

# St John the Divine Rastrick Your Parish Magazine

Pentecost  
May 19th

£1.50

May 2024



**Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick**  
**St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN**

**Vicar**

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

**Churchwardens**

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

**Licensed Lay Minister**

Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

**Pastoral Minister**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - family.hearson@tiscali.co.uk

**Safeguarding**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearson83@gmail.com

**Health & Safety**

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

**Hall Bookings**

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

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**PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH**

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment  
to you, and in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church.

Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

### Sunday Services in Church

- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)

### Mondays in the Community Hall

- 6:00 p.m. Rainbows and Brownies
- 7:30 p.m. Guides
- 7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (1st Monday in the month at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07756 035591

### Tuesdays in Church

- 2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

### Tuesdays in the Community Hall

- 12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi
- 6:30 p.m. Cubs
- 8:00 p.m. Scouts

### Wednesday Service in Church

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in month)

### Wednesdays in the Community Hall

- 6:15 p.m. Beavers
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month) in the Conference Suite.

### Thursdays in the Community Hall

- Brighthouse Community Cinema (3rd Thursday in the month).
- See press for times and film showing.

### Fridays

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (by Zoom). Alan:07756 035591

*Rev'd Michelle writes .....*



I wonder how your Easter joy is holding up.

I have just returned from a National Conference of Spirituality Advisers which was held at Launde Abbey in Leicestershire, and this is the question we were asked there.

It's an interesting one and at first glance you might be tempted to reply that Easter was all done and dusted several weeks ago, and that you've moved on to other things. The joy might have waned a bit as you return to everyday life. But of course, we are still firmly in the Easter season, the season of new life and hope. It's such a great festival of joy and celebration as well as mystery and awe, that it can't be contained in one day or even a few days. The resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ changes everything and so it should change our lives. This isn't a one-time thing but should lead to continual renewal and transformation, and joy.

During May we will reach the end of the Easter season as we celebrate Ascension Day and then Pentecost. I encourage you to take the opportunities offered to attend church and celebrate with us. The Ascension Day communion service on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm will include a song by our very own Rastrick Voices about how we are called to share with joy the love, hope, faith and peace that the resurrected Jesus brings as he returns to his Father in heaven, and we become his hands and feet on earth.

Then on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May we celebrate Pentecost – the birthday of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. There will be two opportunities to worship and celebrate on that day, as we have our usual communion service at 11am and then join with other churches from the Rastrick and Brighthouse areas at 4pm outside St Matthew's for a 'Pentecost Praise' service and picnic. Posters advertising both these events can be found in the pages of this magazine.

As you read, look out too for other opportunities to hold up your Easter joy and be strengthened in faith. For example, there are details of a Prayer Day at Addingham, details too of opportunities to develop your prayer life, and of a new START course. If you would like to know more about any of these then please ask me.

As we journey on through May and beyond together, I hope and pray that we will all find ways to be strengthened in our Easter joy.

With my prayers and very best wishes.

*Michelle*

**Starting Saturday 18th May**

**Start!**

**Do you have questions about God and are looking for answers?**

**Are you new to church or returning after a break?**

**Would it be helpful for you to meet with others in the same boat?'**

- ***What's Life all about***
- ***Is there a God?***
- ***Why is life so messy? & Who is Jesus?***
- ***Why the Cross? & Where do I get started?***
- ***How far forward can I go with God in my life?***



**Six one and a half hour sessions with films, time to talk, listen and ask questions.**

**Including Breakfast!**

**If you would like to know more, please contact Rev'd Michelle:**

**01484 710538 - [vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk)**

## SERVICES AND CHURCH INFO

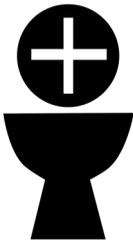
### SUNDAY SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - APRIL

Sunday 5th May - 11:00 - 6th Sunday of Easter - All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 12th May - 11:00 - 7th Sunday of Easter - Holy Communion

Sunday 19th May - 11:00 - Pentecost - Holy Communion

Sunday 26th May - 11:00 - Trinity Sunday - Holy Communion



### MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - APRIL

Wednesday 1st - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 8th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 15th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 22nd - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 29th - No midweek service in 5th week

### OTHER FORTHCOMING UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

**THIS  
MONTH**

- ◇ Thursday 9th May - 7:00 Ascension Day - St John's
- ◇ Sunday 19th May - 4:00 - Pentecost Praise - St Matthew's lawn.
- ◇ Sunday 30th June - 10:30 - Joint Benefice - St John's
- ◇ Sunday 29th September - 10:30 - Joint Benefice - St Matthew's

Please join Rev'd Michelle live on St John's Facebook page for Morning Prayer at 8.30am every morning Tuesday to Saturday



or you can catch up later in the day on Facebook or via the link on the home page of our Website.

