



**ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,
BRADFIELD**

Founded 1109, rebuilt 1480

Grade 1 listed building

Services at 10.30 am

As well as following the Lectionary in some of our Services,
we are exploring
three themes this quarter.

- In All Age Worship - the wonderfully rich **'I am' sayings of Jesus. Please see details below.**
- In some of the Holy Communion Services – the **Pictures of a heathy Church** contained in the Gospel and how they relate to us at Bradfield.
- And, in August, - the meaning of the words we say nearly every Sunday – the statement of our belief expressed in the **Nicene Creed**, whose formulation 1700 years ago was celebrated in May.

Sunday 3rd August Holy Communion The Nicene Creed -
What is it to believe? *Heb 11:1-16 and Mark 9:17-29*

Sunday 10th August All Age Worship

Sunday 17th August Holy Communion The Nicene Creed
- Creator God *Ps 104 and John 3:1-15*

Sunday 24th August Holy Communion
Heb. 12.18 -end and Luke 12. 19-17

Sunday 31st August Holy Communion The Nicene Creed
- God the Son *Philippians 2.5-8 and John 1 1-15*

**Followed by a Bring- your- own Picnic in the Rectory
Grounds – all Welcome. Please see details in Events.**

Sunday 7th Sept. Holy Communion

Sunday 14th Sept. All Age Worship with Baptism

Sunday 21st Sept. Holy Communion The Nicene Creed -
God the Holy Spirit

Sunday 28th Sept. Holy Communion
1 Timothy 6.6-19 and Luke 16.19-31

Sunday 5th Oct. Holy Communion The Nicene Creed -
the Coming Kingdom

Sunday 12th Oct. All Age Worship **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Sunday 19th Oct. Holy Communion TBA

Sunday 26th Oct. Holy Communion
2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18 and Luke 18.9-14

From the Focal Ministers:

As you know, St Nicholas introduced an 'All-Age' service last year, which is designed to appeal to people of all ages, with modern language and lively, well-known hymns to sing.

In our current series of All-Age Services at Bradfield, we are exploring the seven 'I am' statements that Jesus made. In each of these, Jesus reveals a different aspect of Himself and His mission.

"I am the bread of life." (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51)

"I am the light of the world." (John 8:12)

"I am the door of the sheep." (John 10:7,9)

"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)

"I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11, 14)

"I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)

"I am the true vine." (John 15:1, 5)

Our focus in July was "I am the light of the world", where we explored different aspects of light, how these help us in our everyday life and how they reflect Jesus' ability to guide us, save us and help us to undertake tasks every day of our life.

Come and find out more on the second Sunday of each month.

John & Naomi Marples

GOOD NEWS!

Rev. Will Gowers (who is currently a Curate at Pitsmoor) has agreed to come to Bradfield as Curate in Charge to complete his final year of training. He will be starting with us at the end of August, and when he finishes his training will hopefully apply to be our full-time Priest in Charge and then start to work with Wadsley to bring a graft to Bradfield. Until then he will spend

most of his time at Bradfield, getting to know us all and how things work.

He is married to Lucy and they have 3 children ranging from 10 months to 6 years.

EVENTS

- **PARISH PICNIC: Sunday 31st August.** Join us at the Rectory at 12 noon. Come and meet the new Curate and his family. Please bring your lunch, drinks and a picnic chair or rug to sit on.
- **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING: Saturday, 4th October**
10am – 12.30 pm in St.Nicholas' Church. Coffee, tea and cakes in lovely surroundings. In aid of the Northern General Hospital Palliative Care Unit.
- **HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE: Sunday 12th October at 10.30am** There will be a sale of fresh fruit and vegetables after the service. Tinned foods will be donated to the Stannington Food Bank.
- **HARVEST BARN DANCE: Friday, 17th October at 7.30pm** with Pie and Pea Supper in Bradfield Village Hall.
- **PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCHESES: Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th November.** 12 -2pm in Bradfield Village Hall.

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AUGUST

3 rd	E. Walker & J. Panniker
10 th	<u>M. Sheldon & R. Pettinger</u>
17 th	J. & M. Wilkes
24 th	P. & J. Reynolds
31 st	S. Barrand & C. Leichart

SEPTEMBER

7 th	J. & M. Bird
14 th	M.Sheldon & R. Pettinger
21 st	E. Walker & J. Panniker
28 th	J. & M. Wilkes

OCTOBER

5 th	S. Barrand & C. Leichert
12 th	P. & J. Reynolds
19 th	M. Sheldon & R. Pettinger
26 th	J.& M. Bird

Pictures of the Church

So... think of a group you belong to. What's it like?

