

THE LINK

Keeping you in touch with Outwood, Stanley, Wrenthorpe and Alverthorpe Churches 22 November-29 November 2020

Dear all,

For those of you who are at work through the pandemic and lockdown, what does work look like now? For some of us, what we're doing is very similar to normal: if you're a teacher, you're still going into school, although you there is also online learning to contend with, and safety measures to observe. If you work in a hospital or care home, now is a busier and more emotionally intense time than ever. If you work in an office, you have the joys of wall-to-wall online meetings, and an 'office' that looks a lot like your living room, kitchen or bedroom. And if you're a priest... well, it's both a very busy time, and a very different time.

But work goes on – even if you're retired, there's childcare to do.

I wonder how this time has made you feel about what you do? Do you get meaning from it? Is it a drag? Is it a bit of both? Is it a part of who you are, or just something that you're doing for now? We often talk about vocation in the church – and indeed, we each have a vocation to be in relationships, to do particular tasks and to be particular people. But they aren't always the same as the job which pays the bills for the time being.

We'll have the opportunity to think a bit about vocation across our four churches as we welcome Joseph Harrison on placement from the College of the Resurrection. Joseph is training to be a priest – he's chosen quite a year to start – and he will be doing different jobs in the Sunday online services and in person when we get back. We hope he has a good experience – say hello when you meet him!

Every blessing,
Fr Jonathan

Prayers and Readings for the Week

Christ the King (22 November)

Sunday Readings

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24

Psalms 95.1-7

Ephesians 1.15-end

Matthew 25.31-end.

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne
of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and
King;
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at
his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

*Or you may wish to use the old 'Stir up' collect for
this Sunday, which used to be used as a reminder to
start preparing the Christmas pudding!*

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of
good works, may by you be plenteously
rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1st Sunday of Advent (29 November)

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 64.1-9

Psalms 80.1-8, 18-20

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

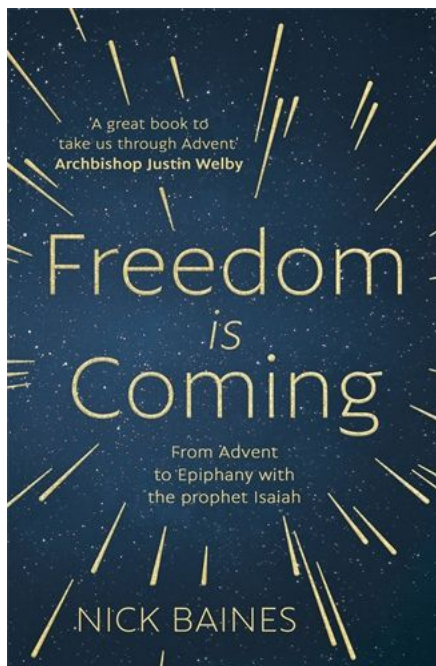
Mark 13.24

Praying together

Please use these readings and prayers together with your own devotional books. We will also distribute a short order of service for Sundays via email and paper copies will go to those not online. If you would like a copy of our booklet 'Prayers Resources for When You Can't get to Church', call 01924 373758, and we'll post or email one to you.

Advent Course

This year, the Benefice will be using Bishop Nick's book on Advent, *Freedom is Coming*, as a way of reflecting on Advent and what it means.



There are three ways to join in. The Monday evening Home Group in St Peter's Stanley will be using it in their sessions on Zoom. Fr Jonathan and Mthr Jo will also be running a session on Wednesday afternoons on Zoom at 4pm. Both of these sessions will start the week beginning 30th November. The Diocese is also running the course, which is available on Wednesday evenings at 7pm between 25th November and 16th

December. You can find out more information about the book and register a place for free on the Diocese's Digital Learning Platform [here](#).

You can buy Bishop Nick's book on Amazon or directly from SPCK Publishing:

<https://spckpublishing.co.uk/freedom-is-coming>

There will also be an opportunity to join in a shorter course together with Wrenthorpe Methodist Church, with three sessions, beginning on 1st December at 7:30pm. These will look at Zechariah, Joseph and Mary. These will also begin on Zoom.

If you want to join in with these courses, please get in touch, and we will let you know everything you need to do to join.

