

September 2026

Parish News

St Mary's Church, Woodkirk



**Worship Online at:
facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk**

£1.00

Who's who at Woodkirk

Vicar of St Mary's Church: Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.

Woodkirk Vicarage, 1168 Dewsbury Road, Dewsbury.

WF12 7JL 01924 472375/07539466724 E-mail: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

Reader: Dawn Tattersfield 07840 739239

Lay Pastoral Minister: Gail Townsend 07792 975814

Church Wardens: Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Assistant Church Wardens: David Townsend; Richard Bowes

Deanery Synod Rep: Brian Gledhill; Gary Mortimer

Verger: Gail Townsend 07792 975814

Organist: Currently Vacant

PCC Secretary: Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

PCC Treasurer: Barbara Tate 07792 211095

Social Chairman: Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Parish Centre Hire: Cath Oakes 07796 713750

Child Protection Officer: Rev'd Sharon Wilkinson 07539466724

Health and Safety Officers: Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

Dawn Tattersfield 07840 739239

Electoral Roll Officer: Dave Townsend 0113 252 8710

Data Protection Officer: Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

Legacy Officer: Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

Magazine Editor: Dave Townsend 0113 252 8710

Email: dave@stmarywoodkir.org

Magazine articles by the 20th of each month please.

Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Richard Bowes, Barbara Tate, Brian Gledhill, Sandra Gledhill, Cath Oakes, Doreen Coates.

In This Month's Magazine:

Features:

- P 8 Vicar's Letter
- P12 Emley Church – Rosie
- P14 The God who delights in Mercy – Gail
- P15 A Place prepared for you – Gail
- P16 Autumn – Richard
- P20 The Apostle Paul – Gail
- P25 September Recipes – Dawn
- P31 Finding the Sacred in the Ordinary – Sharon
- P33 The Gospel according to Dolly - Sharon
- P35 Woodkirk Walkers

Also this Month:

- P22 The Joke Page
- P28 September Events
- P29 Christian Films
- P30 End of Summer – Back to School
- P37 Albert's Quiz
- P38 Quiz Answers

JW Binks
Funeral Directors
www.jwbinks.co.uk

Traditional Funerals
Green and alternative funerals
Low cost "simple funerals"
On call 24 hours a day
Queen Street, Morley
0113 253 2087

H WHITELEY AND SON
(MARTIN FOX)
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS
CEMETERY LODGE, BRUNTCLIFFE LANE –
MORLEY
EST. 1904

Private Address
116 VICTORIA ROAD
MORLEY
LEEDS
0113 252 8145

First Class Workmanship
Personal Attention
Reasonable Charges
Telephone 0113 253 4739
(yard)



Joseph Photography

Winter Wonderland Portraits

Create Memories that last a Lifetime!

Step into a beautifully styled festive set and capture the magic of the Christmas with timeless images you'll treasure for years to come.



FESTIVE KEEPSAKES

Baubles, Christmas cards, prints & more available after the shoot!



BEAUTIFUL PHOTOS

A beautiful festive backdrop and props, perfect for your Christmas photos!



Memories to treasure

Beautiful prints you'll treasure for years to come.



10:30am-3:30pm
Sunday 8th November 2026
8 Slots available!



Roberttown Community Centre
Church Road
Roberttown
WF15 7LS



Why am I doing the shoot in November?
EARLY SHOOT = EARLY PRINTS.
Get your photos, prints & gifts ordered and delivered before the Christmas rush, one less thing to stress about!

SCAN ME



Join the VIP list
Today!
(Bookings open to the public 1st october.)

Josephphotography.store
Josephphotography2021@gmail.com



Care starts at home

From warm and friendly companionship, to specialised, practical care that puts loved ones needs and preferences first.

We are changing the way people think about home care.



Email

Sabs.Gill@homeinstead.co.uk

Direct number

07779 104687

Office number

01924 927260

We know you want the best for your loved one, so when it comes to arranging home care, we've made it easy with personalised, attentive care that adapts as your needs change.

Taking the time to listen and understand your unique circumstances, we're confident we can help your loved one live a more independent life at home, helping you find balance as a family caregiver. Our services include:

- Personal Care
- Live-in Care
- Companionship
- Home Help
- Specialist Care
- Dementia Care

We are Home Instead® and we are changing the UK's attitude to care and ageing with our distinctive approach to supporting people at home.

What's next?

If you know of someone who could benefit from our high quality care, please get in touch.



Home Instead Batley, Rothwell and South Leeds
20 Commercial Street, Batley,
West Yorkshire, WF17 5HH

e: Sabs.Gill@homeinstead.co.uk

www.homeinstead.co.uk/Batley-Rothwell-South-Leeds

Each Home Instead franchise is independently owned and operated. Copyright © Home Instead UK® 2025.

We hope you enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers. Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Web Site & Facebook

For the latest news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's go to: A Church Near You and enter 'Woodkirk' in the search box (www.achurchnearyou.com)

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk

Parish News by Post

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending a minimum donation of £18 a year to cover magazine costs including post and packaging to: Margaret Longden, 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Call Margaret on 01924 473064.

It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far.

Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

Did you know?

Copies of the magazine can be viewed on the web site from the middle of the month of publication.

Wheelchair Access

A wheelchair is available to help people move easily between the Church and Dewsbury Road. Ask in the Church on arrival if you have a friend or loved one in need of assistance and we will be happy to help.

If you wish to make a donation to the work of this church or if you wish to pay your weekly collection via our bank account, then the details are given below:-

Virgin Money
Sort Code 05-01-31
Account Number: 31405751
Account Name: Woodkirk PCC

Vicar's Letter - A Few Days of Rest, Renewal and Wonder in Northumberland

There is something deeply refreshing about stepping away from the ordinary pattern of life for a few days. We all know how easily our weeks can become filled with work, appointments, responsibilities and the many things that demand our attention. Yet, as Christians, we are reminded that rest is not a luxury but part of God's good ordering of life. Even Jesus withdrew from the crowds and encouraged his disciples to come away and rest for a while.

With that in mind, I would warmly recommend a few days in beautiful Northumberland. It is a place where the landscape itself seems to invite us to slow down, breathe more deeply and notice again the goodness of God's creation.

One of the great joys would be a visit to Alnmouth beach. There is something wonderfully simple about walking beside the sea, feeling the wind on your face and hearing the constant rhythm of the waves. The beach gives us space to think, to talk, or simply to be quiet. We do not always need to fill every moment with activity. Sometimes we need only to stand and look out across the water.

The sea can also remind us of our place within creation. Its vastness puts our own worries into perspective. The changing light, the movement of the tide and the birds along the shoreline all speak of a world that continues beyond our immediate concerns. As Psalm 95 reminds us, "The sea is his, for he made it." A walk along the coast can therefore become, almost without our noticing, an act of worship.



Alnmouth Beach



Alnwick Castle

There is also much to discover in the history of Northumberland. A visit to Alnwick Castle would give us an opportunity to step back into another age. Standing among ancient stones, we are reminded of the generations who have gone before us. Their hopes, fears, achievements and failures have all become part of the history of the land.