## PRAYER PAGE

Do you have a favourite prayer, or have you come across a special prayer recently which you'd like to share?

This month's prayer has been chosen by Rev'd Michelle.

She says, "I came across it recently and it spoke to me about how we can journey on through the Easter season without fear and be reminded of God's love and care for us each day."

*We go on our way  
And Jesus goes ahead of us.  
We do not need to be afraid  
for Jesus is risen.  
God, you are love -  
more powerful  
than fear or death or evil,  
and we are greatly loved.  
And we are grateful.  
Thanks be to God  
for renewing the world in love.  
Amen*



## GOOD NEWS STORY

As a follow on from our recent Prayer Course, and with my 'Prayer and Spirituality Co-ordinator' hat on I'd like to draw your attention to the following Good News Story from our Diocese, giving ideas and resources for us all on how to develop our prayer life. If you'd like to know more about anything that's mentioned please let me know.

Thanks. *Rev'd Michelle*



Across the Diocese, the people of God are praying every day, in every place: in churches, schools, hospitals and prisons, in groups and as individuals. Liturgical prayers, creative prayers, silent prayers. Prayers for help, prayers to praise, prayers to repent, prayers for healing, prayers for the world. Prayer is in the DNA of the Diocese, it is a gift to all human beings and it is our calling as followers of Jesus.

And yet, so many people find it difficult to pray. The good news is, we are not called to pray on our own. There are an increasing number of encouraging opportunities in the Diocese supporting people to pray:

- The Diocese is home to many special places of prayer, of course churches, but also retreat houses. Explore [Parcevall Hall](#), the [Community of the Resurrection](#) in Mirfield and [Scargill House](#) for quiet days and retreats.

- The Diocese has a growing community of trained [spiritual directors](#) or accompaniers, people who are willing to meet up with other ‘pilgrims in life’ to talk about faith.
- There is a continuous offer of training and formation courses on prayer and the spiritual life. Just dip into the [Digital Learning Platform](#).
- There is a movement of contemplative prayer, silent prayer and meditation, not just worldwide but also in our Diocese. For example, contemplative prayer groups in churches, meditation mornings in [Leeds Minster](#), Contemplative Church in [Shepley](#) in the Huddersfield area and online meditations across the Diocese.

The best news is that **prayer is not too difficult**, because God is near and the ever-praying Spirit of Christ dwells in our hearts. As you go into your day now, take a few moments of silence and let the following words from Psalm 46 sink into your heart and bones:

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know

Be still

Be.

*By Revd Henriette Howarth,*

*Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality Coordinator*





## Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church is encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way. It is our hope & prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.

Whether you attended the Prayer Course during Lent or not, why not take this opportunity to take a short time each day to pray? Lets face it there is so much to pray for in our world today.

There will be resources in church and for those who are able, you can sign up (<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>) for daily emails both of which will be a help to pray. How good and encouraging it is to know that others throughout the world are praying.

*"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."* Archbishop Justin Welby

# Day of Prayer

**Saturday 11th May 2024**

**10.30am - 3pm (refreshments from 10am)**

**St Peter's Church, Addingham**

Everyone is invited to take time out of the busyness of life and join others in the peaceful environment of St Peter's by the river Wharfe to learn more about prayer. During the day there will be plenty of time to be quiet and reflect on your own. There will also be time for conversations and learning.

The day is organised and will be led by the Bradford Prayer and Spirituality team. The event is free but donations are welcome if you can. Please bring your lunch – tea and coffee will be provided.

**To book your place, please email:**

**[charlie.scott@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:charlie.scott@leeds.anglican.org)**

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds

Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.

Rev'd Michelle will be going,  
and is happy to car-share if you are interested.

