275796?pwd=TmNreHVuY2NPcU9tWE4yK3pCSHhEUT09>

Meeting ID: 832 1827 5796

Passcode: 607192

Christmas Services:

We will be holding services on zoom with the opportunity to listen to and sing along to some great Carols.

We will also be having some services in Church. However due to restrictions and social distancing these will NOT include the singing of carols by the congregation. And you will need to book in for the service to reserve your seats. Family Christmas groups of up to three household may sit together. Details of services and how to book in, will be available next week.

Welcome Centre, Huddersfield

The congregation at St Mary's has always supported the Welcome Centre, but due to the pandemic, weekly donations have not been possible. Having recently read an article in the Guardian newspaper on the Huddersfield Welcome Centre about how the impact of the pandemic has increased the demand on their services, can the people of St Mary's once again support this very worthwhile cause. I am happy to collect food donations from you. Alternatively you may wish to give a monetary donation - at the moment until 31.1.2021, all online donations will be matched by 'One Community and the Match It' fund, details of which can be found on the Welcome Centre webpage. If you wish to donate money in a different form, contact me for details.

Thank you - Diana Kaye (666424).

One donation double the impact
between December 1st – 8th.

Make a donation online or have a word with Liz Short via the Vicarage phone number. Your donation will be doubled!

Funds for the women and girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo

www.mothersunion.org/Christmas

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Diocese of Leeds



Mark 1.1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight”’,

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

Martin's Talk.

This is the start of Mark's whole story about Jesus' life, most likely the earliest written gospel. Is this where you expected the story of Jesus to begin? How would you go about announcing a new thing to the world today? When would you use an advert? Facebook post? Tik Tok video? Instagram? What images will you use? What is the headline? The hashtag?

This is it. The beginning. The beginning of the Good News. Mark is straight to the point Mark has a sense of this urgency in conveying the Good News, a sense of not beating about the bush which can be seen in how the stories are told and in the stories themselves.

He says remember the prophets. They said this would happen. That a messenger would come. The messenger is here. where they said he would be. In the wilderness. Not in the Temple. Not in the synagogue. But in the wild.

This John the baptiser, is standing in the river Jordan. And people are coming to him, they are coming to hear him. They are wanting a new beginning. They are longing for change. And he invites them into the river. And he baptises them. John tells them 'I am the messenger, only the messenger, someone else is coming soon. Someone is coming who will really change you. He will soak you in God's Holy Spirit. He will turn you inside out and right around'. This is it.

2020 has been some year for us and our planet. And now it's Advent again. The beginning of the Good News.

During the global pandemic in many parts of the world there has been a dearth of good news

Being the messengers of news can be both exciting and daunting because, depending on the circumstances, the news can be, on one extreme, uplifting when it's good and devastating when it's not. News, especially if it comes out of the blue, can pull the rug from under your feet and very often can be life changing. This impact on our lives might be because the news offers the prospect of something new and exciting that we would relish, or it might bring to an end something we would rather have held onto.

Then there comes the dilemma for the bearer of the news: what is the best way of delivering the news? How do I set the scene? Do I build up to it? Is it better phoning, or writing, texting or going in person? Do we mystify: 'Do you want the good news or the bad news first?'

The best way, yet not always the easiest way when the news is particularly challenging, is not to beat about the bush but to get straight to the point. This may sound harsh but the longer it takes to pass the message along, the more painful it can be in the telling.

The Good News, as we read it in Scripture and encounter it in Jesus is both welcoming and challenging which is a challenge for carriers of the light.

"This is the Good News about Jesus Christ". There is no build up, no lead in, no introduction about Jesus' family history but a declaration of some amazing and life-changing news.

There is such a temptation at this time of year to dress up the message in the glitz and the glamour, the tinsel and the trappings that it gets lost in the dazzle of fairy lights. As preparers of the light, in attracting the attention of others it is easy to emphasise the good and conveniently neglect the disturbing side of the Gospel.

We are sometimes called to go to take the message to challenging places: the dark, uninviting wilderness places of the world, and we tempted to shy away from the challenge.

Jesus came to bring the full Gospel and it is that full Gospel that his own are called to share and live out.

This is the beginning of the good news about Jesus.