If you had to think of a picture to describe it: what would it be?

We are thinking of various 'pictures' the Bible uses to describe the group of people we call a Church...

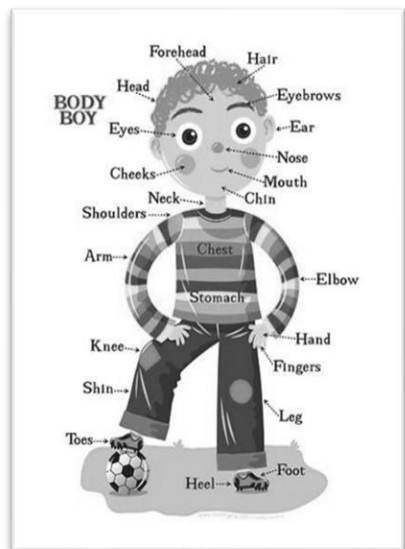
One which the Apostle Paul uses is that of a Body.

Why?

Because a body is one single unit, made of many diverse parts – limbs, organs, senses. Paul encourages and challenges Christians to see themselves as diverse individuals who are deeply united.

No one can say to anyone else 'we don't need you', because everyone is needed, very much so! Nor can anyone say, 'I don't belong', because we all do. Each person is precious, unique and with a vital part to play in the happy functioning of the whole.

Together each and all of us are loved and cherished, those



Christ died for, those Christ calls and sends out in mission. That unites us, in spite of us all being different.

Another picture, used by Peter this time, is that of a Temple made of Living Stones!



The Temple was that very special place where the Israelites found God in the midst of them: where heaven touched earth and where earth became a little more heaven-like.

However, as the new band of Christians met together after Jesus' Resurrection, they began to find that that was just what was happening in the midst of them. They were like 'living stones,' whose meeting together created a space where God met with them. Heaven was touching earth and transforming them into something a little more heaven-like – how they were designed to be.

And that is us! As we meet Sunday by Sunday, we, like living Stones, create that space where God meets with us, and starts to transform us from within, and through us, the world around us.

I find that awesome!

And awesome again is the picture Jack, the youngest and newest member of our preaching team, explored with us last Sunday - that of Disciples.

Disciples are folk who listen and communicate and actively following Jesus together.



To do so, we need to spend time together, especially around the Communion table but then, in our different ways, in acting together to reach out to the world around us.

There are all kinds of ways we try to do that as a Church in Bradfield; through our Flower Group, our Bell/ Hand Bell Ringers, our Choir, our Bible study group and our Mother's Union for example, as well as through things like our Baptisms and Funerals and Weddings and Ploughman's lunches!

There must be so many more ways we do/could reach out as well. But together, we long and work to make the world more as God created it to be, where a little of heaven touches earth.



In two weeks' time I'm going to be thinking about the last of our pictures; that of us being a place of radical welcome.

Jesus was often criticised by the establishment for welcoming

those they didn't approve of. Once He even had a woman pour expensive perfume all over his feet and wipe them dry with her

hair. She did it out of sheer gratitude for the freedom Jesus had given her from all the wrong stuff she had been caught up in – for the transformation He had bought into her life. However, the establishment didn't really approve!

Jesus' welcome was extended to all of us who are part of the group of folk we call the Church. It is a welcome which is extended to you too. You are welcome to be part of something very awesome!!

Revd. Sara

FOR THE PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

Welcome to the Church Family

8th June: Wilfred George Derrick Heath

Please pray for those who are to be baptised:

3rd of August **Arabella Lily Turner**, with her
God-Mum, **Brianna Samuels**.

10th of August **Oscar Thomas Greenfish**
and **George Luke Clarke**

17th of August **Willow Florence Guilbert**

24th of August **Rosie Joanne Reader**

Baptisms (continued)

14th of September. **Matilda Violet Stella Turner and Tobias David Robert Turner**

Service of Thanksgiving

14th of September for **Margot Sylvie Fletcher**

STRANGER?

How do you react to strangers? Perhaps you ignore them as no concern of yours. Maybe though you are slightly interested and curious so may try to be friendly and say hello. Greater curiosity might prompt some interest in who the stranger is and where they have come from, perhaps engaging you in conversation. Sometimes, the circumstances encourage you to talk about what is happening and how it is affecting you. Only on rare occasions do we find that there is a personal connection which leads us to establish an ongoing relationship so that the stranger becomes a friend.