## Daily Lectionary Readings May 2024

Monday <u>29-Apr</u>	Tuesday <u>30-Apr</u>	Wednesday <u>01-May</u>	Thursday <u>02-May</u>	Friday <u>03-May</u>	Saturday <u>04-May</u>
Psalms 145 (or) 71 Numbers 9.15-end;10.33-end Luke 4.38-end	Psalms 19 Numbers 11.1-33 Luke 5.1-11	Psalms 139 Numbers 12 Luke 5.12-26	Psalms 57 Numbers 13.1-3 Luke 5.27-end	Psalms 138 Numbers 14.1-25 Luke 6.1-11	Psalms 146 Numbers 14.26-end Luke 6.12-26
<u>06-May</u>	<u>07-May</u>	<u>08-May</u>	<u>09-May</u>	<u>10-May</u>	<u>11-May</u>
Psalms 65 Numbers 16.1-35 Luke 6.27-38	Psalms 124 Numbers 16.36-end Luke 6.39-end	Psalms 132 Numbers 17.1-11 Luke 7.1-10	Psalms 47 Act 1: 1-11 Luke 24:44-end	Psalms 20 Numbers 20.1-13 Luke 7.11-17	Psalms 21 Numbers 21.4-9 Luke 7.18-35
<u>13-May</u>	<u>14-May</u>	<u>15-May</u>	<u>16-May</u>	<u>17-May</u>	<u>18-May</u>
Psalms 93 Numbers 22.1-35 Luke 7.36-end	Psalms 15 Act 1:15-end John 15:9-17	Psalms 2 Numbers 23.13-end Luke 8.16-25	Psalms 24 Numbers 24 Luke 8.26-39	Psalms 28 Numbers 27.12-end Luke 8.40-end	Psalms 42 Numbers 32.1-27 Luke 9.1-17
<u>20-May</u>	<u>21-May</u>	<u>22-May</u>	<u>23-May</u>	<u>24-May</u>	<u>25-May</u>
Psalms 123 Joshua 1 Luke 9.18-27	Psalms 132 Joshua 2 Luke 9.28-36	Psalms 119.153-end Joshua 3 Luke 9.37-50	Psalms 143 Joshua 4.1 – 5.1 Luke 9.51-end	Psalms 142 Joshua 5.2-end Luke 10.1-16	Psalms 147 Joshua 6.1-20 Luke 10.17-24
<u>27-May</u>	<u>28-May</u>	<u>29-May</u>	<u>30-May</u>	<u>31-May</u>	<u>01-Jun</u>
Psalms 1 Joshua 7.1-15 Luke 10.25-37	Psalms 5 Joshua 7.16-end Luke 10.38-end	Psalms 119.1-32 Joshua 8.1-29 Luke 11.1-13	Psalms 14 Joshua 8.30-end Luke 11.14-28	Psalms 113 Romans 12:9-16 Luke1:39-49	Psalms 20 Joshua 10.1-15 Luke 11.37-end

Join Michelle on line Tuesday - Saturday: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedinerastrick>

Or use the Church of England Daily Prayer: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

All readings in full can be found by downloading the 'Lectionary: from the CofE' App on your mobile or PC

## Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.



Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

### Upcoming dates:

Sunday 19th May    Sunday 16th June

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.  
(Phil 4:6)*

## The Men of the Churches of Rastrick

**Beer and  
Banter  
2024**

**Host**



**Mondays at The Four Sons, Rastrick 7pm**

13th May    - Providing a Safe Space - Turning Point

3rd June    - Music and Language - Graham Kennedy

**All Men Welcome**

Further Details call Alan 07756035591

***Pie and Peas!!***

# The United Benefice of Rastrick

## Ascension Day Communion Service

**Thursday  
9th May  
7:00 p.m.**

**St John the Divine, Rastrick**

**Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN  
(Near Brighouse Railway Station - plenty of parking)**

Including the Rastrick Voices





# ***Pentecost Praise!***

*On the lawn outside  
The Anglican and Methodist  
Church of St Matthew  
Rastrick, HD6 3NF*

***Sunday 19th May  
4:00 P.m.***

*A glorious celebration  
of the  
Birthday of the Church  
with lots of singing!*

***Please  
join us!***

***Bring your own chairs  
and a picnic***

*Let's represent the flames of the Holy Spirit!  
wear red, yellow, orange....*



## MOTHERS' UNION MATTERS!

MU matters here at St John's, locally across Huddersfield and Halifax and internationally!

At the moment your Branch here in Rastrick

is looking further afield to the soldiers in the trenches and collecting old candles and cans. Someone melts down the wax and transforms it into wax candles in the cans which you have collected. These all get taken by transit van to Ukraine. See photo! Continue to bring your wax to me or Ann J. Thank you.



Also, grateful thanks go to many other MU Branches who brought items of baby clothes here to St John's... I was able to take many bags full of knitting to a Baby Bank in Heckmondwike. Rather like a Foodbank, people are referred to these centres, and are then given these very beautiful and welcome clothes.

Other activities continue as usual... helping out at New Hall Prison in the visitors' tea bar, in the mother and baby unit and offering cooking classes to some of the women. Would you also like to volunteer for any of these activities? See me, Ann Johnson or Margaret France.