That thought can have a spiritual resonance. Scripture frequently encourages us to remember those who have gone before us in faith. We are part of a much larger story than our own individual lives. Just as the stones of an old castle bear witness to the people who built, defended and inhabited it, so the Church bears witness to generations of Christians who have prayed, served and worshipped before us.

Alnwick Castle offers another opportunity to explore Northumberland's remarkable heritage. Its architecture, grounds and history provide plenty to see and enjoy, while reminding us that beauty and craftsmanship can endure across centuries. A day spent exploring such a place can be both enjoyable and thought-provoking.

Yet perhaps the greatest benefit of a short break is not any particular attraction. It is the opportunity to recover a proper rhythm of life. We can sleep a little longer, walk without rushing, enjoy conversation, laugh together and make time for things that are easily crowded out by our normal routines.

And then there is the creamery!

A visit to a local creamery would provide another reminder of the richness of the countryside and the people whose work sustains it. We might learn something about how local produce is made, appreciate the skill and dedication involved, and, of course, enjoy the opportunity to taste some of the results. Food has always had an important place in Christian fellowship. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is repeatedly found eating with people, sharing hospitality and making the table a place of welcome.



Black Cherry Ice Cream

Perhaps that is one of the lessons we should take from such a break. Life is not simply about getting through our responsibilities. It is also about receiving God's gifts with gratitude. A beautiful coastline, an ancient castle, good food, friendship and laughter can all become occasions for thanksgiving.

We need to allow ourselves to slow down, leave space in the diary, put away the hurry, look at the sea, listen to the wind and notice the beauty around us.

Rest can restore us physically, but it can also restore our perspective spiritually. When we step away from our familiar routines, we may find that we return not only refreshed but grateful: grateful for God's creation, grateful for friendship, grateful for the gift of time, and grateful for the One who journeys with us wherever we go.

May such a few days away become more than simply a holiday. May they be an opportunity to renew body, mind and spirit, and to return home ready once again to serve God and one another with joy.

There were a couple of days with family. I met up with Matthew and Lyla in Hexham where we explored Hexham Abbey and Fusiliers Park. Lyla dressed up as a Bishop much to my amusement and we pretended to be monks at the main entrance!



And finally all the family met at my sister's in Lancaster for a shared meal which was a lovely way to end my retreat time.



The only thing left for me to do was to make the journey home on the M62 on a Friday evening only to find that the M62 was closed! It took 3 hours to get home but thankfully I was very chilled and spent the time listening to music and thinking about the lovely time I had. When all is said and done, it is nice to get back home, and get back to the work that I love with the people that have become my family.

With every blessing
Sharon

COME & JOIN US



**AFTERNOON
BINGO**

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 3 - 5 PM

WOODKIRK PARISH CENTRE

PRIZES OF SWEET TREATS & CASH

REFRESHMENTS OF SOUP.

SANDWICHES & CAKE

TICKETS £10 FROM BRIAN GLEDHILL

OR TEL; 07980 373158

During our August outing Woodkirk Walkers rambled through the village of Emley where we took the opportunity to explore inside the Parish Church of St Michael the Archangel. We discovered a little about its history whilst taking advantage of the self-service refreshment facilities. A donation was made to cover the costs of tea & coffee!

It was interesting to learn that the oldest part of the existing Grade 1 around 1300 using stone from a demolished Norman church. The West Tower, which can be seen from miles around was then added in the 15th Century, with further chapels and internal alterations in the 17th to 19th centuries.

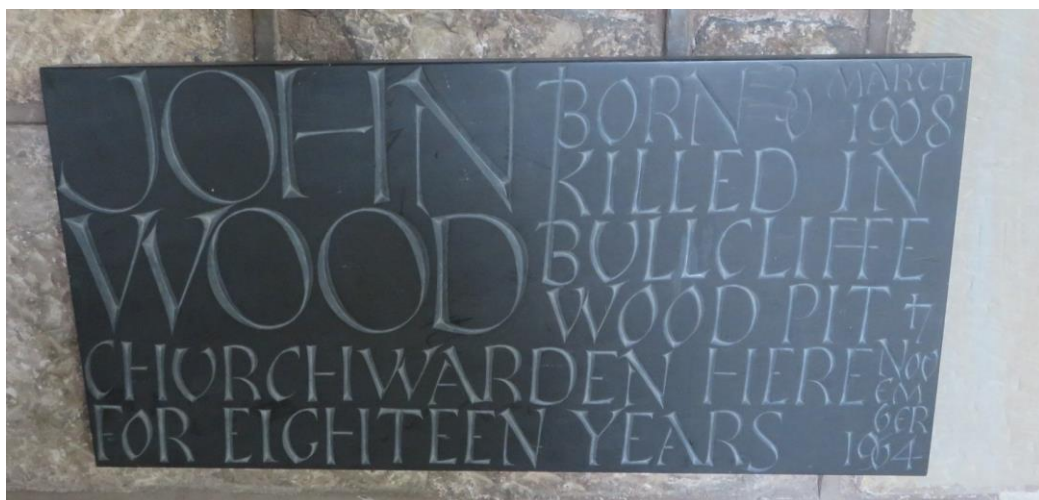


Ancient churches do not simply look after themselves and with the dawn of a new Millenium St Michael's PCC embarked on a journey to revitalise what was noted as a rather scruffy Parish Church where the 'interior was "tired", unwelcoming, cold and damp and cluttered with poor quality furnishings and fittings' (quote from their website). A decision was made to sell the Parish Hall, which was also in need of repair works, with the proceeds contributing towards a major reordering and updating of the entire interior of the Church building.

The new facilities included an underfloor heating system, disabled toilet, kitchen area, office & vestry and multimedia facilities. The result is a key community resource that is now used not only for regular worship, but also events ranging from fund raising to concerts, fairs, ceilidhs and exhibitions.



Despite a modern feel to the interior, I found it fascinating to see how much of the original purpose and history of the Church remains. For me this was best illustrated by two very different memorial stones in the Chancel area. An aged gravestone from 1687 set on the south wall of the sanctuary commemorating a 3 month old infant contrasts with a memorial slate tablet on the central pier paying tribute to a miner, and long serving church warden, killed in a local colliery in 1964.



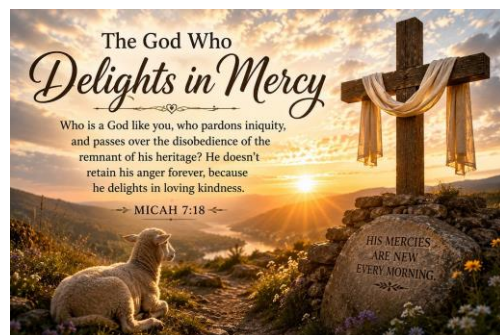
Benefiting from such a quiet village location, St. Michael's chooses to open its doors every day, so if you are ever passing through Emley on foot, bicycle, local bus or car, maybe pop in for a moment of private prayer & reflection followed by a cup of tea or coffee. And if you'd like to learn more about the Church, and an opportunity to enjoy scenic views from the roof! then Saturday 12th September 2026 is their Heritage Open Day.

