

Cross Talk



September 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 6th September, 10.45am Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 13th September No Service *Book Sale Sat & Sun. Opens 10am*

Sunday 20th September, 10.45am Harvest Festival and Communion
with Bring and Share Lunch

Sunday 27th September, 9.30am Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*



St John the Evangelist Church, Dalton

Sunday 6th September, 11am Family Service *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 20th September, 11am Holy Communion
followed by refreshments



St. Columba's Church, Topcliffe

Corporate Member of the Prayer Book Society

Thursday 3rd September, 11am Midweek Morning Prayer
followed by refreshments

Sunday 6th September, 8.30am Said Holy Communion (BCP)
6.30pm Choral Evensong *followed by refreshments and wine*

Thursday 10th September, 11am Midweek Morning Prayer
followed by refreshments

Sunday 13th September, 10.45am Holy Communion *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 17th September, 11am Midweek Morning Prayer *followed by refreshments*

Sunday 20th September, 10.45am Sung Matins *followed by refreshments*



Thursday 24th September, 11am **Midweek Morning Prayer** *followed by refreshments*

Friday 25th September, 7pm **Harvest Service** *with Bring and Share finger food and wine*

Sunday 27th September, 10.45am **Holy Communion** *followed by refreshments*

Thursday 1st October, 11am **Midweek Morning Prayer** *followed by refreshments*

No September Reflection – Revd Dawn Ward is on holiday

York Knavesmire and Tyburn - Richard Byas *p.4*

Village and Church News – *p.8*

Readings for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity to the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity *(Page numbers refer to the Common Worship Lectionary.)*

Sunday 6th September, The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in 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 Proper 18 related (p300)

Ezekiel 33.7-11

Psalms 119.33-40

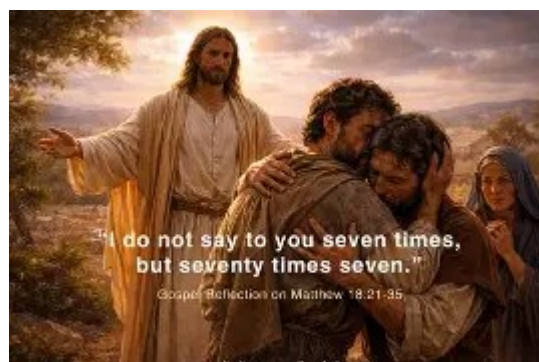
Romans 13.8-14

Gospel: Matthew 18.15-20

Sunday 13th September, The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith
and active in service;
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 19 related (p306)

Genesis 50.15-21

Psalms 103.[1-7], 8-13

Romans 14.1-12

Gospel: Matthew 18.21-35

Sunday 20th September : 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 20 related (p311)

Jonah 3.10-4.11

Psalms 145.1-8

Philippians 1.21-30

Gospel: Matthew 20.1-16

Sunday 27th September : The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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 21 related (p317)

Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-32

Psalms 25.1-8

Philippians 2.1-13

Gospel: Matthew 21.23-32

There is no September Reflection



Reverend Dawn is on holiday.

The next Reflection will be published in the October edition.

York Knavesmire and Tyburn

As its name implies, Knavesmire was common land (open to the knaves), but also a mire with a stream running through it and although the stream no longer existed, it was still prone to flooding in the 1970's and 1980's with people being able to skate on the frozen flooded area within living memory. A considerable amount of draining has been undertaken, largely to accommodate the racecourse for which the area is now better known. The first documented race held in recent times was in 1731. Horse racing in York however, has a long history with horses being raced at York during the days of the Emperor Severus in Roman times.



The Knavesmire is one of a number of large, marshy undeveloped areas around the city of York which are collectively known as Strays. Knavesmire, together with Hob Moor, comprises Micklegate Stray. The York Tyburn, the site of the gallows administered on behalf of The Crown by York Castle, was situated in the area, beside the main road to London on the road to the (then) hamlet of Dringhouses.