But what have we also been doing for fun here at St John's? Paul Armitage came to talk to our Branch about his walking exploits in the south of France, beautifully illustrated with photographs.

Looking ahead there is the MU Coffee and Goodies Day to be held at Freda Broadbent's house, 14th May, 10.00-3.00pm. See any of the MU Members for a £1.00 ticket entrance fee for your first coffee and a biscuit. Then once inside, there will be a delicious array of home baking and produce for you to choose from, plus small plates already made up with your lunch!!



Also of great importance is that the MU is having their annual retreat at Parceval Hall from Tuesday 21 -23 May. These days are being led by Revd. Michelle and they promise to offer a spiritual haven in glorious countryside. Please let me know if you want to

go and haven't got an application form. These days will offer a wonderful break.

Mabel, a refugee from Nigeria is living in our parish, and many of us are enjoying taking her out to see different sights in and around Brighthouse. You may see her at Church on Sundays and at the mid-week Service. Please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome. Her English is very good and she is studying at Halifax college.

We are creating little wreaths with the Residents at Railway Bridge View on 2 May at 2.00 pm..... everyone is invited. The more the merrier. Our craft efforts are being honed by Gillian Brough, Carol's sister. Thank you, Gillian, for sharing your skills and enthusiasm.

On Saturday 11 May the MU are hosting the monthly coffee and chat at the back of Church from 10.00-12 noon. Join us for scrumptious cakes and coffee!

With love and best wishes to you all,

*Julia*

## ECO CHURCH UPDATE

### SWAP STALL

Following the success of the Swap Stall at the Eco- church service in February, by popular request, it has been decided to hold a regular monthly Swap Stall in church, on the Saturday and Sunday coinciding with the monthly Saturday morning coffee, chat and cake event ie: May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, Sept.14th, Oct.12th, Nov.9th & Dec.14th.

Good quality contributions may be given to Pat Lee or any member of the Eco- church committee



### CAR SHARING



St John's congregation are always happy to offer lifts if anyone needs help to get to Church on Sunday or indeed at other times. To take this a step further, if there is anybody who would appreciate a lift to Church, who knows anyone else who would appreciate a lift or if there is anyone who would consider car sharing when going to Church please let John Hearson know. Thanks



LOYOLA PRESS.

Generous God, you care for my every need. Lead me to care for your creation and for other people with a heart of joy.

From the mobile phone app: '3-minute retreat'

# Coffee and Conversation

**Next Date:  
Friday 31st May  
12:30 -1:30**

**Come and join me each month  
for lunch/coffee  
in The Platform Café  
Railway Bridge View**



**Very informal - may include:**

**exchanging news**

**prayer**

**a discussion around the Gospel reading  
for the following Sunday**

## What the Vicar got up to last month

Just a selection...



Walk of Witness  
Good Friday



Prayer Walk  
Holy Saturday



Sunrise Service  
Easter Sunday



Buck's Fizz  
...a nice surprise  
celebration!



Coffee & Conversation  
at Railway Bridge View.



Led the MU Lady Day service  
At St Paul's, Hanging Heaton



Attended the  
National Conference  
for Spirituality Advisers  
at Launde Abbey





# PILGRIMAGE

## 17-26 AUGUST 2024

**Led by Bishop Smitha**

**“Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name,  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.”**

Taizé is an inspirational pilgrimage of trust, gathering people from all over the world.

Simplicity and joy of heart define Taizé, and it has been the place where many have found or deepened their faith and prayer life, explored vocation, and committed their lives to Christ.

Its songs and prayers continue to inspire worship worldwide.



Although aimed at young adults of 35 or under, anyone (of any age) is welcome to join the pilgrimage.

**Please ask Rev’d Michelle for more information  
if you are interested.**

## Mother's Union Coffee day

14 th May

at the home of Freda Broadbent  
48 Lyndhurst Avenue.

Tickets £1 includes first cup of tea/ coffee.

Tickets available from MU .

Donations of cakes etc most welcome  
for the produce stall.

Look forward to seeing you all there.

Ann Johnson



## Benefice Safari Supper

Saturday 13th July

Offers of help to host a starter  
or main course please.

Then all to meet  
at St. Matthews Parish Centre for dessert,  
offers of pudding/cake would be very welcome,  
and some light entertainment.



Please contact Margaret Brown  
Tel 01484 714533 07851943147

## ***Pantomime News & Dates for Your Diary***

The committee are currently reading various versions of Dick Whittington and Little Red Riding Hood in order to sort out this and next year's pantomimes.