Details at: www.stmichaelsemley.co.uk

Rosie

The God Who Delights in Mercy

Who is a God like you, who pardons iniquity, and passes over the disobedience of the remnant of his heritage? He doesn't retain his anger forever, because he delights in loving kindness." — **Micah 7:18**



Micah closes his prophecy with a powerful declaration about the character of God. After warning of judgment and calling God's people to repentance, he ends by focusing on the Lord's mercy. The prophet asks, "Who is a God like you?" The implied answer is that there is no one like Him.

We humans often struggle to forgive. We tend to remember offenses, hold grudges, and demand repayment for wrongs done against us. God, however, is different. He pardons iniquity and passes over transgression. This does not mean He ignores sin or compromises His holiness. Rather, He provides forgiveness through His grace and mercy.

Micah emphasizes that God does not remain angry forever because He "delights in loving kindness." Mercy is not something God reluctantly offers. It flows from His very nature. The wonderful thing is he takes pleasure in showing compassion to those who turn to Him in faith and repentance.

This truth points us ultimately to Jesus Christ. Through His death and resurrection, God made a way for sinners to be forgiven and restored. Because of Christ, believers can approach God with confidence, knowing that His mercy is greater than their failures.

No matter how far someone has wandered, we know that God's grace remains available. His heart is not eager to condemn but to forgive and restore those who seek Him.

Let us remember to spend time thanking God for His mercy today. If there is unconfessed sin in your life, bring it before Him and rest in His promise of forgiveness through Christ.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for Your amazing mercy and forgiveness.

Help us trust fully in Your grace.

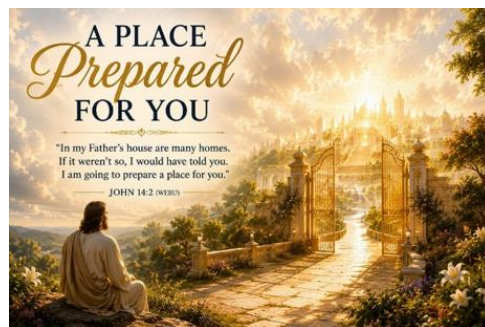
Teach us to extend mercy to others as You have shown mercy to us.

Amen

A Place Prepared for You

In my Father's house are many homes
If it weren't so, I would have told you.
I am going to prepare a place for you."

— **John 14:2**



I find these words very comforting, when I am feeling in a low place. Jesus spoke these words to His disciples on the night before His crucifixion. Their hearts were troubled because He had told them that He would soon leave them. Knowing their fears and uncertainties, Jesus offered a promise filled with comfort and hope.

He reminded them that His departure was not the end of the story. He was going to the Father to prepare a place for His people. The phrase “my Father’s house” points to the eternal dwelling place of God, where believers will one day enjoy perfect fellowship with Him forever. Jesus wanted His disciples to know that heaven is not merely a distant concept, but a real destination prepared by a loving Saviour.

This promise reveals the personal care of Christ. He did not simply prepare a place for a crowd; He prepared a place for His followers. Every believer is known, loved, and welcomed by Him. The certainty of this promise rests not on human effort but on the faithfulness of Jesus Himself.

In a world marked by uncertainty and temporary things, Christians possess a lasting hope. Earthly homes may change, and circumstances may shift, but the future Christ has prepared for His people is secure. Because of His death and resurrection, believers can look forward to an eternal home in His presence.

When worries about the future arise, we must always remember that our ultimate home is with Christ. Let the certainty of heaven give us peace, courage, and perspective in our daily life.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for preparing a place for us.

Help us live with an eternal perspective.

Fill our hearts with hope as we look forward to being with You forever.

Amen

Gail



Autumn

Autumn to farmers means preparing for winter. We never know how long this is going to be. If the rain comes early coupled with colder weather, the cows will have to be housed inside earlier. We would have to start feeding some silage(fermented grass) in troughs letting the cows pick at the silage as they go out to graze so that there will be no rapid change of diet.

To make the silage we brought cut grass into the silos in the spring and summer where it is compacted and sealed with a thick plastic sheet held down with weights (usually old car tyres). If it is well made it can smell like Christmas pudding, but it can smell unpleasant if badly made. The quality of the silage decides the diet for the winter months. The silage is analysed by the labs and a ration is worked out for the winter. There are several products available to balance the ration to maximise each cows potential.

The cows will be fed in long troughs with a mixer wagon on the back of a tractor. The wagon is fitted with a weight scale so the driver can tell how much of each product is added to the load. A typical ration could use silage, sugar beet pulp, brewers grain, soya and mineral. On my farm we have used two waste products, sugar beet pulp from the sugar factory (for energy) and brewers grains from the brewery (for protein). All this is mixed and fed to the cows along with dried seaweed for a health boost, giving healthy shiny coats and really hard hooded, preventing the cows from getting sore feet.

As cows tend to lie down a good part of the day, sleeping arrangements over the autumn/winter period involve needing a bed certainly as comfortable as lying on grass. Also, there can be a certain amount of bullying, so we need beds - at least for each cow, or the bullied cows will just lie in the yard, resulting in lame dirty cows in the milking parlour (not a good idea).

Each cow has a cubicle, at least four feet wide and seven feet long. These are in rows, leaving a gap behind for cow muck, which is scraped clean at milking time. The base is concrete so we need something to make this comfortable. We tried chopped straw and wood shavings - not 100% happy with either.

We looked at various other methods on other farms ranging from rubber pit belting (pre-used in industry), rubber mats of differing thicknesses to waterbeds. Yes, I said waterbeds! Heavy duty waterbeds the full length of the building. This was very expensive, so after much thought we ordered rubber mats 7' x 4' bolted down into the concrete at the front of each cubicle. They were 1 inch thick. We had one or two spares. Christopher, our son, nabbed one as a gym mat for him to work out on in the garden.

The cows were very happy with the new mats, especially as we added chopped straw as an extra comfort on their bed. Result - happy cows and no bullied cows laid in the yard.

Every year is different. The cows might be inside in October if the weather is bad but I have known of cows being out grazing during the days between Christmas and New Year but sleeping inside at night (a very rare occurrence).

However, and this year it is a very big however, in dry summers if the grass dries up we have to either begin feeding winter feed early or buy extra food in that highly inflated prices. I'm glad that I am no longer farming!

Richard

House Collection Box Time



Hi folks

It's that time of year again for you to bring me your house collection boxes and I can add up all the bits of change you have gathered over the last 12 months.

If you could bring your boxes to church either on a Wednesday or a Sunday, if I'm not there, they will be kept safe for me.

If you can't get to church then please contact me on 07840 736239 and I will make arrangements with you to come and collect it.

Please don't worry if there's not as much change as usual, it does all add up, and last year we raised over £400 so it's all worth it.

If you don't currently have a house collection box and think you may like to have one, then please speak to me about it, it really doesn't matter how much or how little you collect, as Tesco tells us "Every Little Helps". Please see information below on how our collections go to help build the hope of children who need it most.

To those of you who have had boxes for years, many thanks for your continued support and generosity, and if you would like to become a house box collector then I thank you too.