Situated in the south-west of the city, some distance outside the historic walls, Knavesmire's low-lying position made it liable to severe flooding in times of heavy rain. As a consequence, it remained undeveloped as the city expanded around it.

York Tyburn

In the medieval period, York had four sites of public execution. Three of these were administered by the church; York Minster, St Mary's Abbey, and St Leonard's Hospital and each administered justice within their territory according to their own laws.

The fourth site was controlled by the Crown and administered from York Castle. But rather than erect gallows at the castle, they built it on the Knavesmire. The location meant that the very first thing visitors to York coming from the south would see as they arrived would be the bodies of criminals hanging from the gallows or crowds of people following carts as they carried convicted criminals to their meeting with the hangman.

For more than 400 years, long before it became a racecourse, Knavesmire was the site of the York gallows.

The gallows site at Knavesmire was dubbed 'Tyburn' after the famous place of execution near Marble Arch in London. The gallows here was a large timber triangle supported on three legs, known as the 'Three-Legged Mare'. For over 400 years Tyburn was a focal point for public executions in York. The first took place in 1379, the last in 1801. In a curious twist, both the first and last executions were those of a soldier found guilty of rape.

The Knavesmire gallows were erected in 1379 although there were earlier executions on the site. The Welsh nobleman Rhys ap Maredudd was executed for treason at Knavesmire, in 1292, under the orders of King Edward I.

The first recorded execution at York Tyburn was Edward Hewlson, aged 20, who was hanged on 31st March 1379 for rape. Hewlson was a private in the Earl of Northumberland's Light Horse. He was found guilty of raping Louisa Bentley, a servant at York Castle. After his execution, Hewlson's body was hanged on a gibbet in a field on the Sheriff Hutton Road where his offence took place.

The last person to be hanged was Edward Hughes on August 29th 1801 for having raped Mary Barrun from Easingwold earlier that year.



Executions were a huge public spectacle. People were encouraged to attend them, in part because the authorities felt that the harsh public execution would act as a deterrent. Criminals were dragged on sledges and later carried in a cart beside their coffin. The Three-Legged Mare gallows used the 'short drop' method of execution. This meant that those executed died by slow strangulation.

By 1801 there was a growing feeling that having executions at the city boundary was not a great way to create a good first impression for visitors. The crowds thronging the route to Tyburn also cause a problem for visitors. So, in 1801 executions were moved to a spot near York Castle, but they were still a public event. The gallows at Tyburn stood unused for over a decade until they were finally removed in 1812.

In 1861 public executions were banned, and sentences were carried out behind closed doors at specially constructed gallows known as 'The Drop', standing beside the Female Prison. You can see the doorway that led to The Drop from the car park adjacent to the Prison.

The Tyburn has been immortalised by at least two places in York city centre: the Three-Legged Mare pub in High Petergate and former pub The Last Drop Inn in Colliergate.

Probably the most famous people to be executed there were Rhys ap Maredudd, a Welsh nobleman and rebel, hanged in 1292, and Dick Turpin, who was hanged in 1739. Catholic priests Alexander Rawlins and Henry Walpole were hanged, drawn and quartered on 7th April

1595. Another Catholic priest, Nicholas Postgate, was hanged, drawn and quartered there in 1679.

Though naturally many of those executed at York Tyburn were sentenced for crimes against property or persons, quite a few were put to death for their religious beliefs. Among the latter are two leaders of the Pilgrimage of Grace, the uprising against Henry VIII's religious reforms. Those executed in connection with the revolt were Lord Hussey and William Wode, the Prior of Bridlington. Interestingly, the punishment for each man was different; Lord Hussey was hanged and quartered, while Prior William was beheaded and quartered.

Equally as many were executed for some form of rebellion. The earliest of these was John Chambers, hanged in 1488 for insurrection. Another was Sir John Neville in 1541.

One intriguing execution was of two forgers, Edward de Satre and Sarah Houslay, who were sentenced for issuing forged promissory notes in the value of 50 guineas. At least five more forgers were executed at Tyburn during Elizabeth I's reign.