Over the past twelve months we have spent a significant amount of money in replacing front of house lights and between now and December we hope to replace the consumer unit at the

side of stage and will also be investigating whether or not we need a new electric piano in the hall. Although the panto committee purchase the hall piano it is for the use of anyone using the hall.

We are also hoping to have a small team who will be looking into how best to market the hall regarding charging for sound, lights and stage use, which should make the hall much more attractive to potential hirers.

At a recent meeting the following Heads of Departments were elected: Musical Director, Diane Davison; Choreographers, Christie Hepke and Eleanor Readshaw-Senior (if not too busy with her new baby, Jude Christopher); Assistant Director, Neil Denham; Producer & Director, Graham Readshaw.

***Brighthouse Gala:*** Although you may have seen that Brighthouse Gala will not be held this year, this is not entirely true. There ***will*** still be a Gala on the last Saturday of June, but it will be held at ***Lane Head Rec*** instead of Wellholme Park and ***entry will be FREE***. Please come along and support the pantomime stall plus other charity stalls.

***Bacon Butty Sundays:*** We will be holding Bacon Butty mornings on the ***Sundays of 2<sup>nd</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> November*** (which is our Corporate Service); we would love to see loads of supporters for these events, the profits of which finally finish with the church.



**Script Read Through for Parts:** This will be held on **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm, NOT the 3<sup>rd</sup> July** as previously advertised.

**Parish Lunch:** this ever-popular event will be held in the church hall on **Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> October**, so make sure you keep your eyes open for when the tickets go on sale...you know it's a great get together that's not to be missed.

We offer our congratulations to Eleanor and Paddy on the birth of the aforementioned Jude Christopher and wish them all many happy years together (and we look forward to seeing Jude in future shows).

Sadly we lost our ex MD, Freda Hiley, in March and you can read more about her elsewhere in the magazine. She will be sadly missed by so many people.

We will keep you up to date with further information as the year progresses.

We look forward to seeing you at some (if not all) of our events.

**Graham Readshaw**

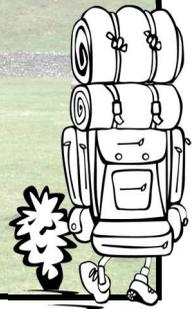
Secretary

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## St. JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB

The next full day walk will be on the 18th May to be led by Alan Howarth and will be in the Luddenden Foot area with a distance of approximately 7 miles.

Further details nearer the time can be obtained directly from Alan on 01484387426



Anglican & Methodist Church of St Matthew,  
Rastrick

## *SUNDOWN SWING BAND*



Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

2.30 pm in the Parish Centre

**Tickets £10.00**

(including tea and cream scone)

Tickets available from Jennifer (01484 713482)  
or Derek (01484 711727)

# *Paddock Orchestra*



**Summer Concert at  
St John the Divine Church  
Rastrick  
18th May 2024 at 7-30pm**

**A programme of Ballet and Dance music**

**From;  
Tchaikovsky,  
Delibes,  
Khachaturian  
and others - - -**

**CONDUCTOR; BEN KEARSLEY, LEADER; OLWEN HOBSON  
ENTRANCE £10.00, CHILDREN FREE.**

**Which Bible character was the best musician?**

Samson - he brought the house down.



## Music News

Many thanks to all the musicians (instrumental and vocal) who provided the music for our worship over Easter. There were some very moving services and I felt it was a privilege to be playing with such sensitive musicians.

The next special service for our musicians will be at 7:00 on the evening of Ascension Day (Thursday May 9th), when the Voices will be singing. There's a rehearsal on 5th May after the service.



Then on Pentecost/Whit Sunday, there'll be our (now) traditional Pentecost Praise on St. Matthew's lawn at 4:00, for which the Group will provide the music.

Do you like the Group's new logo? They chose it themselves. It has the music stave (*5 lines*) starting at the foot of the cross and reaching out beyond our own circle.

Meanwhile, we're all eagerly awaiting the return of our very own King of Instruments! I've been sent some photos of the work in progress, and so (*maybe the last opportunity*) I'd like to share some with you.

Working on the bellows.

The bellows provide the air which is sent to the appropriate pipe in order for it to play.



Fitting the new 'action'.

This is how the message gets from the manuals (*keyboards*) to send the air along the correct tube to get to the correct pipe.  
(*We have over 1,000 pipes!*)



Some of our pipes, showing the holes in the board through which the air flows when they play.



The Console is coming together!

