

# Cross Talk



October 2025

Cross Talk is published monthly by email. To receive a copy please contact [kitnorris@live.co.uk](mailto:kitnorris@live.co.uk)

Cross Talk contains the weekly Collect and Readings together with details of Church services in the Benefice and news and items of interest supplied by our readers. The magazine will also be available on the web sites: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3447](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3447) and [baldersbychurch.com](http://baldersbychurch.com).

## CHURCH SERVICES

**St. James' Church, Baldersby St. James with Dishforth, Rainton and Skipton on Swale**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 7.30pm** **Installation Service for Rev Dawn Ward**  
*led by the Bishop of Whitby (see p.7)*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 10.45am** **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am** **Breakfast Service** *with coffee and croissants*

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 10.45am** **Harvest Festival** *with Bring & Share Lunch*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am** **Morning Service** *followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 10.45am** **Holy Communion - "All Souls Day"**



**St John the Evangelist Church, Dalton**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 6.30pm** **Harvest Festival and Supper**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 11am** **Holy Communion**  
*followed by refreshments*

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 11am** **Family Service**  
*followed by refreshments*  
*All are most welcome*



**St. Columba's Church, Topcliffe**

*Corporate Member of the Prayer Book Society*

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 11am** **Midweek Morning Prayer** *led by Revd Dawn Ward*  
*with refreshments and fellowship*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 8.30am** **Holy Communion (BCP)**  
*led by Revd Dawn Ward*  
**6.30pm** **Choral Evensong** *followed by*  
*pre-supper refreshments and wine*

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 11am** **Midweek Morning Prayer**  
*with refreshments and fellowship*  
*led by Revd Dawn Ward*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 10.45am** **Holy Communion**



**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 11am** *led by Revd Dawn Ward*  
**Midweek Morning Prayer**  
*led by Revd Dawn Ward*

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 10.45am** **Sung Matins** *followed by refreshments*

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 11am** **Midweek Morning Prayer** *with refreshments and fellowship*  
*led by Revd Dawn Ward*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 10.45am** **Holy Communion** *led by Revd Robert Williamson*

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 11am** **Midweek Morning Prayer** *with refreshments and fellowship*  
*led by Revd Dawn Ward*

**Installation Service for Revd. Dawn Ward** *p.7*  
**October Reflection** - *Richard Byas p.3*  
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## Readings for the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity to the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

*(Page numbers refer to the Common Worship Lectionary.)*

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October, The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

#### Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers  
of your people who call upon you;  
and grant that they may both perceive and know  
what things they ought to do,  
and also may have grace and power  
faithfully to fulfil them;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.



#### Readings (Proper 22, Related, p1054)

Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4

Psalms 37.1-10

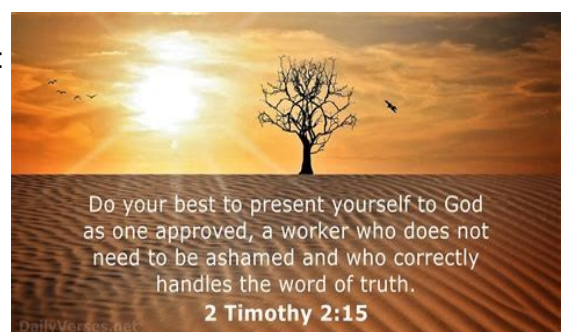
2 Timothy 1.1-14

Gospel: Luke 17.5-10

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

#### Collect

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.



### Readings (Proper 23 Related, p1058)

2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c

Psalm 111

2 Timothy 2.8-15

Gospel: Luke 17.11-19

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

#### Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
increase in us your gift of faith  
that, forsaking what lies behind  
and reaching out to that which is before,  
we may run the way of your commandments  
and win the crown of everlasting joy;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Readings (Proper 24 Related p1063)

Genesis 32.22-31

Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3.14-4.5

Gospel: Luke 18.1-8



### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

#### Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you  
we are not able to please you;  
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit  
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
one God, now and for ever.

### Readings (Proper 25 Related p1068)

Ecclesiasticus 35.12-17 or Jeremiah 14.7-10, 19-22

Psalm 84.1-6

2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18.9-14



## October Reflection

The corn harvest was early this year and certainly in my garden the soft fruits ripened early and were over sooner than usual.

The fruits of the harvest have been celebrated worldwide over millennia and will vary from country to country depending upon which crop is of greatest significance. In some parts of Spain they celebrate the grape harvest, traditionally this is done by jumping into vats of grapes and stomping them barefoot. In Japan it is the rice harvest that is celebrated. At a

festival known as “Oeshiki” people walk through the streets with massive lanterns, spinning them like helicopter blades. But while harvest traditions vary around the world, they all have something in common: thanksgiving. Whether it’s rice, grapes, or wheat, harvest time is when we pause to give thanks for what the land has produced.

In an age where food moves around the world so that we do not feel dependant on the success of the local crops, we often have little connection with the production of the food we consume. In years gone by and in areas where subsistence farming survives, the success or failure of crops can have immediate consequences for the local people.