On the third day after Jesus' crucifixion, two of the disciples were travelling from Jerusalem to Emmaus - a journey of about seven miles - when they are joined by a stranger. The disciples were discussing the events of the previous days and the reports of the women who had visited the tomb that day, claiming that they had seen angels and that Jesus' body was no longer there.

The stranger walking beside the disciples seemed to be unaware of the events which had taken place in Jerusalem. The disciples explained what had been happening to which the stranger responded by telling them that all they had described had been predicted in the Scriptures. He showed great knowledge about the prophecies from the time of Moses to the present. Impressed by the stranger's knowledge and because it was getting late in the day, they invited him to stay and have supper with them. It was only when the stranger took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them that they recognized Jesus. "Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him and he disappeared from their sight" (Luke 24 vs 30 – 32)

On this journey, the disciples found themselves engaged in conversation with a stranger. They could so easily have ignored him or politely tolerated his presence but here we are shown that the stranger had greater impact than they expected. They did not recognize this person but were prepared to listen and accept him as a companion on their journey.

What might have been your reaction to this 'stranger'? Is he no concern of yours? Are you slightly interested and curious but remain at a distance? Perhaps you are willing to listen, but don't fully recognize the importance that this 'stranger' has for you. Or maybe, just maybe, like those on the road to Emmaus, you can begin to realise the importance of this stranger, and what he has to say? It was only when the disciples invited the stranger to stay with them for supper that they recognized who he was. They found they had encountered Jesus – the risen

Lord. Will Jesus remain a stranger to you or will you try to get to know Him, invite Him to be with you and accept His company on your journey through life?

EW

MOTHERS' UNION PROGRAMME

Thursday 7th August: 2pm Parish Nurses
in St.Nicholas' Church

Saturday 9th August: 2pm Mary Sumner Day
Service at Sheffield Cathedral

Thursday 21st August: Wave of Prayer - details to follow. See below for more information about our links with other countries.

Thursday 4th September: 2pm Mary's Meals
in St.Nicholas' Church

Thursday 2nd October: 2pm AGM and Craft
in St.Nicholas' Church

Coffee Mornings are held in Sheffield Cathedral on the 1st Friday of each month from 10.15 – 12pm with Mothers' Union literature stall.

HEARING DOGS FOR THE DEAF

On July 3rd our branch held our annual evening meeting which we hope keeps us in the public eye. The topic we chose was Hearing Dogs for the Deaf which we felt would be of interest to children and adults both in and out of our church. Angela Richards came along from Retford bringing with her a beautiful black labrador named Maggie, who is her very own hearing dog.

She spoke about her own deafness – she has two hearing aids – and what a difference it has made to her life. These dogs, not just labradors but other breeds help people to overcome loneliness as well as many other things. If you are in a group of people and can't hear, it seems that you are invisible. Quite a few people that were there agreed with this.



Five members came along bringing friends and families together. It was joyous to hear and see the children having fun with Maggie.

We sold 50 tickets with 30 people attending and the money we raised after paying our speaker was £70 which we will add to any money raised during the year and then send it to where it is needed in the MU.

These evenings don't just happen, and our thanks go particularly to Naomi and all who helped with the advertising.

Thanks to all our church family who bought tickets. Good church teamwork.

At our next meeting on Thursday August 7th the speaker will be Louise talking about her role within the Parish Nurses. Do join us. Love Pauline

OUR LINK DIOCESES IN THE WAVE OF PRAYER

SHEFFIELD

Here we continue to change, progressing with new projects, sharing everything to bring real change to those in need around us. We pray for all our members who strive to help others.

DIOCESE OF CENTRAL ZIMBABWE

Unemployment & poverty are endemic & political tensions impact daily life. 21,000 members seek to help the most vulnerable, working in hospitals, prisons & even maternity clinics on the streets.

KEBBI IN NIGERIA

190 million people living in this country with 40% being under the age of 14. Membership estimates MU members as over 60,000 who are actively creating opportunities for women and girls to reach their full potential.

TAMALE IN GHANA

2000 membership supporting the needs of local communities

GUADANCANAL IN THE SOLOMAN ISLANDS.

96% of the population is Christian with 70% under the age of 30. This has enable MU to grow and develop since it began in the area in 1930.

They run training workshops, Sunday school, GFS, parenting programmes, adult literacy, refugees and MU guesthouses.

LANGO IN UGANDA

MU took on the massive issue of promoting violence free families in the light of gender- based violence during covid.

News from the Bell Tower.....

Over the past few weeks, two of our young ringers, Noah and Aled, have been busy preparing for a national bellringing contest, the 2025 Ringing World National Youth Contest, which was held in Birmingham on Saturday 5th July.