Dawn

The Children's Society work with young people across the country to help them transform their lives. Their services are as varied as the experiences of the young people they meet. They listen to them to ensure they get the right support at the right time – boosting their wellbeing, protecting them from harm, and making sure they can access the essentials.

The Children's Society are there when needed, and through their campaigning and influencing work, they're fighting for the local and national changes needed to create a society that works for all children.

Through our house collection boxes we help make all this possible and make a real difference by helping to build a brighter future for all young people.

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Hi there

Here's a date for your diary...

Friday 25th September

10.00am to 12 noon

St Mary's Church, Woodkirk

Everyone is invited, come and join us for coffee, tea, cake and chat.

Let's get together for good and do our bit to help fund better cancer care.



The more I walk with Jesus, the more I'm intrigued with the apostle Paul.

Beyond the great demonstrations of the Holy Spirit's power and the vast territories influenced by his evangelistic voice, I find myself drawn

to his humanity. He is one of the most revolutionary people noted in Scripture, yet he is also one of the most transparent.



His conversion displays one of the most fascinating contrasts of a before/after transformation, but many of his character traits remain intact. In his letters, Paul does not mince words in sharing his insecurities, his frustrations, and his sufferings. He virtually shames the church in Corinth regarding his right to receive financial support from the churches although he doesn't ask for it (1 Corinthians 9). He later points to his own deficiencies while also speaking about his rightful place as an apostle, making an argument full of shallow comparisons and sarcasm (1 Corinthians 10–12).

His humanity is also observable in his interactions with the churches he planted and served with. Luke accounts Paul's final address to the Ephesian elders ([Acts 20:17–38](#)) as an emotional scene where Paul pours out his affection for the church in word and deed, firmly declaring his actions as observable by those in his company. In stating "my hands ministered to my necessities," he gives us a picture of the leader who works a separate job to provide for his own needs, releasing the burden from the church. He seems so human.

Growing up in church, I used to think of leaders as heroic, super-powered leaders who were almost like enhanced human beings. For me, they were moral superiors operating beyond the scope of failure and "common" struggle. They always seemed to have the right answer for any problem. Their advice was sage wisdom, their character was pristine, and their intellect was unattainable. Little did I know, I'd been conditioned to never question their actions, while taking in subtle cues that told me I was beneath them. Regardless of the motive.

Many of us carry baggage into this topic. As humans, we have an innate tendency to exalt perceived power and sheepishly be carried along by popular influence. Many of us have been led by leaders who develop a pope-like

mystique and subject those under their charge to obedience. There are also those of us who, regardless of the leader's intent, have to admit that we've allowed our view of them to give way to idolatry.

Whether you have been carried along by false teaching or subtly worshipped the latest theology expert, Scripture again provides the answer. In observing Paul's humanity, we find hope, as we see that the "apostle of apostles" is ultimately no different than anyone else.

The book *Dangerous Calling* by Paul Tripp has been an incredibly helpful resource in navigating the humanity of Leaders. Tripp asks the following questions:

Why would we be surprised that Leaders struggle with sin?

Why would we think that Leaders do not need to be lovingly confronted and rebuked?

Why would it surprise us to know that Leaders too fall into identity amnesia and begin to seek what they have already been given in Christ?

Why would we conclude that Leaders are protected from self-righteousness and defensiveness just because they are in full-time ministry?

These questions are necessary because they help us rightly see Leaders as the human beings, they truly are. I even feel safe admitting my own humanity serving as a Lay Person myself. Paul doesn't just seem human; he is human. After his seemingly arrogant and self-glorifying written works, he is still brought to the deafening discovery that only God's grace is sufficient for his weaknesses ([2 Corinthians 12:9](#)). We also begin to discover anew his regular pleas for the churches to earnestly pray for him. Often the Leader is doing the praying, but Paul invites intercession for himself.

If Paul, being a Leader of Leaders, can document his weaknesses for all to see in Scripture, how much more should the modern Leader articulate our dependency on Jesus. How refreshing the gospel becomes when it becomes good news for the preacher as well. The Leader needs rescue just as much as the community they are part of.

Only Jesus, the chief Shepherd, the righteous High Priest, could wear humanity flawlessly. Only he could bear our failures in perfect submission to the righteousness of God and conquer the grave with all glory and honour due his name.

Gail

The Joke Page

An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"

A mother went to wake her son for church one Sunday morning. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going!" "Why not?" asked his mother. "I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me. Two, I don't like them." His mother replied, "I'll give you two good reasons why YOU WILL go to church. One, you're 47 years old. Two, you're the pastor!"

By the time Bobby arrived, the football game had already started. "Why are you so late?" asked his friend. "I couldn't decide between going to church and going to the football game. So I tossed a coin," said Bobby. "But that shouldn't have taken too long," said the friend. "Well, I had to toss it 35 times."

Two well-worn bills arrived at the Federal Reserve Bank to be retired – a \$100 and a \$1. As they travelled down the conveyor belt, they struck up a conversation. The hundred reminisced about the interesting life he had, traveling all over the country. "I've been to the finest restaurants, Broadway shows, Las Vegas, and amusement parks," he said. "I even want on a Caribbean cruise once. Where have you been?" "Oh," said the one dollar bill, "I've been to a Methodist church, an Episcopal church, a Baptist church, and a Lutheran church." "What's a church?" asked the hundred.

A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest were good friends. At a picnic one day, the priest was eating a ham sandwich. "You know," he said to his friend, "this ham sandwich is delicious. I know you're not supposed to eat ham, but I don't understand why such a good thing would be forbidden. When will you break down and try it?" To which the rabbi replied, "At your wedding."

Three boys on the playground were bragging about their dads. One said. "My dad scribbles a few words, calls it a song and they pay him \$50." "Oh, yeah. My dad scribbles a few words, calls it a poem and they pay him \$100." "That's nothing," said the third kid. "My dad scribbles a few words, calls it a sermon and it takes six people to collect all the money in the room!"

Pastoral Care

Telephone Calls—We understand times are difficult—please know we are here if you need anything. Gail Townsend is our Pastoral Minister and she regularly telephones those who are unable to leave their homes at this time. If you would like Gail to give you a weekly call then please do not hesitate to contact her on 07792 975814.

Baptisms—If you wish to make an enquiry or book a Baptism please contact Barbara Tate on 07792 211095 in the first instance. Barbara will then arrange to visit you and book your Baptism into our Diary.

Funerals & Ashes - in the first instance please contact our Verger who co-ordinates these events.

Our Co-ordinator is Gail Townsend on 07792 975814 or email: gail@stmarywoodkirk.org

Weddings and Banns

In the first instance please contact Wedding Co-Ordinator Gary Mortimer on 07740 760556 or email:

gary@stmarywoodkirk.org

Notice Sheets—If you would like to receive a copy of our weekly Notice Sheet via email—then please drop me an email giving me permission to add you to the list. My email address is vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

Please note we are GDPR compliant and take great care of your private information.

St, Mary's, Woodkirk



Come along and join us for a

“Knit & Natter”

(or just a natter!)

Wednesday 1.00pm-3.00pm

St. Mary's Parish Centre

Contact: Dawn Tattersfield 07840739239

September Recipes

Hi there

As I write this I am on holiday in Belgium, and although the weather has been lovely today, rain and storms are forecast during the second half of the week! Well I suppose the glorious (or perhaps on occasions extreme) weather had to come to an end sometime.

