



The Parish of Darfield

All Saints Darfield and St Michael Great Houghton

Sunday 22nd March 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship *Great Houghton*

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion *Darfield*

Sunday 29th March 2026

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Palm Sunday

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship *Darfield*

Lazarus – read John 11: 1-45

"I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world [John 11: 27]

Bethany was a small village around two miles from Jerusalem and was the home of Martha, Mary and their brother Lazarus. Jesus often visited them as a relief from his ministry. On one occasion, [Luke 10: 38-42] Martha was distracted by the practicalities while Mary '*sat at the Lord's feet*'.

On another occasion, just six days before His final Passover, Mary made an act of extravagant devotion as she used about a pint of pure nard, a costly perfume, to anoint the feet of Jesus. The cost of this perfume amounted to around the typical yearly wage at that time. [John 12: 3]

The Festival of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Dedication or the Festival of Lights, celebrates the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 BC. The Syrian King Antiochus had persecuted the Jews in Judah and Samaria and had desecrated the Temple. Judas Maccabeus led a successful revolt against the Syrians which allowed the re-creation of an independent Jewish state. Generally unstable and ravaged by Civil War, the state was taken over by the Roman Empire under Pompey. Eventually the Romans installed the Herodian Dynasty which was to play a great part in the life and ministry of Jesus.

Whilst Jesus was in Jerusalem for Hanukkah, he was given a hostile reception from the Jews who attempted to stone Him. [John 10: 31] Jesus left Jerusalem and stayed on the east bank of the Jordan where many came to listen to Him and became believers.

Meanwhile, in Bethany, Lazarus was taken ill. Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus. Jesus remained a further two days before traveling to Bethany. On arriving he found out that Lazarus had died and had been buried in the tomb for four days. Martha had come out of the village to meet Jesus. Although Martha believed that God would give whatever he asked [John 11: 22], she still complained that if Jesus had been with Lazarus he wouldn't have died. Jesus told Martha that Lazarus *would* rise again. Martha confirmed her faith by saying that she knew he would rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus responded with **"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."** [John 11: 25-26]

Mary joined Martha and together with Jesus went to the tomb. After a prayer to His Heavenly Father, Lazarus was told to *Come out* and emerged from the tomb.

Many of the Jews became believers but others reported these events to the Pharisees who with the chief priests called a meeting of the Sanhedrin and began to work out how they could rid themselves of Jesus.

**DRAW
NEAR**
LIFE-GIVING
HABITS FOR LENT

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April 2026

We are to hold a joint Service and Shared Meal at 7:00 p.m. in Ardsley Church Hall Lounge.

It would be helpful if we could know the numbers for catering.

Sign up on the sheets at the back of Church

Or contact Carol on 07542 527 331

Please indicate if you need or can offer a lift.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings for Lent 4

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8: 6-11

John 11: 1-45

Readings for this week

March

22nd	Joshua 13: 24-33
23rd	Joshua 14: 1-9
24th	Joshua 14: 10-15
25th	2 Timothy 1: 9-18
26th	2 Timothy 2: 1-13
27th	2 Timothy 2: 14-26
28th	2 Timothy 3: 1-9
29th	2 Timothy 3: 10.-17

Prayer Square

This week we are praying for residents of Darfield

Bole Close
Millmoor Road
Millmoor Court
Fairfield Court
Henry Street

Prayer:

Forward any prayer requests to our Prayer Ministry team through

Carol Hunter: 07542 527 331

Community Shop on the Go and Warm-Space

Next Community Shop: Thursday 2nd April

Warm Space: Every Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Sunday: 22nd March 2026 at St Michaels Great Houghton

We have been unable to find a member of the Clergy to officiate at this Communion service.

The service will proceed as a **Service of the Word** with lay leadership.

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The forty-eight chapters of our biblical record of Ezekiel's prophecies span a period of around 22 years during the exile of the Israelites in Babylon. They were exiled from their homeland and the Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed. Over what was to be a seventy-year exile in Babylon the hope of restoration had faded.

During this period Ezekiel records six visions. In Chapter 36 Ezekiel was led by the Lord to prophesy the re-birth of Israel as a nation and their return from exile.

In confirmation of this we find perhaps the most familiar of Ezekiel's prophecies, in the Valley of the Dry Bones [Ezekiel 37:].

In the vision Ezekiel is led to a valley full of dry bones which the Lord identifies as representative of the state of the Israelite nation. [37: 11] A first prophesy prompted by the Lord caused the bones to come together with tendons and flesh [37: 7,8]. A second prophesy brought breath into the bodies, and they stood up as a vast army [37: 9,10].

Ezekiel was commanded to prophesy to the people that the Lord promised to restore Israel both physically and spiritually.

Psalm 130: 1-5

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice.
- 2 Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.
- 3 If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?
- 4 But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
- 5 I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

Thoughtful Thursday at Great Houghton

Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and noon.

Craft and Natter back after Easter on **19th April**

Resources and Contacts

Churchwarden
PCC Secretary

Peter Robinson
Karen Walton

01226 753 572

Safeguarding

Contact Peter Robinson
07910 728 581

Our Web Site

<http://www.darfieldallsaintschurch.org.uk/>

Email Allsaintschurchdarfield@gmail.com

Facebook [@darfieldallsaints](https://www.facebook.com/darfieldallsaints)



Find us on A Church Near You

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Search your current location or Postcode

DEADLINE for Content

Items, preferably via e-mail, to

pdrobinson@live.co.uk

Tuesday 5:00 p.m.

All Saints



St Michael



All Saints PCC Darfield is a Registered Charity (no. 1185316).