Some of the 'Couplers'

These are the knobs (or stops) which the organist pulls out in order to couple certain pipes together to produce a specific sound. Underneath you can see the new electronic connections, which will make this easier and less prone to wearing out. From them, the wires send the signal to the correct tubes, to send the air from the bellows into the chosen pipes.



Pam

## MISSIONS AND CHARITIES



The photograph shows the 2 girls from Nyakiswa, who are doing the secretarial course, with their tutor, Margaret. She reports that they are doing well.

Nyakiswa girls  
hard at work  
on the  
secretarial course.

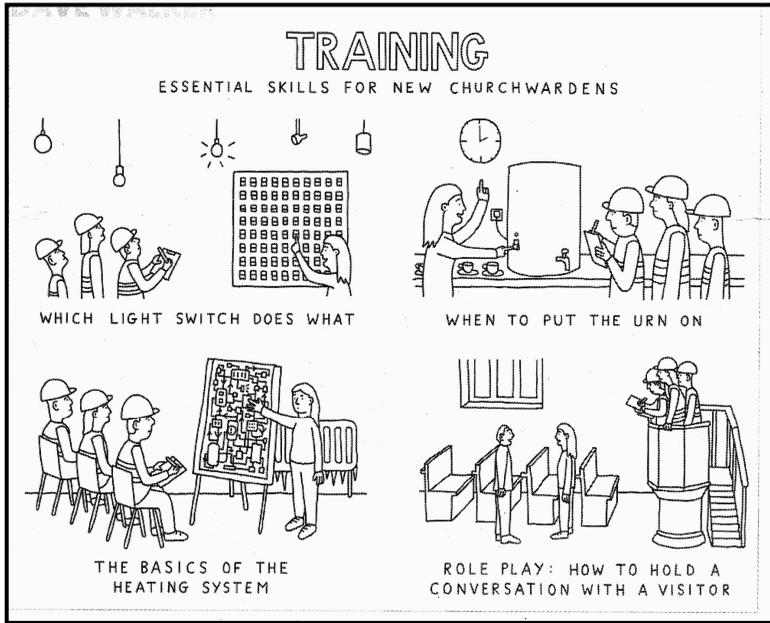


The Lent Appeal was for the Mission to Seafarers. The donations amounted to £286.38 plus gift aid and will be rounded up to £500 from our allocation. Many thanks to all those who contributed.

At our April meeting, we decided to support "The Christie Charity" based in Manchester, to further world-class cancer research.

A key priority is to develop new treatments to improve outcomes for patients. £250 will be sent.

With the APCM on 12th May, Rev'd Canon Michael Storey has sent this timely reminder for prospective churchwardens.



*Acknowledgements: Dave Walker - Church Times 5/4/24*

## CENTRAL FOODBANK

The Foodbank is very grateful to all at St. John's Church for their kindness and generosity.

We are currently in need of:

- milk
- packets of mashed potato
- tins of fruit
- tins/cartons of custard
- tins of chicken, stewing steak, mince beef
- small jars of coffee



Thank you so much..

## INSPIRED BY A HYMN

### Hymns which influenced me to write poems:

**What a Friend we have in Jesus** – all our sin and grief to bear...

*Joseph Scriven (1819-86)*



Have you seen Him? He is near;  
 Look around you everywhere.  
 He may not fit into your plan, but God is here in every man

Did you spurn Him, when He was there?  
 Needing food, needing care?  
 He may not fit into your plan, but God is here in every man

Did you love Him, when He was near,  
 Reaching out, full of fear?  
 He may not fit into your plan, but God is here in every man

Would you join Him if he was there,  
 on his knees, head bowed in prayer?  
 He may not fit into your plan, but God is here in every man

Could you fit into His plan?  
 For He needs *you* - and every man.

*Shirley Stow*



# Eco Church - Swap Stall

The next  
Eco Church  
Swap Stall  
will be on:



**Sat 11th, Sunday 12th. May**

*Cherry*



## COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch is on Tuesday 7th May. 12:00  
All welcome. (No charge - donations much appreciated)



## COFFEE & CHAT

The next Coffee & Chat  
is on Saturday 11th May, in church. 10:00 - 12:00



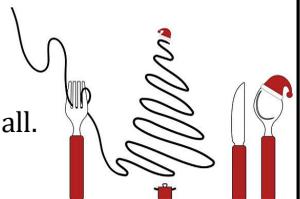
## AFTERNOON TEA

The next Afternoon Tea  
is on Saturday 19th October, in church. 2:00 - 4:30



## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The annual Christmas Lunch  
is on Tuesday 3rd December, in the Community Hall.  
Booking essential: £20