Execution day was a big, rowdy event - criminals were a spectacle as they were driven from the prison to their deaths, sitting with their coffins.

Until 1745 their bodies were quartered after hanging. Special newspapers were printed detailing the crimes and punishment of the condemned.

Today the site of the gallows, by the side of the A8888, Tadcaster Road, is a paved bit of park. It has two benches looking across the racecourse.



Richard Byas

Peter was on an angling holiday in Wharfedale and decided on his first morning to start early. By five o'clock he was striding down to the river with all his gear and felt very proud of himself to be about before the rest of the world was up.

Turning a bend in the road he almost bumped into a farmer coming the other way.

'Good morning' Peter said brightly 'it's very nice to be out and about'

'Aye it is' he replied 'but it were cold first thing'.



Richard Byas

Village News

Baldersby St. James Church

Church Ceiling – Brilliant news, our ceiling is now netted and the church is again open every day. It is wonderful to have it open and the netting is hardly noticeable up in the roof area. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to complete this.

Harvest Festival - Our harvest festival is on 20th September with bring and share lunch. If you have any spare fruit/veg please drop it off in church. Everyone very welcome.

Book Sale

Monday evening 7th Sept: (approx. 6.30pm) We are bringing our books down to church from Terry's storage. We would really welcome as much help as possible (strong men!) to carry them into church. If you have any spare books please drop them into church now, we are open every day.

Wednesday 9th Thursday 10th Friday 11th - we will be putting books out in church ready for the weekend. Once again your help is so valuable. Church will be open at 10.00am. We also welcome help providing refreshments, tray bakes etc which are very popular with our visitors, especially those who come every year!!

Sunday 13th Sept. from 4.30 we will be packing books away, hopefully many less than we started with! Last year we had about 20 helpers which was brilliant, as it is a big job made much easier by lots of helpers, and we finished in 2 hours which was a record! Many thanks to all who help.

Coffee and Chat

Every Tuesday from 10.00am – please drop in to church and join us for coffee and a feast of home-made scones and biscuits. Jigsaws are always there to borrow to put the winter evenings on.

Have a super Bank Holiday weekend.

Susan Brown, PCC Member

Dalton Church and Village Events

130 Club result for August

£100 - Terry Robinson (No.31); £50 – Hattie Spence (No.2); £30 – Dave Pearson-Briggs (No.81); £20 – Graham Crabtree (No.80); £15 – Pam Laycock (No.80); £10 – William Holmes (No.16).

We will be starting a new 6-monthly 130 Club in September in aid of church funds. We have one or two numbers vacant. If anyone would be interested in having a number please contact either John on 01845 577310 or Sylvia on 01845 577020.

Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support on Wednesday 23rd September in the village hall from 10.30am until 12 noon. Come along and enjoy a cuppa, a piece of cake and a chat with friends and neighbours. There is no set charge, but donations will be greatly appreciated.

Future Events for Your Diary

We will be holding our **Village Lunch**, run by St. John's Church, on Sunday 11th October, 12 for 12.30pm in the village hall. Tickets are £14, available from Judy on 01845 577607. We will be serving cold meats, salads, new potatoes and quiches. There will be many desserts, as usual. **St John's Christmas Fair** will be held on Saturday 28th November in the village hall. There will be various stalls, bacon butties for sale and a visit from Santa for the children, Sue Dyer will be singing some Christmas carols too. If you would like a stall, please contact Sylvia on 01845 577020.

Sylvia Binks

St Columba's Church, Topcliffe

Church Roof Repairs

The work to repair the roof of the nave and north aisle of the church is scheduled to begin on 14th September. Grant funding towards the cost of around £10,000 is being sought..

Harvest Service

Our Harvest Service and celebration will be held in church at 7pm on Friday 25th September, followed by a Bring and Share supper with finger food and wine.

BENEFICE DIRECTORY

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

Reverend Dawn Ward, Associate Priest for the Benefice

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