A #LightOfHope

The northern diocese of the German Protestant Church is asking people to share the light of hope this Advent, by drawing or crafting stars, hanging them in their windows, and sending stars of hope to friends and family. Why not join in? Draw your own star, or you might like to create a 3D star. You can find a template in our 'Prayer for Use at Home' booklet for All Saints and Advent or go to https://www.nordkirche.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Projekte_und_Kampagnen/Hoffungsleuchten_Basteln/Bastelstern_hoffungsleuchten.pdf for a downloadable version.



Nativity Trail

We are hoping to create a "Nativity Window Trail" this Christmas, either across the benefice or in each parish. We're looking for volunteers to create some scenes from the Christmas story (Gabriel and Mary; Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem; the Shepherds; the Kings follow the Star). Please get in touch if you'd like to help. You could make a tissue paper stained glass window or draw and paint on the glass with washable paint and tape.

Fr Jonathan & Mthr Jo

Upcoming Church Events

Outwood

Church Open for Prayer before the Sacrament:

22 November from 1pm-3pm

PCC Meeting: 2 December at 7:30pm (on Zoom)

Wrenthorpe

Bereavement Course: every Thursday at 2pm in church

St Anne's & Friends Quiz Night: 9 December at 7:30pm (on Zoom)

Regular events online:

All our weekday online events are hosted on Zoom, either through the benefice's website's meeting rooms, or through a meeting login. For more information about how to join and how to use Zoom, please contact us.

Sundays

- 11am Coffee Morning on Zoom for St Anne's Wrenthorpe

Mondays

- 10am 'Start the Week – Drop in for Chat and Prayer' on Zoom
- 7:30pm St Peter's Stanley Housegroup on Zoom

Tuesdays

- 10am Coffee Morning for St Paul's on Zoom
- 4pm Bible Study for St Mary Magdalene's Outwood and St Anne's Wrenthorpe

Worship Online, on the Radio and on Television

Sunday Worship is broadcast on Radio 4 at 8:10am. Songs of Praise is broadcast on BBC1 at

1:15pm. The Church of England streams a service on YouTube every Sunday at 9am.

You can also join in with our church services online! We're showing them live on the churches' Facebook pages. If you don't have Facebook, you can still watch the services: type your church's name and 'Facebook' into Google, and click on the first link. The videos should be available to view once the service has concluded

The pattern for online services is as follows:

Sundays:

- 10am Parish Mass (St Mary Magdalene Outwood)
- 10am Parish Eucharist (St Anne's Wrenthorpe)
- 10am Holy Communion (from St Peter's and St Paul's on alternate weeks)
- 5:30pm Reflection

Mondays

- 9am Iona Morning prayer
- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (live from St Mary Magdalene's)

Tuesdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Iona Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Wednesdays:

- 9am Iona Morning Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)
- 9pm Sung Compline (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Iona Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Thursdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 6pm Prayer for the Nation (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 9pm Iona Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

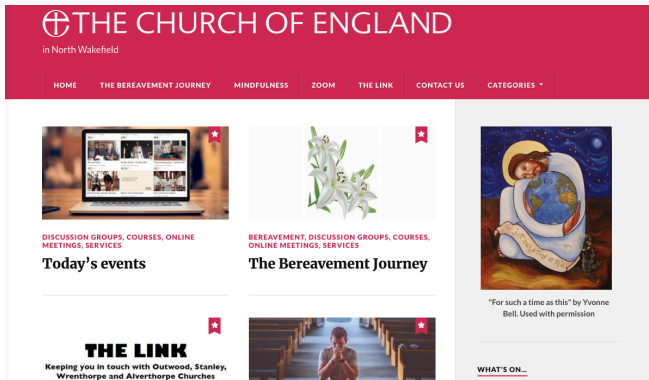
Fridays

- 9pm Iona Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Saturdays:

- 12:30pm Midday Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)

New Website



Dave Florence from St Peter's Stanley has worked on our website throughout lockdown, and it now has a new format. Visit it to learn more about our services and events, to join Zoom meetings, and for resources to help in the pandemic.

Prayer for the Nation



The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York have encouraged Christians up and down the country to make November a month of prayer for the nation. They have asked Christians to make Thursdays a day of fasting and prayer, and to ring their church bells at 6pm and pray in church buildings.

Two of our congregation at St Mary Magdalene Outwood, Peter and Beverley Beaumont, have very kindly offered to say prayers in church which will be streamed live to our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/outwoodparishchurch) every Thursday at 6pm starting tonight until the end of lockdown. Please join us at home for these prayers - you may want to light candles, ring bells or put out a cross to pray with.

