

Cross Talk



April 2026

Cross Talk is published monthly by email. To receive a copy please contact 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 and baldersbychurch.com.

CHURCH SERVICES

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| Sunday 5 th April, 10.45am | Easter Sunday Holy Communion
<i>followed by refreshments</i> |
| Sunday 12 th April, 9.30am | Breakfast Service <i>with Coffee and Croissants</i> |
| Sunday 19 th April, 10.45am | Holy Communion <i>followed by refreshments</i> |
| Sunday 26 th April, 9.30am | Morning Service <i>followed by refreshments</i> |



St John the Evangelist Church, Dalton

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Thursday 2 nd April, 7pm | Benefice Maundy Thursday Service |
| Sunday 5 th April, 11am | Family Service
<i>followed by refreshments</i> |
| Sunday 19 th March, 11am | Holy Communion
<i>followed by refreshments</i> |



St. Columba's Church, Topcliffe

Corporate Member of the Prayer Book Society

- | | |
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| Thursday 2 nd April, 7pm | Benefice Maundy Thursday Service at St John's, Dalton |
| Friday 3 rd April, 2pm-3 pm | Good Friday Reflection |
| Saturday 4 th April, 7pm | Vigil for Easter Eve and First Mass of Easter
(Mass in A by Eduard Rottmanner sung by Topcliffe Choir)
<i>followed by refreshments and wine</i> |
| Sunday 5 th April, 8.30am | Said Holy Communion (BCP)
(No 6.30pm Choral Evensong) |
| Thursday 9 th April, 11am | Midweek Morning Prayer
<i>followed by refreshments</i> |



Sunday 12th April, 10.45am

Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 16th April, 11am

Midweek Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 19th April, 10.45am

Sung Matins *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 23rd April, 11am

Midweek Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 26th April, 10.45am

Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 30th April, 11am

Midweek Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*

April Reflection – Revd Dawn Ward p.4

Caedmon - Richard Byas p.6

Village News – p.9

Readings for Maundy Thursday to the Fourth Sunday of Easter

(Page numbers refer to the Common Worship Lectionary.)

Thursday 2nd April, Maundy Thursday

Collect

God our Father,
you have invited us to share in the supper
which your Son gave to his Church
to proclaim his death until he comes:
may he nourish us by his presence,
and unite us in his love;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



Readings (p129)

Exodus 12.1-4, [5-10,] 11-14

Psalm 116.1, 10-17 or Psalm 116.9-17

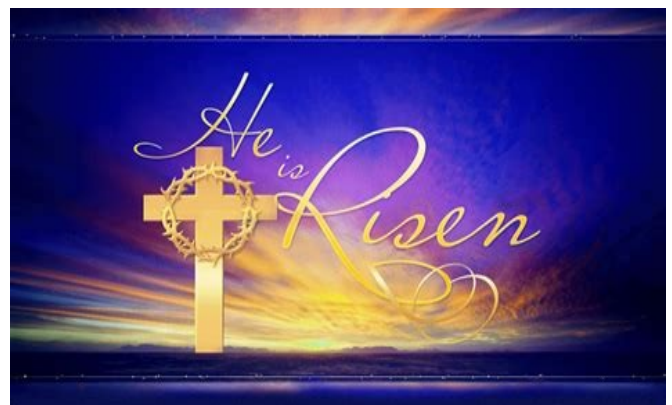
1 Corinthians 11.23-26

Gospel: John 13.1-17, 31b-35

Saturday 4th April, Easter Vigil

Collect

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.



Readings (p145)

A minimum of three Old Testament readings should be chosen. The following readings should always be used.

Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21

Canticle: Exodus 15.1b-13, 17-18

Psalm 114

Romans 6.3-11

Gospel: Matthew 28.1-10

Sunday 5th April, Easter Day

Collect

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.



Readings (p164)

Acts 10.34-43 or Jeremiah 31.1-6

Psalm 118.[1-2,] 14-24

Colossians 3.1-4 or Acts 10.34-43

Gospel: John 20.1-18 or Matthew 28.1-10

Sunday 12th April, The Second Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings (p169)

Acts 2.14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1.3-9

Gospel: John 20.19-31



Sunday 19th April, The Third Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained
by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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 (p173)

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

Psalm 116.1-3, 10-17 or Psalm 116.1-7

1 Peter 1.17-23

Gospel: Luke 24.13-35



Sunday 26th April: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek the things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God, now and for ever.