So here are some lovely autumnal recipes just in case we have to head indoors from heavy rain and storms (hooray I can avoid salads safely until next May ha ha)

Sausage, Squash and Apple Traybake



Ingredients (Serves 6)

1 small [butternut squash](#), about 750g/1lb 10oz
2 [red onions](#), sliced into rings
2 [apples](#), unpeeled, cored and sliced
12 [pork sausages](#)
3 tbsp [olive oil](#)
1 tbsp runny [honey](#)
1 tsp [English mustard](#)
salt and freshly ground [black pepper](#)
15g/½oz fresh flatleaf [parsley](#), finely chopped, to garnish (optional)

Method

Preheat the oven to 220C/200C Fan/Gas 7.

Cut the squash into quarters and leave it unpeeled. Remove the seeds then cut each quarter into 5mm/¼in slices.

Place the squash a very large baking tray with the onion, apple and sausages. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon oil and season well with salt and pepper. Roast for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk together the honey, mustard and remaining oil in a small bowl. Drizzle over the sausages and vegetables and turn to coat everything in the dressing.

Return to the oven for 10 minutes until the sausages are browned and cooked through and the vegetables are tender. Sprinkle over the parsley, if using, and serve.

Recipe tips

If you don't have a large enough baking tray, spread the ingredients out on two trays so they have space to roast and don't end up steaming.

Serve with extra greens on the side to bulk this out further.

Vegetable Casserole with Dumplings

Vegetable Casserole with Dumplings



Here's something tasty if you follow a vegetarian diet or want to up your veggie intake with a warming casserole.

Ingredients -For the stew

1 [onion](#), chopped
1 tbsp [olive oil](#) and 2 tbsp [butter](#)
25g/1oz [plain flour](#)
1 tsp [English mustard](#) powder
150ml/5fl oz [apple juice](#)
900ml/1½ pint [vegetable stock](#)
2 tbsp [wholegrain mustard](#)
4 [bay leaves](#)
450g/1lb peeled [celeriac](#), chopped into 1–2cm/½–¾in thick, small wedges
2 [leeks](#), trimmed and cut into 2cm/¾in chunks
100g/3½oz baby [spinach](#)
400g tin [cannellini beans](#), drained and rinsed
1 tbsp chopped fresh [tarragon](#)
salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the dumplings

150g/5½oz [self-raising flour](#), plus extra for rolling
½ tsp [baking powder](#)
25g/1oz cold [butter](#), diced
2 tbsp chopped fresh [tarragon](#), plus a little extra to serve if preferred
¼ tsp [salt](#)
75g/2¾ oz natural [yoghurt](#)

Method

Put the onion, olive oil and butter in an ovenproof, wide casserole dish. Fry over a low heat until the onion is soft and beginning to turn golden brown. Stir in the flour and mustard powder and cook, stirring, for 2 minutes. Gradually stir in the apple juice, followed by the stock, then the wholegrain mustard and bay leaves. Bring the sauce to a simmer.

Add the celeriac and leek and continue simmering for 15 minutes, or until the vegetables are almost tender. Take off the heat and remove the bay leaves. Stir in the spinach, followed by the beans and tarragon. Season to taste. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.

For the dumplings, mix the flour and baking powder in a mixing bowl. Rub in the diced butter until you can only feel small lumps, then stir in the tarragon and salt. Mix the yogurt with 2 tablespoons of cold water, then drizzle over the flour and mix quickly to form a sticky dough. Flour your hands, then quickly roll into 12 balls.

Arrange the dumplings on top of the bean stew. Cover the casserole with the lid and bake in the oven for 10 minutes. Remove the lid and bake for 15–18 minutes more, or until the dumplings are puffed up and just turning golden brown on top. Spoon into shallow bowls to serve, scattered with extra tarragon if you like.

Sticky plum and custard cake

This looks a very tasty way of using up any glut of plums 😊



Ingredients

250g unsalted butter, softened, plus extra for greasing
250g golden caster sugar
4 large free-range eggs
250g self-raising flour
¼ tsp bicarbonate of soda
¼ tsp salt
1 tsp vanilla extract
75g ready-made thick custard, such as Ambrosia
15 ripe but firm red and yellow plums, 5 chopped, 10 halved
50g flaked almonds
Golden syrup to serve

Method

Heat the oven to 180°C/fan160°C/ gas 4. Grease and line the base and sides of a 20cm x 30cm x 5cm cake or swiss roll tin with baking paper.

In a large bowl, whisk together the butter and sugar using an electric hand mixer until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs, one by one, adding a little flour with each. Fold in the rest of the flour, the bicarbonate of soda and the salt.

Fold in the vanilla extract, custard and chopped plums, then pour the mixture into the cake tin and smooth out. Bake for 25 minutes, then very gently, so the mixture isn't disturbed, remove from the oven and lightly lay the plum halves, cut-side up, on top. Scatter with the almonds, then bake for another 45 minutes or until golden – cover with foil if the cake browns too quickly. Test the cake is ready by pushing a skewer into the middle – it should be slightly sticky but not wet.

Remove from the oven and leave in the tin for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack to cool completely. Drizzle with golden syrup to serve.

Dawn

September Events in British History

September 2, 1666: The [Great Fire of London](#) began on Pudding Lane, destroying over 13,000 buildings across the city.

September 3, 1189: Richard the Lionheart was crowned King of England at Westminster Abbey.

September 3, 1939: Great Britain and France declared war on Germany two days after the invasion of Poland, officially entering World War II.

September 8, 2022: Queen Elizabeth II, the nation's longest-reigning monarch, passed away at Balmoral Castle at the age of 96.

September 15, 1940: Known as Battle of Britain Day, this date saw one of the largest and most crucial aerial battles of World War II, turning the tide in the skies over Britain.

September 1752: Great Britain and its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar, resulting in 11 days (September 2 to September 14) being skipped to align with European timekeeping.

Major Global Conflicts

September 1, 1939: Germany invaded Poland, starting World War II in Europe. Great Britain and France declared war on Germany two days later on September 3.

September 2, 1945: World War II officially ended following formal surrender documents signed aboard the USS Missouri, declared as VJ Day.

September 5–6, 1972: The Munich Massacre took place at the Munich Olympics, where members of the Israeli Olympic team were killed by terrorists.

September 11, 2001: Terrorist attacks in the United States destroyed the World Trade Center towers and damaged the Pentagon, reshaping modern security and global politics.

Wacky and Funny Holidays

Be Late for Something Day (Sept 5): A delightfully ironic holiday encouraging you to purposefully drag your feet.

Wonderful Weirdos Day (Sept 9): A day dedicated to celebrating your inner eccentricities.

International Talk Like a Pirate Day (Sept 19): When otherwise normal people walk around shouting "Ahoy" and "Matey".

Ask a Stupid Question Day (Sept 28): The one day a year where there are, officially, no dumb questions

Christian Films

War Room (2015)

Synopsis: Elizabeth and Tony have a comfortable life, a daughter, and a successful career, but their marriage is falling apart under the weight of bitterness and ego. Elizabeth meets an older, wiser woman named Clara, who teaches her the power of prayer and how to fight for her family using a designated "war room".