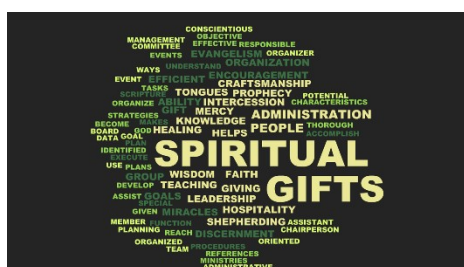


Harvest is a time of thanksgiving for more than just food, it’s a time of thanksgiving and reflecting on all of God’s provision.

Throughout the Bible, harvest is mentioned over and over again, and it is not just about food. In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus says, ‘The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.’

Jesus wasn’t talking about grain or fruit here—He was talking about people. Jesus sees the world as a harvest field, and He’s calling us to be workers in it. There are people who are ready to hear the Good News, people who need to experience God’s love, and we’re the ones He’s calling to bring them in.

The Bible calls on us to be fruitful and this fruitfulness most often refers to the development of our character by which, in turn, we influence those around us. Each of our characters is constantly being shaped and formed by the world around us. Unlike the fruit trees in my garden who had no say in where and when they were planted, (I admit they are not all in ideal situations!) we have choices that we make each day that can affect the sort of person that we are becoming. Our choices become patterns, our patterns become habits, and our habits ultimately shape our characters.



We are not the same person we were a month, a year or ten years ago. One of the most important choices that we can make is to open ourselves up to the presence of God in our lives. It is the presence of God at work in us, shaping our characters that ultimately makes the real difference. And it is the presence of God that will enable the

flourishing of the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control to grow and to flourish even when the conditions of life feel arid or even hostile.

So, as we reflect on the harvest, let us think about what we’re harvesting in our own lives. Is it love, kindness and peace? Or have we been too distracted to even notice what God is growing around us?

And so we pray that whatever we may be facing at the moment, we will know that transforming presence of God with us, breathing the life of the Holy Spirit into us, and enabling us to choose wisely in the little things that enable us to flourish in all that we have been created to be.

## Richard Byas

### Apples

The word apple is derived from Old English *æppel*, meaning "fruit", not specifically the apples as we know today. As late as the 17th century, the word was used as a generic term for all fruit (other than berries) but including nuts. So, dates were often called "finger apples", and cucumbers "earth apples". Bananas earned the name "apples of paradise." Pineapple originally meant a pinecone, but when the first specimens of a large, knobbly fruit with a delicious yellow interior appeared in Britain in the late 17th century, the name was gradually transferred to that fruit.



Central Asia is generally considered the place of origin for apples. Apples are thought to have been domesticated 4,000–10,000 years ago in the Tian Shan mountains, and then to have travelled along the Silk Road to Europe, with hybridization with wild crab apples contributing genetically to the domesticated apple.

Apples have cultural significance in many mythologies (including Norse and Greek) and also in the Christian religion. Some believe that the earlier use of apple to cover all sorts of fruit could have influenced the identification of the "forbidden fruit" in Genesis with the apple. The Bible text doesn't mention an apple specifically or any other specific fruit. However, this identification has been the norm in most European countries for centuries. In other cultural traditions, fruits as diverse as grape, fig, pomegranate, apricot and even banana have taken the place of the Garden of Eden apple.

There are other references to apples in the Bible, with a number of them being present in the Song of Solomon such as in Song of Solomon 2:3

"As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste."

Maybe the most well-known however is from the psalms: Psalm 17:8

"Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings."

In fact, apples find their way into lots of expressions in common usage. If you're not the apple of someone's eye, then you might just be the rotten or bad apple that spoils the whole barrel. Perhaps you're behaving just like your parents, because, after all, the apple never falls far from the tree. For a healthy life, maybe you should eat an apple a day, for it will keep the doctor away! Who knows, it may have been the apple's association with health and wellbeing that led Steve Jobs and his friends to found the Apple Computer Company in 1976!



There are more than 7,500 known cultivated varieties of apples. They vary in their yield and the ultimate size of the tree, even when grown on the same rootstock. Different varieties are available for temperate and subtropical climates. The UK's National Fruit Collection, which is the responsibility of the Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), includes a collection of over

2,000 varieties of apple trees in Kent. Although Yorkshire is not a region generally associated with apple growing, there are a surprising number of apple varieties with their ancestry from within the county. Some varieties can be traced back to the early part of the 18th century and into the 19th century. Yorkshire varieties include the Ribston Pippin, Hunt House, Hornsea Herring, Yorkshire Cockpit, Fillingham Pippin, Flower of the Town, Green Balsam, Dog's Snout and Grandpa Buxton.

One final curiosity: the Big Apple. The reason why New York has this nickname is obscure and linked, bizarrely, to horse-racing. 'The Big Apple' was popularized as a name for New York City by John J. Fitz Gerald in a number of horse-racing articles for the New York Morning Telegraph in the 1920s. Fitz Gerald reportedly first heard 'The Big Apple' used to describe New York's racetracks by two African American stable hands at the New Orleans Fair Grounds but I can't resist mentioning that, for a brief period in 1673, when the Dutch had recaptured present-day New York from the English, it was called New Orange. This was in honour of William III of Orange, who later became our own King William III.