Besides ringing at St Nicholas, they also ring monthly with the Yorkshire Tykes, which is a group for bell ringers who are aged 18 and younger from all over Yorkshire.

Noah and Aled took part in the 'Call Changes on Six' aspect of the contest and this was held at St Barnabus, Erdington. Noah was also the conductor for the team.

They proudly took third place, out of eleven teams who entered from all over the country.

We are so fortunate to have such an active bellringing team at St Nicholas, of all ages. We are one of the largest teams in Yorkshire.

WANT TO LEARN TO RING?

You can receive **FREE** instruction from fully qualified tutors here at St Nicholas. From 10 years old and upwards, children and adults.

Find out more by contacting John Marples: 07368 392722

Or come along Fridays 7.15-9.00pm

HOW WELL DO WE KNOW GOD?

J. B. Phillips once wrote a famous book called, "Your God is too small". An intriguing title, isn't it? But it is oh so true. The older I get the more I realise how little I am able to know and assimilate the absolute greatness and majesty of God. We give him many names, Creator; King; Lord ; Almighty; Father; Judge; Saviour and you can think of others. He is a God beyond all telling: " When I consider your heavens, the works of your hand, the moon and the star which you have established; what is man that you are mindful of him and the son of man that you care for him? "

(Psalm 8 v3 & 4) and yet, Jesus tells us that we need fear for nothing. God even sees a sparrow fall and knows the numbers of hairs of our head. Jesus says, "So do not be afraid. You are of more value than many sparrows." (Matthew 10 v11)

How do we hold on to a belief of God as a creator of the universe; a God mighty and beyond our understanding; Lord of time and space; and at the same time a God who is with each one of us, knowing us, loving us and leading us through each day and each year of our lives? Truly, we worship a wonderful God.

Does it matter how we think of God? I think it does. I think we have to have some understanding of the wonder and holiness of God and also of his very personal concern and love for our little lives. I think it guides how we live.

Some years ago, I sent for some audio tapes of the life of a vicar. He talked about God as if he was a favourite uncle and

one who at times had to be humoured. To be honest, I was appalled. In the Bible we sometimes read of people having a vision of God or hearing God and we see a very different response. When Isaiah had a vision of God he was overwhelmed by the glory and majesty of God. (Isaiah 6 v5). When Jesus was transfigured on the mountain and the disciples heard the voice of God, they fell on their knees and were filled with awe. (Matt 17 vs 1-7) We really need to be aware of how great, beyond understanding is God.

At a church meeting some of us heard a speaker who didn't like our traditional hymns. He said that some words were not understood by some people. He picked out the hymn, "Crown him with many crowns". You might like to look it up in your hymn book. "Ineffably sublime" is what he didn't like. Does it matter? We get the gist of it; "ineffably" is a good word (I had to look it up). It means "too great to say". Doesn't this hymn make us see some of the greatness of God?

But we also need to know the intimacy of God. I have a book which tells of a woman who was involved with churches and church music all her life (actually baptised in Sheffield Cathedral) but she was 58 before she realised that there was more to Christianity than she realised. It was then she started to read the Bible and ask questions about faith that she came to know God in her life. One passage she would read would be when Jesus was talking to Nicodemus, "You must be born again." (full passage in John 3) Perhaps as we started with a hymn about the majesty of God we could end by looking at

another hymn, one speaking of a personal relationship with him. "I will sing the wonderous story of the Christ who died for me "

Olive

HOPE EXPLORED

Despite all that is happening - what is the best future you could ever imagine?

A course for anybody and everyone who wants to explore or grow their Faith.

The course is in three sessions looking at the
Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus
and how they relate to the three great longings we
all experience:
for **Hope**, for **Peace** and for **Purpose**

The last session is on
Monday 11th August 3.30 – 4.30 in Bradfield Rectory.
<https://www.christianityexplored.org/courses/hope-explored/>

We are aiming for the meetings to be informal, fun with lots of learning together. If you miss the first two sessions they are available to download, so do join us for the third. If the time doesn't suit, please contact Sara on
saragoodman@bradfieldchurch.org

Flower Group.

Wednesday 20th August 2pm in Church

Please bring flowers and fruit and suitable containers to make a high and low arrangement.

Wednesday 17th September 2pm in Church.

Please bring a container of your choice and autumn flowers and berries.

Saturday, 11th October 10am in Church

Decorate Church for Harvest Festival. All welcome to help.

Wednesday 15th October 1.30pm Onion Peel

Meet at Holdsworth Bank and bring knife. Tissues provided!