The Case for Christ (2017)

Synopsis: Based on a true story, investigative journalist and atheist Lee Strobel sees his wife convert to Christianity. Determined to disprove the faith to save his marriage, he uses his legal and journalistic training to investigate the historical evidence surrounding the resurrection of Jesus.

I Still Believe (2020)

Synopsis: This biographical drama follows the real-life journey of Christian music star Jeremy Camp. It details his meteoric rise to fame, his deep love for his first wife, Melissa, and how they faced her terminal cancer diagnosis together, leaning heavily on their faith through unimaginable grief.

Overcomer (2019)

Synopsis: High school basketball coach John Harrison is forced to take over the cross-country team after local manufacturing plant closures displace families in his town. Reluctantly training an unlikely runner with asthma who struggles with her identity, John finds his own perspective and faith transformed by unexpected mentorship.

Hacksaw Ridge (2016):

Synopsis: Tells the incredible true story of Desmond Doss, a World War II conscientious objector who saved 75 men on Okinawa without ever firing a weapon, driven entirely by his deep Christian faith.

I Can Only Imagine (2018):

Synopsis: Follows Bart Millard, the lead singer of the Christian band MercyMe, and the true story of how abuse and a broken relationship with his father inspired a miraculous journey of forgiveness and the hit song.

Soul Surfer (2011):

Synopsis: Explores the inspiring real-life story of teenage surfer Bethany Hamilton, who relied on her family's strong Christian faith to overcome a devastating shark attack and return to competitive surfing.

Amazing Grace (2006):

Synopsis: A powerful historical biographical film about William Wilberforce, whose Christian convictions led him to lead the political crusade against the slave trade in the British Parliament.

The Shack (2017):

Synopsis: This movie tells the story of Mack Phillips (Sam Worthington), a grieving father who spirals into deep depression after his youngest daughter, Missy, is abducted and murdered during a family camping trip.

The end of Summer and the beginning of School

The front door clicks shut, the school bus pulls away, and suddenly, a quiet stillness settles over the house. After weeks of chaotic summer fun, sticky countertops, and the non-stop chorus of "I'm bored," the school bells are ringing once again. For parents, this annual transition is often met with a unique mix of emotions, but above all, it brings a deeply profound sense of joy and gratitude.

There is a distinct rhythm to a new school year—a fresh start ordained by the turning of seasons. As Christian parents, this time offers a beautiful opportunity to reclaim the sacred spaces of our daily lives. The quiet house isn't just a break from the noise; it is an invitation. It is a moment to breathe deeply, to sip a cup of coffee while it is still hot, and to rest in the stillness that God provides.

This season also brings the joy of watching our children step into their own God-given potential. Sending them back to school is an exercise in trust and surrender. We pack their lunches, check their backpacks, and then we release them into the care of their teachers and, ultimately, into the hands of the Lord. There is immense joy in seeing them grow in wisdom and stature, making new friends, discovering new talents, and learning how to shine their light in the classroom.

Moreover, the return to school restores a healthy routine to our family life. Early mornings, structured bedtimes, and shared evening meals around the table allow us to connect more intentionally. We get to hear the excited chatter of what they learned, the stories of recess, and the prayers they offer for their new classmates.

So, as you adjust to the new schedules and the faster pace of autumn, take a moment to savour the quiet. Let the empty spaces in your day refill your own spirit. Use these new mornings to pray for your children's protection, their teachers, and their growing faith. Back-to-school season is not just a return to reading and math; it is a celebration of growth, a testament to God's faithfulness in every new chapter, and a well-deserved breath of fresh air for parents. Welcome back to the rhythm, and may this school year bring abundant blessings to your home.



Back to School

Finding the Sacred in the Ordinary: Christian Living in a Fractured World

We live in a world that rarely hits the pause button. Between the non-stop ping of smartphone notifications, the rising cost of our weekly supermarket shop, and the heavy weight of global news headlines, modern life can feel less like a purposeful journey and more like a relentless obstacle course. For many of us sitting in the pews of the Church of England on any given Sunday, a quiet question often echoes in our hearts: How do we actually live out our faith in the middle of all this noise?

Christian living in today's world is not about escaping reality. It is not about retreating into the safety of our church buildings or pretending that the anxieties of the twenty-first century do not affect us. Instead, our calling is much more courageous. We are invited to bring the radical peace, love, and hope of Jesus Christ directly into the messy, complicated spaces of our daily routines.

The Cult of Busyness versus Divine Rest

One of the greatest challenges to modern Christian discipleship is the glorification of being busy. We wear our packed schedules like badges of honour. We rush from commitments to commitments, checking off to-do lists while our spirits run on empty. Yet, when we look at the ministry of Jesus in the Gospels, we see a completely different rhythm of life. Jesus was deeply involved in the world—healing, teaching, and feeding thousands—but He regularly withdrew to quiet places to pray and rest in His Father's presence.

In our current culture, reclaiming the concept of Sabbath is a radical act of faith. Sabbath is not merely about taking a nap or slipping into a state of passivity; it is an intentional declaration that the world does not rest on our shoulders, but on God's. When we deliberately carve out time to stop working, stop consuming, and simply *be*, we testify to a culture obsessed with productivity that our value comes from being children of God, not from our output.

This can start with small, daily habits. It might mean turning off the car radio during the morning commute to offer up the day to God in silence. It could mean leaving the phone in another room for the first ten minutes of the morning to read a psalm. By creating these micro-Sabbaths, we train our hearts to recognize God's voice over the clamour of the world.

Faith in the Marketplace: Integrity and Kindness

For most of us, our primary mission field is not a pulpit or a far-off mission trip; it is the office, the school gate, the local shop, or the community center. Christian living means translating our Sunday worship into our Monday actions.

In a world where cutthroat competition and self-promotion are often rewarded, the Christian is called to a different standard of integrity. It means being the colleague who refuses to participate in office gossip. It means being the business owner who treats suppliers fairly, or the consumer who thinks consciously about the ethical footprint of what they buy.

Moreover, today's world is desperately starved for simple kindness. Social media platforms are engineered to fuel outrage, division, and polarization. As Christians, we have a unique opportunity to counter this toxic climate by modelling the gentle, reconciling love of Christ. When we respond to hostility with patience, when we actively listen to those with whom we disagree, and when we intentionally notice the lonely or marginalized person in our neighbourhood, we drop seeds of the Kingdom of God into dry ground. Our daily interactions are the canvas upon which the world sees the gospel in action.

Stewardship in a Time of Scarcity and Crisis

It is impossible to talk about contemporary life without acknowledging the deep anxieties many face regarding financial insecurity and the climate crisis. These are not just political issues; they are profoundly spiritual ones. The Church of England has long stood at the heart of local communities, witnessing firsthand the strains on families through foodbank usage and the collective grief over our changing planet.

Living as a Christian today requires us to practice a theology of abundance rather than a psychology of scarcity. When the world tells us to hoard out of fear, Christ calls us to open our hands in generosity. This doesn't mean we ignore our financial realities, but it means we trust that God provides, and we share what we have—whether that is money, time, or a listening ear.