Readings (p176)

Acts 2.42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2.19-25

Gospel: John 10.1-10



April Reflection



Dear friends,

We start April in Holy week with the Church remembering the final days of Jesus' life.

Maundy Thursday is the fifth day of Holy Week - the final week of Lent, which begins on Palm Sunday and runs up until Easter. It gets its name from the Latin word 'mandare', from which we get the word 'command'. Christians remember Jesus' command: "Love one another

as I have loved you." This is the day when Christians remember Jesus sharing the Last Supper with his disciples before his death on Good Friday.

At the Last Supper Jesus washed the disciples' feet as an act of humility. Some churches recreate this act of service at special services on Maundy Thursday. Foot washing is a reminder of how Jesus served others and of the kind of service Christians are meant to demonstrate to others.

Then follows Good Friday. Good Friday is the most sombre day of the Christian calendar when the crucifixion and death of Jesus is commemorated in churches and cathedrals. Church services on Good Friday may begin or end at 3pm – the time when Jesus is believed to have died on the cross – and are traditionally stark and bare, marking the solemnity of the occasion.

The origins of the name 'Good Friday' are not clear. Some sources see its origins in the term 'God's Friday'.

The Easter Vigil then follows on Holy Saturday.

The Easter Vigil is the first service of Easter and begins sometime on the evening of Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Day). It begins with a symbolic expectant waiting (usually outdoors around a fire) for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning, and this is represented visually by a large Easter candle, which is lit from the fire and brought into a darkened church. This depiction of new life and light represents Jesus' resurrection on the first Easter morning. The congregation then light their own candles from the Easter candle, representing their own new life as followers of Jesus. The service will contain a number of readings from the Bible, and also an opportunity for all the participants to renew the promises made at their baptism. The Easter Vigil is generally a quiet and thoughtful service, but one full of joy.

Easter Sunday reminds us that on the third day after being crucified, Jesus' tomb was found to be empty. He had risen from the dead. Life triumphs over death! The joy of resurrection is possible only because Christ endured death and conquered it.

Some churches celebrate Jesus' bringing life from death by making and blessing an Easter Garden. Throughout Lent, churches are kept stark and bare but on Easter Sunday, the churches are decorated with flowers and the sombre purple of Lent is replaced with celebratory white or gold. There is a real party feel to many services with uplifting music and repeated alleluias (an exclamation of joyful praise).

As we celebrate and remember these important events do come along to our churches and join together as we celebrate the risen Lord.

The times and places of services can be found in this edition of Cross Talk, everyone is most welcome.

I would like to wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter,

Reverend Dawn.

Caedmon

Many people will have heard of Geoffrey Chaucer, born in 1343, who has been called the 'father of English literature', or alternatively, the 'father of English poetry' but he is not the earliest recorded English poet. Nearly seven hundred years before Chaucer, the earliest recorded poem in Old English is credited to a cowherd at Whitby Abbey called Caedmon. Although we may like to claim Caedmon as a Yorkshireman, in the seventh century Whitby was in the Kingdom of Northumbria.

The name Caedmon is of British origin and points to the survival of the British in North-East England during and after the Anglo-Saxon migrations. He never acquired reading or writing skills but had an amazing memory to be able to create songs. Hilda recognised that Caedmon's ability to compose songs in English was of the utmost importance to bring an understanding of Christianity to all people, not just to those who knew Latin.

In the seventh and eighth centuries the headland at Whitby was occupied by a monastery for both monks and nuns together with a large Anglian community. There are two main sources for the history of Streaneshalch as it was then known. These are the Ecclesiastical History of the English People, by the Venerable Bede, and a life of Pope Gregory the Great by an anonymous monk of Streaneshalch. The abbey ruins we see today date from 1078 and are not the ones known to Hilda. The original abbey that would have been familiar to Hilda and Caedmon fell to a Viking attack in 867 and was abandoned. The monks of the seventh century usually lived as individuals in separate cells and came together only for work and religious services. The monastery consisted of several small buildings grouped together around one or more churches.



The sole source of original information about Caedmon's life and work is Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica*. According to Bede, Caedmon was a lay brother who cared for the animals at the monastery. According to Bede, he was originally ignorant of "the art of song" but learned to compose one night in the course of a dream. While asleep, he had a dream in which "someone" approached him and asked him to sing *principium creaturarum*, "the beginning of created things." After first refusing to sing, Caedmon subsequently produced a short eulogistic poem praising God, the Creator of heaven and earth.