Good News from Around the World



You wait around for a vaccine for ages, and then two come along! The Moderna vaccine which is also at Stage III clinical trials, like the Pfizer-BioN-Tech vaccine we talked about last week, has proved to be 94% effective against the coronavirus in preliminary results. It will take time for these vaccines to finish their trials, be produced and rolled out, but there is definitely light at the end of the tunnel now!



You may not be a 'gamer', but you've probably heard of a PlayStation, and seen its famous 4 button control panel. To celebrate the release of the new PlayStation 5, the signs for the Tube at Oxford Circus have changed this week – to the well-known PlayStation shapes.



We featured a famous shark a few weeks ago. Here's a famous goose. Cuthbert the Goose had accounts on Twitter and Instagram with thousands of followers. When he died last week after a fight with two other geese, his farmer, Chris Franklin, received over 4,000 messages of condolence – real encouragement in difficult times!



In spite of lockdown, some traditional industries are still pushing through. White Rose Candles at Wensley in the Yorkshire Dales was hit by a big flood in 2019, and was struggling to make up the loss of stock when Covid-19 hit. They have had a slow increase in orders over 2020, though, and it looks like the business will survive into the future! They use traditional techniques, including a great deal of recycling. Jane Hammond, one of the owners, said, "It's one of the reasons the business has lasted; we've always been careful and creative. Using what you have makes sense from an environmental point of view too." White Rose are looking forward to their 50th anniversary next year. You can read more here: <https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/heritage-and-retro/heritage/meet-traditional-candlemakers-still-going-strong-dales-after-nearly-50-years-3034896>

Visiting Churches



As churches are closed for public worship, it is important that they can still be open for private prayer, so we have increased the number of times during the week when it is possible to visit church during lockdown.

The times are as follows:

Monday 4pm-5pm St Mary Magdalene's Outwood
 Tuesday 10-11:30am St Peter's Stanley
 Wednesday 2-4pm St Anne's Wrenthorpe
 Saturday 10-12pm St Mary Magdalene's Outwood
 Saturday 10-12pm St Paul's Alverthorpe
 Sunday 1-3pm St Anne's Wrenthorpe

Home Start Hampers



HomeStart help families in need and Outwood Parish Church has helped provide hampers to make the Christmas season easier for many years. This year, we're asking that donations for

hampers be left in St Mary Magdalene's Church in a plastic bags so that they can be ready for 6 December, when we're due to restart our public services in church. They'll then be sent to HomeStart on 7 December.

Suggested items for hampers include:

Christmas pudding
Custard
Tin of meat balls
Christmas cake
Tinned fruit
Corned beef (Tin)
Hot dog sausages
Savory snacks
Coffee
Chocolate biscuits
Baked beans
Mince pies
Dried pasta
Jar of pasta sauce
Tin of ham
Chocolates
Children's sweets
Tin of tuna
Tea
Sugar

Wrenthorpe & Kirkhamgate Food Bank



As well as supporting our local Covid-19 Assist Group by hosting their food bank in the St Anne's Church Hall, we're now going to be having a regular collection box for the food bank in both St Anne's and St Mary Magdalene's churches. 72% of families with children who depend on foodbanks are in work, and the need for support is growing, especially in the current Covid-19 restrictions. Please bring non-perishable food and toiletries to church when you are able

to, and the boxes will be taken to the food bank as they fill up!

Mothers' Union News: Key Workers Appeal



Want to do more than just clap for key workers? The Mothers' Union have expanded their 'Away from it All' holiday scheme that offers needy families the chance to get away to key workers' families who would otherwise not get a break this year. You can learn more about the scheme, donate, or nominate a family who need a holiday here: <https://www.mothersunion.org/thank-you-keyworker-appeal>

Mothers Union are unable to meet for their November meeting due to lockdown, but will return to meeting once public worship is permitted in churches again.

Recycled Greeting Cards

Maureen Wood from St Anne's Wrenthorpe writes: I am pleased to let you know that the following contributions have been made as a result of the sale of recycled cards:

£50 to Mental Health in Young People in memory of a student at York University who took his own life.

£150 to Forget-Me-Not Children's Hospice.

£75 to Emma's Memorial Fund.

I am always in need of used birthday cards to be able to continue this worthwhile job. They can be left on my doorstep or I will collect. If you wish to purchase any cards, I can bring them to you or you can pick them up from my home. Please ring 01924 360489, and collect from 61 The Mount, Wrenthorpe.