## Freda Hiley... *“Thank You For The Music!”*

I'm sure we'll all know the Abba song, but this is so applicable to Freda Hiley, who has, sadly, passed away at the age of 88. Freda taught music in various schools for all her working life and loved doing so, so much so that she continued after she had retired, but my contact with Freda started about 40 years ago when the then regular panto pianist, Mona (and I forget her surname) was unable to play on opening night and Michael Storey brought Freda along



to the show and she stood in for Mona. That was the start of a friendship that lasted for the next forty years. Even though Freda “retired” as MD for panto a few years ago she still stepped in when Diane, our present MD, was unavailable.

I once asked Freda if she could play without music, to which her reply was a definite “no”, but, shortly after this conversation I was trying to remember a song and couldn't do so; I mentioned this to Freda and she said “Do you mean this” and immediately played it **without music.**

She was always delighted to step up whenever we were putting on any shows that required musical accompaniment and she loved

working with children as she showed over her years of involvement with St John's Pantomime Society. She even convinced David Williams that he could sing. Although David thought she was having a laugh she proved him wrong and he turned out to be OK, which was something he never thought he would be. Come December and you would always find Freda and Tony enjoying themselves at St Anne's with anything up to 100 members of the panto society, an annual event that was much loved by all involved.

Freda and Tony spent many happy years together and they were both very talented in their own different ways, Tony with his natural comedic touch and Freda with her talent for music (she sang with the world famous Huddersfield Choral Society in her younger days), but Freda was also a comedian in her own right having been in many shows over the years.

Diane Davison and Freda did a Hinge and Bracket take-off some years ago with Freda on the piano and Diane on the violin and they were extremely good and funny.

When Freda decided the time had come to step down as MD for panto she officially introduced Diane to us and the rest, as they say, is history.

I could go on at greater length, but I will just finish by saying that all our thoughts and prayers are with Tony and their family at this sad time. We all miss you, Freda and you have left a huge hole in so many people's lives.

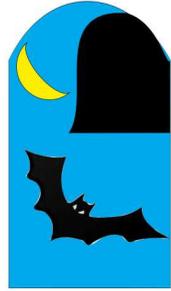
As I said at the start of this article:

*Thank You For The Music*

*Graham Readshaw*

## ***PUZZLE PAGE** by the Bat in the Belfry*

Two bank holidays this month, so plenty of time to have a go at these two quizzes.



### **Number 24 – 9 Don't be a half Whit**

Here's a few questions on Whitsuntide.

- 1) In the UK it is called Whitsun, or Whit Sunday. Elsewhere in the English-speaking world it is called the Pentecost. From which language does the word 'Pentecost' originate and what did it mean?
- 2) So why is the day called 'Whitsun' in English in the UK?
- 3) Where are the Whitsunday Islands?
- 4) And in which ocean can one find Pentecost Island?
- 5) The songs of which American country music singer featured in the film 'Mars Attacks' (tenuous link)?
- 6) To which language are the following names for Whitsun attributed; a) Letnice b) Pentecostes c) Pfingsten d) Pinse e) Helluntai f) Pinksteren
- 7) In which country is the Pentecost called 'The Green Holiday' – a day when people decorate their houses with green branches, which - according to tradition – are said to bring God's blessing upon the home and the people living in it?
- 8) In which country was it customary to blow trumpets during the church service, to recall 'the sound of the mighty wind which accompanied the Descent of the Holy Spirit'?



### **Number 24 – 10 Barking Mad**

Here are questions relating to dogs that appear in literature. See if you can solve them.

- 1) Herge wrote a series of picture books starring an ace reporter and his faithful dog called what?

- 2) In which book does Montmorency appear?
- 3) Sherlock Holmes uses a dog on occasion. What is his name?
- 4) Timmy the dog appears in the Famous Five books, but whose dog is he?
- 5) L Frank Baum wrote a series of books in which this dog appears. Who?
- 6) You might hit the centre if you twist the target.
- 7) What an odyssey for this dog.
- 8) From London, a dog had this book named after him.
- 9) This dog can speak and think and lives in Ankh-Morpork.
- 10) Mary Tourtel's creation has this mischievous pug for a friend.
- 11) Virginia's story about a poet's dog.
- 12) This dog comes from Donaldson's Dairy.