Similarly, looking after our environment is an essential expression of Christian discipleship. The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. Simple acts of creation care—reducing our waste, supporting local eco-church initiatives, walking instead of driving when possible—are acts of worship. They show that we honour the Creator by caring for His creation and that we love our global neighbours who are most vulnerable to environmental degradation.

The Power of Local Community

The parish system of the Church of England is a beautiful, historic gift. It ensures that every single square inch of our nation has a church and a people looking out for it. In an age characterized by a loneliness epidemic, where people are more digitally connected but physically isolated than ever before, the local church is uniquely positioned to offer true belonging.

Christian living means actively leaning into and building up this community. It means showing up for the church coffee morning, volunteering for the winter night shelter, or simply checking in on an elderly neighbour down the street. Our churches should be places where people of all generations, backgrounds, and political persuasions sit at the same table, united by something far greater than their differences. When the world sees a community that loves one another across deep divides, it catches a glimpse of God's ultimate vision for humanity.

Looking Ahead with Radical Hope

To live as a Christian today is not to live in naive optimism, but in radical hope. Optimism looks at the circumstances and hopes things will get better; hope looks at the resurrection of Jesus Christ and knows that love has already won the ultimate victory.

We do not need to fear the complexities or the darkness of the modern world. Christ is already here, walking ahead of us, inviting us to join Him in His work of renewal. As we step out of the church doors this week and head back into our ordinary, busy lives, let us remember that we carry the light of Christ within us. Through our small acts of faithfulness, our quiet integrity, and our boundless kindness, we can show a weary world that the way of Jesus is not just relevant for today—it is the very life the world is looking for.

If anyone is struggling with their faith, wanting to explore their faith or simply have a cup of coffee and look around the church then please do not hesitate to contact me at the vicarage or on 07539466724 - Sharon

The Gospel According to Dolly:

Faith, Furrowed Brows, and the Faithfulness of an American Icon

In a world increasingly fractured by division, there is one name that consistently bridges the gap: **Dolly Parton**. For over six decades, the rhinestoned singer, songwriter, and philanthropist has occupied a unique space in global culture. She is beloved by traditionalists and progressives alike, a secular saint who refuses to judge, preferring instead to love. Yet, if you ask Dolly the secret to her enduring joy and unparalleled career, she will point you away from the bright lights of the stage and back to a small, wooden church in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Dolly Parton's story is, at its heart, a story of profound, unshakeable Christian faith.

From a One-Room Cabin to the Grand Ole Opry

To understand Dolly's faith, one must travel back to Locust Ridge, Tennessee, where she was raised as one of twelve children in a one-room cabin. Money was scarce, but love and music were abundant. The center of the Parton family's community life was the local church, where her grandfather, Jake Owens, was a Pentecostal "holiness" preacher.

It was on the wooden platforms of these mountain churches that Dolly first began to sing. Clad in homemade clothes, standing before a congregation that knew the harsh realities of rural poverty, she learned that music was not just entertainment—it was a vessel for the spirit.

"People used to think we were fanatics because we would shout and cry and pray," Dolly later recalled of her childhood church experiences. "But it was a wonderful way to grow up. It gave me a great foundation."

That foundation became her anchor when, at just 18 years old, she packed her bags and moved to Nashville. In an industry that often demands compromise, Dolly remained fiercely true to herself and her roots. She brought the mountain gospel with her into the mainstream, infusing her country hits with the same spiritual urgency she felt as a child in the pews.

Faith in Action: The Theology of Kindness

Dolly's faith has never been about rigid dogma or exclusion. Instead, she practices what many theologians call a "theology of kindness." She has famously resisted labelling herself or aligning with specific political or theological factions, choosing instead to let her actions speak for her beliefs.

"I don't judge people," she has said in numerous interviews. "I try to love everybody. I think God expected us to love one another, not to judge one another."

This approach is vividly illustrated in her historic philanthropy. Through her Dollywood Foundation, she has poured millions of dollars back into her native East Tennessee and beyond. When devastating wildfires swept through the Great Smoky Mountains in 2016, leaving thousands homeless, Dolly didn't just offer "thoughts and prayers." She established the "My People Fund," providing \$1,000 a month to every family who lost their primary residence, helping them rebuild their lives from the ashes.

Perhaps her most enduring legacy, however, is the Imagination Library. Inspired by her own father's inability to read or write, Dolly launched the literacy program in 1995. Today, the program gifts a free, high-quality book every month to millions of children from birth until they enter school, spanning the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the Republic of Ireland. It is a modern-day multiplication of loaves and fishes, born out of a desire to love one's neighbour in a practical, tangible way.

Songwriting as a Spiritual Discipline

For Dolly, songwriting is not merely a profession; it is a spiritual discipline. She often refers to her talent as a "God-given gift" for which she is simply the caretaker. Before she sits down to write, she routinely asks for divine guidance, praying that her words might bring comfort or joy to those who hear them.

While she is world-famous for secular anthems like "9 to 5" and "I Will Always Love You," her catalogue is deeply rooted in gospel and spiritual themes. Songs like "Coat of Many Colours" use biblical imagery to reframe poverty as a source of spiritual wealth. In "Seeker," she cries out for divine guidance, while her bluegrass gospel tracks like "The River Unbroken" celebrate redemption and grace.

Even her more recent work reflects a deepening spiritual introspection. In 2020, during a time of global anxiety and isolation, she released "There Was Jesus" with Christian rock artist Zach Williams, a moving anthem about God's unseen presence in times of trial. The song went on to win a Grammy Award, proving that her spiritual voice resonates just as strongly in the 21st century as it did in the 20th.

The Power of Joy

In an age dominated by cynicism, Dolly's public persona is defined by an almost radical joy. Her quick wit, self-deprecating humour, and bright smile are infectious. Yet, this joy is not a denial of sorrow. Dolly has lived through her share of hardships, from the intense poverty of her youth to health struggles and the heavy burdens of fame.

Her joy is a choice, rooted in the resurrection hope. It is the peace that surpasses understanding. By refusing to take herself too seriously, she creates a space where others can feel safe. Her towering wigs and glittering costumes are not a mask, but an extension of a larger-than-life spirit that refuses to be diminished by the world's darkness.

A Lesson for the Church

As we look at Dolly Parton's life and career from our own pews, there is much our churches can learn from her example. In a time when the Church is often known more for what it is against than what it is for, Dolly reminds us of the power of unconditional love. She shows us that faith is at its most beautiful when it is rolled up in the sleeves of service, when it feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, and gives books to children.

Dolly Parton remains a beacon of light because she has never forgotten who she is, where she came from, or who created her. She is a reminder that we are all, in our own ways, called to be instruments of grace, shining brightly in whatever corner of the world we find ourselves.

As Dolly herself once beautifully summarized: "I always ask God to let me do something big for Him, to let me shine a light. I want to be a blessing."

Decades later, it is safe to say that prayer has been answered.

Rest in peace Dolly...