A store cupboard recipe from Mother Jo Kershaw: "Shoofly Pie"



Next Thursday, the last Thursday in November, is Thanksgiving in America. Thanksgiving is in many ways a harvest festival, but it's also associated with the help the Wampanoag People gave the Pilgrim Fathers when they were near starvation during their first autumn and winter in Massachusetts. It was first declared a holiday of "Thanksgiving to Almighty God" by Abraham Lincoln, and today, it's a festival celebrated by nearly all Americans. In normal years it's an excuse for big family get togethers - something which won't be able to happen in the same way, but which people will still try to observe as best they can. The focus of the celebration is a big meal, often involving traditional foods of your state, or from your family homeland, and many people will start the meal by going round the table and having everyone present give thanks for something good in their life.

Fr Jonathan and I love to celebrate Thanksgiving, and as he grew up in Pennsylvania, one of the desserts is always a traditional Pennsylvania pie called "shoofly pie" (no-one's quite sure why). It's a little bit like a British treacle tart, but with the crumble topping often found on German tarts - perhaps reflecting where the Pennsylvanians who created it originally came from.

Note on ingredients: the recipe calls for molasses. Molasses is available in bigger British supermarkets, but if you can't get it, you can use a blend of equal quantities of treacle and golden syrup. As it's an American recipe, I have left in the cup measures but given imperial equivalents. It is easier to measure treacle/ molasses if you oil the measuring jug first!

2/3 cup (4 1/2 oz) brown sugar
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 tablespoon slightly salted butter
1 egg
8 fluid ounces molasses
6 fluid ounces boiling water
1 teaspoon baking soda

Enough short-crust pastry to fill a 9 inch diameter deep pie dish (use your favourite recipe - or you could cheat and use jus-roll or similar).

Rub the butter into the flour, cinnamon, and brown sugar, and set aside a half cupful for the topping.

Grease the pie dish and line it with the pastry. Whisk the egg and beat it in to the remaining mixture. Then add the boiling water and baking soda.

Spoon the mixture into the pie case, and sprinkle with the crumble topping

Bake at Gas mark 5/ 190 C for ten minutes, then reduce the oven to mark 4/ 180 C and bake for another thirty minutes or until set.

St Anne's & Friends Quiz Night

Sandy and Nicholas from St Anne's will be hosting a quiz on Zoom on 9 Wednesday at 7:30pm for or about an hour. All are welcome to join – get in touch if you'd like to join in. All welcome, you don't have to already go to St Anne's! For those unable to Zoom we can post the quiz through doors so people feel included – let us know if you'd like one

RIP

Please remember and pray for those who have died recently whose funerals will be led by members of our clergy team, and others from the local community.

Alverthorpe – Hilda Poskitt
Outwood – Ian Booth, Leonard Jones, Pat Manners, David Hudson, Baby Henry,
Stanley – Mary Clements
Wrenthorpe – Geoffrey Tallett, Betty Deighton, Margaret Dunn

Bereavement Support

1 cup (4 1/2 oz) flour

Our team of churches are running a 6 week Bereavement Course:

- There is an online Zoom course starting on Mondays from 1:30pm-3pm led by Revd Glenn Coggins. A second session will begin Thursday 12th November at 7:00pm until 8:30pm. For the Zoom link, go to <https://northwakefield.benefice.uk/>
- Or if you prefer - the same course meets in person on Thursdays 15th October at 2pm-3:30pm at St Anne's Church, Wrenthorpe, led by Rev Jo Kershaw. It continues to meet in person in lockdown, as Covid-19 regulations allow for support groups to meet.

Getting help with COVID-19

The current advice from the NHS if you feel ill is to stay at home. If you cannot cope with your symptoms and you're seriously ill call NHS 111. There is a local hotline for Covid-19 support. If

you can't get out for things you need and you don't have any friends, family or support available within the community, help is available. Call: 0345 8 506 506 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Choose option 3 to make a request for support and help will be arranged.

Staying in touch with each other

It's hard to cope with being alone or not seeing many people for a long period of time, and everyone struggles. If you want a chat, you can call any of the vicars in this team. Leave your numbers so we can keep in touch too!

Outwood: Fr Jonathan (01924 373758/frjonathanbish@gmail.com)
Wrenthorpe: Mthr Jo (01924 373758/revdjokershaw@gmail.com)
Stanley & Alverthorpe: Rev'd Glenn (01924 218484@cogginsglenn@gmail.com)

Keeping you entertained!

From cartoonchurch.com