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### ***Last month's answers***

#### **Number 24 – 7 All about George**

- 1) Edward III 2) 5p and 10p 3) May 6<sup>th</sup> 4) The Merry Wives of Windsor 5) The White Horse at Uffington (Dragon Hill)  
6) Pope Paul VI 7) Charles II 8) Gold Sovereign 9) Miguel de Cervantes 10) Matt Smith

#### **Number 24 – 8 I talk to the trees**

- 1) Sycamore 2) Horse Chestnut 3) Oak 4) Monkey Puzzle  
5) Copper Beech 6) Ash 7) Elm 8) Green Birch 9) Norway Spruce

**ANSWERS NEXT MONTH**

## SHIRLEY...

The second commandment is, “*Love your Neighbour as Yourself*”

This week I went with a friend to the Golden Hind fish restaurant in

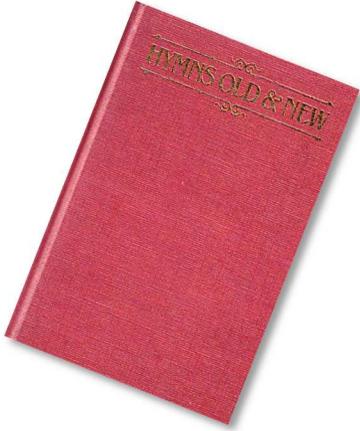


Brighthouse. Together we enjoyed a tasty meal of fish, chips and mushy peas flavoured with salt, vinegar and tartar sauce! Quite a treat. But I was more aware of how fortunate I was to be able to afford it. Not far away there are food banks providing meals for those who need the

extra help with their finances and also people staying in Prego's, struggling to make ends meet.

In spite of a difference of over fifty years between us in age, we really enjoyed each others company as we tucked into our meal. When the bill was paid, it was decided that my friend would come back to my home afterwards with me, so we made our way to the bus stop. Another privilege we have and perhaps take for granted, is our free bus pass.

When we arrived home, I was a little anxious about how we would spend the afternoon together. I need not have worried. Although my friend speaks good English, she is a little rusty writing and spelling it. We decided, therefore, that I would dictate from a magazine and she would write it down then read it back to me. Brilliant, a new kind of game for both of us. Some words she was unsure how to spell and also their meaning so I became challenged in explaining the them to her. We both laughed as I demonstrated this.



After a while I suggested she had a go at reading. She was very good and as she kept subconsciously humming a tune I recognised, I hummed along. The song was "Jesus loves me, this I know", and we both realised it was a song we learned in Sunday School. I went and found several old and new hymn books and we sang together those we both knew the tune to. How barriers between age and culture can

be brought down by mutual respect and interests.

Time flew by. She had to leave. As I closed the door, I felt so content and pleased with our time together. I hope she felt the same.

How barriers and prejudice between age, religion, culture, gender, and politics can be brought down by mutual respect and interests in our everyday lives.

*Shirley Stow*

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## **AND FINALLY ....**

Delivering his speech at the opening banquet of The General Assembly, the visiting minister told several anecdotes he expected to repeat at a service the next day.

Because he wanted to use the jokes again, he requested that the reporters omit them from any accounts they might turn in to their newspapers. A cub reporter, in commenting on the speech, ended his piece with the following, "The minister told a number of stories that cannot be printed here."

*Kirk of Calder Parish Church (West Lothian)*

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## Tuesday 2nd May

MU craft session at Railway Bridge View 2:00

## Tuesday 7th May

Community Lunch 12:00

## Thursday 9th May

Ascension Day Service - 7:00 p.m.

'Thy Kingdom Come' begins

## Saturday 11th May

Coffee & Chat in church 10:00 - 12:00

Eco Church - Swap Stall

Day of Prayer - St Peter's Addingham 10:30 - 3:00

## Sunday 12th May

APCM after the 11:00 service

Eco Church - Swap Stall

Sundown Swing Band - St. Matthew's Parish Centre - 2:30

## Monday 13th May

Beer & Banter - The Four Sons 7:00

## Tuesday 14th May

Mothers' Union Coffee Day - Freda's

## Saturday 18th May

The Start Course begins

Rucksack Club Walk - Luddenden Foot area.

Paddock Orchestra concert - in church 7:30

## Sunday 19th May

Pentecost Praise - St Matthew's lawn 4:00

## Tuesday 21st May

MU Annual 3 day retreat at Parceval Hall begins

## Friday 31st May

Coffee & Conversation - Railway Bridge View 12:30

Items for the June magazine.  
to: [stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com) by 9:00 a.m. Sat 25th May please. Thanks.



Website : [www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk)



Parish Calendar : <http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp>



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### Wi-Fi

Network : everywhere

Password : anywhere