

February 2026

CHURCH NEWS

The Monthly Newsletter from Holy Cross Church, Swainby
and St Mary's Church, Potto

Delivered to your door, to keep you in touch with local events



'20TH CENTURY QUIZ'

Presented by Malcolm Wilson



FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY AT 7-30PM
IN SWAINBY CHURCH HALL

Tickets: £10 to include Pies and Peas
(vegetarian option available)

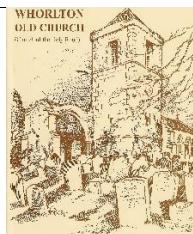
Bring your own bottle!

Contact Sue 01642 700491 for tickets

LENT LUNCHES



Mondays during Lent 12:00-1:30pm in Swainby Church Hall



Monday 23rd February
*in aid of the upkeep of the Old Church and
Graveyard.*

Come along and bring your friends

No charge is made for the soup, bread and cheese lunch,
although we do ask for a donation to whichever project the organiser has chosen.
If you are a taxpayer, please remember to use the gift-aid envelopes.

This month's printing has been kindly sponsored by a member of the Holy Cross congregation.

Forthcoming Events in February

Sun 8th: Café Church 10.30am in Swainby Church Hall

Informal worship, discussion, prayer and song as well as tea or coffee and cake

Wed 11th: Swainby & Potto WI meet in Swainby Village Hall at 7:30pm

Mon 16th: Village Lunch in Swainby Church Hall at 12:30pm

Wed 18th: Ash Wednesday Service in Holy Cross Church at 9:30am

Mon 23rd: Lent Lunch in Swainby Church Hall from 12 noon to 1.30pm

Regular Events

Wednesdays: Join us at The Gap in Swainby Village Hall from 10am to 1pm

for Barista coffee with homemade cakes, teacakes and bacon buns.

Thursdays: Table Tennis in Swainby Church Hall at 7pm.

For information contact 07799 372405

Notices and Reminders

Don't miss **John Webster's 'Light and Inspiration'**, his Worldwide and Wildlife presentation in Swainby Church Hall at 7:30pm on Friday 30th January



Swainby & Potto WI meet in Swainby Village Hall at 7:30pm on the second Wednesday of each month (as they have done for 104 years). This month they invite you to join them with a glass of wine to hear a talk on the '**Whitby Lobster Hatchery**'

Tickets for our **100+ Club 2026 Draw** will soon be available. Contact Pauline Kynge, Robin Cook, or Andy Lawton. The monthly Draws start again in March.

Thank you

Lizz & Sophie Hepple would like to express their heartfelt thanks for all the support, cards and prayers after the death of Andrew Hepple on 18th December 2025. It has meant so much to us and is helping us to keep on going. We are truly grateful.

VILLAGE LUNCH

IN SWAINBY CHURCH HALL

Monday 16th February at 12.30pm



Sponsorship



We have almost come of the end of our sponsorship resources. We would be most grateful if anyone was generous enough to add to the pot for us. If you would like to contribute, the cost of printing an issue is around £20 but any sum, of course, would be gratefully received.

Please contact Pauline Kynge (01642 700212 or pkyngel@gmail.com) or our Treasurer, Geoff Brown (geoff_brown@hotmail.com) Thanking you in anticipation!

Café Church

in Swainby Church Hall

Sunday 8th February at 10.30am

Join us for informal worship, discussion, prayer and song
as well as tea or coffee and cake.



Reports



We were able to send a total of £659 to CRISIS this year after the Christmas celebrations, partly raised at the **Village Lunch** and also at the **Carol Singing**. Both occasions were most successful.

Congratulations to the Village Lunch team and to Howard Rogers, the carver of the turkey, for a delicious meal. Once again the **Ripon City Band** led a large congregation in Church - even more people this year – and we made much music. A wonderful service followed by a visit to the Black Horse pub, thanks go to them for their hospitality.

The large **Christmas Tree** was bought from Mr Neil Metcalfe once again this year and put up by Mike Foster and Terry Andrews, assisted by Lorna, and taken down again too. It is a hard job, and we thank them most sincerely. The Potto Christmas Tree was given by Prestons of Potto, as usual, and we are most grateful.

Friday January 2nd saw village residents, in large groups, making their way to Holy Cross Church for the untimely funeral of **Glenn Shimwell**. There was an air of quiet solemnity across the village and both the church and church hall building were packed with mourners. Glenn was a generous and likeable man and villagers showed their fondness for him and their appreciation. Holy Cross church members were very pleased to be able to accommodate such a large number of mourners, around 600.

Following the very sad death of Glenn - a true supporter of our parish church - the church council is now looking for his replacement as keeper of the lawns around Holy Cross Church. Glenn volunteered to do this work a few years ago, and his dedication and competence in this role has always impressed everyone.

Keeping the lawns tidy around the village church and church hall and the grass outside the stone wall on Church Lane, is a seasonal activity, but also takes into account impending weddings and funerals. It does not involve the church yard at the Old Church at Whorlton. We do hope that someone will feel able to come forward and talk to us about the role. If you would like to learn more, please contact Robin Cook of Claver Close or one of the Churchwardens.

From the Parish Registers

Funeral

2 January
21 January

Glenn Paul Shimwell
Margaret Gaines-Burrl

Holy Cross
Holy Cross

We give thanks for their lives and offer our sympathy to their family & friends.

Services in Whorlton Benefice

Sunday 1st February

5.00pm Swainby

Sunday 8th February

9.30am Hutton Rudby
10.30am Swainby
11.00am Faceby

Sunday 15th February

9.30am Hutton Rudby
9.30am Swainby
9.30am Carlton
11.00am Crathorne

Wednesday 18th February

9.30am Swainby
7.00pm Hutton Rudby

Sunday 22nd February

9.30am Hutton Rudby
11.00am Swainby
11.00am Middleton

Candlemas

Benefice Communion by Candlelight

2 before Lent

Parish Communion
Café Church *in Church Hall*
Parish Communion

Next before Lent

Morning Prayer
Morning Prayer
Parish Communion
Parish Communion

Ash Wednesday

Parish Communion (*with ashing*)
Parish Communion (*with ashing*)

Lent 1

Parish Communion
Parish Communion
Morning Prayer

Mid-Week Services

Tuesdays at 10.00am

Thursdays at 9.15am

Hutton Rudby Church House

Swainby Church Hall



For further details see www.whorltonbenefice.org.uk

Church Contact Details

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 Lorna Kessell 07917 524751 swainbychurch@btinternet.com

Deadline for next issue: Saturday 14th February

Items for publication please to pkynge@gmail.com