Woodkirk Walkers

After a short drive, a quick change into appropriate footwear, we were off tackling our first dry slope, from the edge of Flockton heading towards Emley centre. The walk was approximately 5 miles, (aren't they all), and consisted mostly of field-walking and public footpaths. Miles from main roads, we were able to listen to the various birds chattering as we plodded on, taking in the amazing panoramic views of West Yorkshire.

There weren't as much wildlife as I would've expected but we were entertained by the odd swift, robin and finch. Sharing fields with cows can sometimes be scary, but luckily for us they were 100s of yards away as we reached the ridge that looks over Clayton West. Some of the stiles were challenging and there were plenty of them. Fortunately, we're a caring bunch and everyone looked after each other.



As we made our way into Emley, we all decided to call in to the church, have some snap and re-hydrate. Rosie will write a piece about our cool little stop-off in Emley church so I won't spoil it by writing here. But it was the best stop-off. I, myself have family buried in the graveyard so I had a moment of quiet.



After about 45 mins, we gradually dragged ourselves away from the church and back into the dry fields of Emley, carefully negotiating the dry, cracked walkways. In no time we were back on the track where we started, and everyone realised we were nearly done. When thoughts turned to extra refreshments of the pub variety, weirdly, the consensus of opinion was negative. I can only think the church stop-off nourished us more than we expected. (And Dave needed to be back for the Lincoln game!!)



As much as we try and keep the walks local and varied, I feel we might all benefit from a little drive to sample something new and inspiring.



God bless you. Richard and Gang...

Albert's Quiz

1. Which ocean covers about a third of the earth's surface?
2. The patella is better known as which body part?
3. Which American city is known as "The Windy City"?
4. Which actor sings the theme tune to TV's "New Tricks"?
5. In which conflict is George Orwell's "Hogwarts to Catatonia" set?
6. Jacob Marley was the partner of which literary character?
7. Which comedy duo presented TV game show "Shooting Stars"?
8. Through which English City did Lady Godiva ride naked?
9. Of which European country is "Sofia" the capital city?
10. Who was the first man to walk on the moon?
11. Who wrote the "Harry Potter" novels?
12. A set of scales represents which sign of the zodiac?
13. In the nursery rhyme "Hey Diddle Diddle" what jumped over the moon?
14. Which Irish comedian hosts "Mock the Week"?
15. Of which type of fruit is "Granny Smith" a variety?
16. Which cartoon character works for the "Slate & Gravel" company?
17. In 1933, Percy Shaw invented what road safety device?
18. Which London thoroughfare is traditionally associate with newspapers?
19. At their nearest points how far apart are Russia & America? Is it a) 4 kms
b) 40kms c) 400kms?
20. According to singer Katie Melua how many bicycles are in Beijing?
Is it a) 8 million b) 9 million c) 10 million?

How do I join an on-line Service?

If you are not so familiar with the on-line world but you would like to join one of the services, here's some good news! It's easy!

Go to: facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk

Then select 'Videos' from the side bar.

To join a 'Live' service look for the right time on the Diary page. You can also view previous services from the same location.



Quiz Answers:

1. Pacific; 2. Kneecap; 3. Chicago; 4. Dennis Waterman;
5. Spanish Civil War; 6. Ebenezer Scrooge;
7. Vic Reeves & Bob Mortimer; 8. Coventry; 9. Bulgaria;
10. Neil Armstrong; 11. J K Rowling; 12. Libra; 13. The Cow;
14. Dara O'Brian; 15. Apple; 16. Fred Flintstone; 17. Cat's Eyes;
18. Fleet Street; 19. 4 kms; 20. 9 million.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS—

Luca George Kojo Lumley
Theodore Thomas Parker



Deaths -

We give thanks for the lives of all those
who have recently died within our
Parish:



Geri Adcock
Daryl Mallinson
Jean Shaw

WEDDINGS:

(none this month)

Wedding Blessing:

(none this month)





Lydgate Lodge is a welcoming and beautiful home offering residential and dementia care for older people.

It's a place where kindness defines care - where every action is guided by a genuine desire to support your well-being, offering not just assistance, but thoughtful compassion to help you live better every day.

Please get in touch to find out more about life at Lydgate Lodge and how we can help you to live your best life.



Purpose Built Home



All Inclusive



Nutritious Food



Person-Centred Care



Daily Activities



Couples Welcome

To find out more about Lydgate Lodge and to speak to our friendly team, contact us on:

01924 355 020

A Soothill Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 6EZ

E lydgate.lodge@hc-one.co.uk **W** hc-one.co.uk



Part of the HC-One Family

Shirl's Curls

Local fully qualified Ladies Mobile Hairdresser with over 30 years' experience.

Shirley brings the professional salon experience to you in the comfort of your home, without the stress of travelling or parking.

Specialising in cutting/styling, foils, colouring and perming.



Get in touch to discuss your needs and to book an appointment.

To Contact Shirley Tel : 07805 804 015

Parish Centre Rentals

We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre at various times of the week or evenings.

Regular long term bookings negotiable. Nominal cost is £75.00 for 3 hours.

Weekend hire for birthday parties, celebrations and much more. Nominal Cost is £75.00 for 3 hours.

**Contact: Cath Oakes 07796713750
for more information**

BENNETT OF MORLEY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o

Tel 0113 2525374

An independent family business,
the 5th generation of the Marshall
family who were established in
1891. The family pride themselves
on their caring and understanding
of the bereaved and offer a complete
funeral service including a pre-paid
funeral 'plan'.

o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o

CONSULTANTS

CHRISTINE BENNETT
RACHEL STONES

RESIDENCE
3 HOLLY COURT
TINGLEY

What's on

(please contact the leaders for further information)

ABC Group

Adults, Babies and Children
Wednesday 9:30-11:00am (Term time)
Thursday 9.30-11.00am (Term time)
Contact: Charlotte 07972 217528

Knit and Natter

Come and enjoy help with crafts or
just chat Wednesday 1.00-3.00pm.
Dawn Tattersfield 07840739239

Line Dancing

1.00-3.30pm Tuesday
Contact Helena 07719946917

Pilates

Monday & Wednesday 7.00– 8.00pm
Contact Erin Blake

Rainbows

Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm
Ruth Osenton-Brown 07805186479

Brownies

Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm
Hannah Tombling 01924 501892

Beavers

Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm
Joanne Rutledge 07950 580877

Cubs

Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm
Marianne Ingham 07778 542302

Scouts

Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm
Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927

Explorer Scouts

Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm
Chris Ingham 07816 517838

Diary and Services this Month.

Sunday Services.

Each Sunday there will be a Holy Communion Service at 10.30am in Church as well as Online.

Weekday Services

Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion in Church & On-line.

Special Services and Events:

Sunday 6th September – Creation in Christ – HC - 10.30am

Sunday 13th September – All Age Worship HC – 10.30am

Saturday 19th September – Bingo Afternoon – 3.00-5.00pm

Tickets - £10.00 – Soup, Sandwiches and Cakes will be served

Friday 25th September – Coffee Morning in aid of McMillan –
10am to 12 noon – Cake will be served!

Sunday 11th October – All Age Worship – Harvest Festival
10.30am

Please see Page 38 for details of how to join a streamed service