So, there's often more to a fruit than meets the eye – especially when that fruit is the good old apple. Just ask Sir Isaac Newton who told the story that he was inspired to formulate his theory of gravitation by watching the fall of an apple from a tree.



## Richard Byas

### Once a Yorkshire man, always a Yorkshireman.....

A Yorkshireman is lying on his death bed

He had been unwell for a while, and the time was drawing near. The man had asked for his family to be gathered in the bedroom to say their goodbyes.

"Is my darling wife here with me?" "Yes, love."

"And is my son here, in the bedroom with me?" "Yes Father, I'm here."

And is my daughter here, in the bedroom with me?" "Yes Daddy. Oh please don't leave us!"

"And are my grandchildren in here with me?" "Yes, grandad!"

"Then why is the light still on in the front room?"



## Richard Byas



## **Licensing of Reverend Dawn Ward**

**The Reverend Eva Dawn Ward, Assistant Curate for Thirsk Benefice in the Diocese of York, has been appointed House for Duty, Associate Priest for the Benefice of Topcliffe, Baldersby with Dishforth, and Skipton on Swale, and Dalton.**

**The Bishop of Whitby will officiate at the licensing Service which is to take place on Wednesday 1st October, at 7.30pm, at St James' Church, Baldersby St James for the Parishes of Dalton, Topcliffe and Baldersby with Rainton, Dishforth & Skipton on**

**Swale.. Everyone is warmly invited to attend the service.**

## **Baldersby St. James Church Events**

**Harvest Festival** - We are having a Bring and Share Lunch on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October after the 10.45 am Harvest Service which everyone is very welcome to join. We would also welcome any gifts of produce which can be left at the back of church. Our collection will be sent to "Water Aid."

**All Souls Day** - We will be remembering our loved ones who are no longer with us. If you would like to come along and light a candle you will be warmly welcomed. We will also leave a sheet at the back of church where you can write loved ones' names, which will be read out during the service.

## **Licensing of Rev. Dawn Ward**

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October we will be celebrating the Licensing of Rev. Dawn Ward in Baldersby St James Church at 7.30pm as 'House for Duty Associate Priest' for our Benefice. The service will be led by the Bishop of Whitby, The Right Reverend Barry Hill. Refreshments will be served after the service. All welcome.

## **Book Sale**

Thanks to the many, many people who helped with our Book Sale raising funds for repairs to our Stained Glass Windows. It was an amazing weekend which we could not hold without everyone's very hard work. On Sunday late afternoon we had 30 volunteers in church helping to pack away!! Our reward is that, with Gift Aid, we will have raised around £7,000 which is probably the most ever. It is wonderful to see books still valued and enjoyed.

*Susan Brown, Baldersby St James PCC*

## **Dalton Church and Village Events**

### **Harvest Festival and Supper**

The Harvest Festival Service will be held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.30 pm followed by the Harvest Supper where lots of delicious food will be served. All welcome.

## **Coffee Morning for Breast Cancer Research**

There will be a Coffee Morning for Breast Cancer Research in the village hall, Dalton, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 10.30am until 12 noon. Wear Pink for all those who have suffered with breast cancer. Come along and enjoy a chat, a cuppa and a piece of cake, along with raising money for this very worthwhile cause. Don't forget to wear your pink!

*Sylvia Binks*

## **St Columba's Church, Topcliffe**

### **Topcliffe Academy Harvest Service**

The School Harvest Service will be held in church at 2.30pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Family and friends are most welcome to attend.

### **Requiem Mass for All Souls, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 6.30pm**

Everyone is invited to remember and give thanks for the lives of departed family and friends at this beautiful and uplifting service set to the music of Caspar Ett (1788-1847). There is an opportunity for loved ones to be remembered by name and also to light a candle in their memory during the service. Names to be remembered can be added to the list before the service or, if preferred, emailed to John Phillips ([johnphillips05@gmail.com](mailto:johnphillips05@gmail.com)) or Chris Hewlett ([celhewlett@outlook.com](mailto:celhewlett@outlook.com)).

## **PARISH DIRECTORY**

### **The Parishes of Topcliffe, Baldersby with Dishforth & Skipton on Swale, and Dalton.**

Pending the appointment of Revd Dawn Ward, for parish matters please contact our Area Dean, Rev'd Mary Rolls, mob: 07877 213327 email: [mary.rolls@mowbraydeanery.org.uk](mailto:mary.rolls@mowbraydeanery.org.uk)

**BALDERSBY with DISHFORTH and SKIPTON-ON-SWALE** - PCC Secretary: Mrs Jennifer Wharton [wharton370@btinternet.com](mailto:wharton370@btinternet.com)

**DALTON** - PCC Secretary: Mrs Hannah Bissett tel: 07739 382831 [spannerb79@gmail.com](mailto:spannerb79@gmail.com)

**TOPCLIFFE** – PCC Secretary: Mrs Roz Norris [RozNorris@aol.com](mailto:RozNorris@aol.com)