November 4th and 5th. Ploughman's Lunches In Bradfield Village Hall 12noon to 2pm

Fruit pies and savoury flans are needed as well as your help at the event.

Ethel

CHURCH DRAW WINNERS

4th May

110 - Max Stroud

198 - Chrissy Gillott

210 - John Barratt

1st June 225 - Katie Oworm
 110 - Max Stroud
 173 - Mark Bird

6th July 292 - Alan Morris
 175 - Jill Helliwell
 199 - Lucy Hoyle

If anyone would like to join the draw, it is £1 per month and is drawn on the 1st Sunday of the month. All profit goes to Church funds.

Ethel Marshall

Coffee Rota

August

3rd S. Barrand & M. Sheldon
10th P. & J. Reynolds
17th The Panniker Family
24th J. & M. Bird
31st R. Pettinger & J. Cass

September

7th G. Ogley & R. Wragg
14th G. & M. Vallance

September

21st C. & O. Leichert

28th S. Barrand & M. Sheldon

October

5th P.& J. Reynolds

12th The Panniker Family (Harvest)

19th J. & M. Bird

26th R. Pettinger & J. Cass

Kitchen and Toilet for the disabled.

All the plans have been completed and put out to tender. We have chosen a company who have completed several similar projects.

We had a visit from the DAC and they were happy to suggest we move forward to apply for a Faculty. (Permission from the Diocese). When this is received our Treasurer can then apply for grants.

We wish to thank everyone for their ongoing support to achieve what has taken a long time to become a reality.

Josie Bird and the team

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY, 4th OCTOBER

10am – 12.30pm

in St.Nicholas' Church, Bradfield

Everyone welcome to come along and enjoy coffee and cake in lovely surroundings. All proceeds towards the care and support for patients and families in the Palliative Care Unit, Northern General Hospital.

NOTICE THE WORLD

I live on the edge of Sheffield, very near to the river Rivelin which is one of the five rivers in Sheffield. I love walking along the valley on the footpath next to the river to notice God's creation and appreciate it.

The four seasons of the year bring different sights, sounds, smells and touch. In the Bible it says,

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" Ecclesiastes 3 v1

In spring the trees come alive with new shoots, and blossoms bringing signs of beautiful green colours to the valley. The river rushes along after rainfall and it tumbles noisily over the rocks and stones where you can spot a heron waiting patiently for a fish or the bright blue flash of a kingfisher flying close to the

water's edge. A robin bravely sits on a branch overlooking the path singing loudly declaring his territory.

Summertime brings warmer weather and lush growth of flowers and grasses where busy bees and butterflies feast on nectar and pollen. The path becomes busy with people enjoying the fresh air, exercise and beautiful views. The odd thunderstorm brings muddy paths full of puddles which quickly dry out when the sun is high in the sky. Look up and see changing white, grey and black clouds in the beautiful blue sky.

As autumn approaches the leaves on the trees change colour from green to yellow, orange and brown. Many fall to the ground fluttering in the breeze and I love to catch one! The view along the river is different now; lighter and clearer. The temperature is cooler and the days are shorter. You can pick up fallen acorns from the oak trees and chestnuts from the beech trees and gather fruit and berries from the hedgerows.

The path is quieter in winter. The branches on the trees stand out against the sky, stark black shapes. All the birds are silent. The water still runs along, deeper than usual after melting snow and ice have added to its volume. The wind has blown the fallen leaves into piles where maybe some tiny animals are hiding.

The seasons by the river can apply to our lives.

- Spring-new beginnings and opportunities
- Summer- signs of growth and fulfilment,
- Autumn- successes and failures
- Winter – rest, reflection and waiting

Genesis 8: v22 says, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease".

There are seasons of seedtime, waiting and harvest... seasons of testing and breakthrough. The difficult seasons are necessary for the good times to come.

Gill Vallance

Do you care about the Church building?

Would you have a couple of hours to spare please?

We are asking if anyone would like to join the Church cleaning team?

We have a beautiful building and try to meet together when we can to look after the Church. If you would be interested in helping, please give Josie a ring on

01142862059. Thankyou

Josie

CRICKET VIEW CAFÉ & SHOP

Fresh Sandwiches, Lovely Cakes &
Pastries, Ice-cream and Treats

Hot and Cold Drinks

***Great place for a snack
or your shopping basics***



THE MAGAZINE

is published four times per year and can be bought in St.Nicholas' Church or from Cricket View Café and Shop in Low Bradfield for £1.50 per issue. It can also be sent by post @ £12 per year. Contact Elizabeth on 07485166983