Upon awakening the next morning, Caedmon remembered everything he had sung and added additional lines to his poem. He told his foreman about his dream and gift, and was taken immediately to see the abbess, St Hilda of Whitby. The abbess and her counsellors asked Caedmon about his vision and, satisfied that it was a gift from God, gave him a new commission, this time for a poem based on "a passage of sacred history or doctrine", by way of a test. When Caedmon returned the next morning with the requested poem, he was invited to take monastic vows.

Hilda ordered her scholars to teach Caedmon sacred history and doctrine, which after a night of thought, Bede records, Caedmon would turn into the most beautiful verse. According to Bede, Caedmon was responsible for a large number of splendid vernacular poetic texts on a variety of Christian topics. Unfortunately, all that remains of Caedmon's poetry today is the poem known as Caedmon's Hymn (or the Hymn of Creation), which Bede includes in his *Historia Ecclesiastica* and it is said to be the poem that Caedmon first sang in his dream.

According to Bede, Caedmon was afflicted by an illness fourteen days before his death. It is not known what sickness afflicted him, but that he knew he was at the end of his life. He went to a building that was known to hold the infirm, and those who were close to death, where he asked the attending monks to prepare a bed and the Eucharist for him. The monks were puzzled as they saw nothing wrong with Caedmon but did as he requested. After he took the Eucharist, he asked the monks if he had any quarrels or grudges against him and they said that they had none. After hearing this he went to bed and died in his sleep.

One example of an attempted literary translation of Caedmon's Hymn is Harvey Shapiro's 2011 rendering:

Guardian of heaven whom we come to praise
who mapped creation in His thought's sinews
Glory-Father who worked out each wonder
began with broad earth a gift for His children
first roofed it with heaven the Holy Shaper
established it forever as in the beginning
called it middle kingdom fenced it with angels
created a habitation for man to praise His splendour.



Richard Byas

The teacher, giving a health talk to her class, warned them of the dangers of getting too close to pets. 'Can you give me an example of the dangers of this Jackie?' she asked.

Yes Miss, my Aunt Alice used to kiss her dog'

'And what happened?'

'It died.'



Richard Byas

Baldersby St. James Church

Coffee Mornings - Every Tuesday 10am until noon our Coffee, Scones and chat in church. Please drop in to have a chat, there are usually a happy gang to chat to from round and about.

We wish everyone a Happy Easter and Bank Holidays with family and friends.

Susan Brown, PCC Member

Dalton Church and Village Events

130 Club results for February

£100 John Ramshay, No.28; £50 Sally Chignell, No.107; £30 Louise Waite, No.26; £20 Jo & Richard Hudson, No.109; £15 Marion Tracey, No.38; £10 Terry Thorpe, No.40.

The new 6 monthly draws will be in aid of the Village Hall.

130 Club results for March

£15 Sheila Shuttleworth, No.21; £10 Marion Tracey, No.84; £6 Eileen Taylor, No.18.

Spring Village Lunch

St John's Church will be hosting the Spring Village Lunch in the village hall on Sunday 12th April, 12 noon for 12.30. There will be cottage pie and vegetables followed by our usual selection of home-made desserts and cheese and biscuits. Tickets are £14, under 5s free, available from Judy on 01845 577607, with under 5s free of charge. There will be a raffle and the bar will be open.

Through the Decades Disco

DJ Martin Haywood will be taking us through the decades from the 70s to the 00s in the village hall on Saturday 18th April from 7pm until 11pm. Come and dance the night away to your favourite tunes from way back. Maybe dress up in clothes from your favourite decade? The bar will be open.

Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

This month's Coffee Morning will be in aid of the "Together We Can Project". Revd. Sheilagh Williamson is travelling out to Uganda in May and is staying with a local family. She regularly takes items needed by local people and money to purchase items for them, like chickens, etc. and funds for educating women and children, teaching them skills to be able to work for themselves. She will hopefully be coming to the coffee morning to tell us about the project. Please come along and support this worthy cause.

Sylvia Binks

St Columba's Church, Topcliffe

Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter

The Easter Vigil will be held on Saturday 4th April at 7pm including the First Mass of Easter set to the Mass in A by Eduard Rottmanner, sung by Topcliffe Choir under the direction of Linda Hewlett.

We wish everyone a Happy Easter full of joy and blessings.

BENEFICE DIRECTORY

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

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